



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie
Council Correspondence

February 23, 2024

	Pages
1. Algoma Public Health	4 - 56
• Meeting Minutes – November 22, 2023	
• Meeting Agenda – February 20, 2024	
2. Provincial Cemetery Management	57 - 71
• Township of Puslinch supporting resolution for Tay Township	
• Municipality of Wawa supporting resolution for Tay Township	
3. Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus	72 - 82
• Municipality of Wawa	
• Town of Plympton-Wyoming supporting resolution for Prince Edward County	
• Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution for Prince Edward County	
• Township of Central Frontenac supporting resolution for Prince Edward County	
• Village of Merrickville Wolford supporting resolution for Prince Edward County	
• Township of South Glengarry supporting resolution for Prince Edward County	
4. Fire Tax Credit	83 - 90
• Town of Lincoln supporting resolution for Municipality of Wawa	
• Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution for Municipality	

5.	Combine Conferences – ROMA and OGRA	91 - 92
	• Town of Petrolia	
6.	Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act	93 - 105
	• Township of Springwater	
	• County of Northumberland supporting resolution for The Town of Plympton-Wyoming	
	• Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution for the City of Greater Sudbury	
7.	AMO Social and Economic Prosperity	106 - 110
	• Township of Ramara	
	• Municipality of Calvin	
	• Town of South Bruce Peninsula	
8.	Municipal Equipment Operator Course	111 - 112
	• Municipality of Powassan	
9.	Affordable Water and Wastewater Systems	113 - 116
	• County of Renfrew	
	• Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands supporting resolution for County of Renfrew	
10.	Conservation Officer Reclassification	117 - 118
	• Township of Lanark Highlands supporting resolution for Coleman Township	
11.	Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy	119 - 120
	• City of Hamilton	
12.	Catch and Release	121 - 123
	• City of Cambridge	
13.	Carbon Tax	124 - 126
	• Town of Plympton-Wyoming supporting resolution for The City of Sarnia	

14.	Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act	127 - 129
	• Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution for Township of Conmee	
15.	Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates	130 - 131
	• County of Prince Edward	
16.	Algoma Public Health Feasibility Study	132 - 133
	• Municipality of Huron Shores	



Board of Health Meeting

MINUTES

November 22, 2023 at 5:00 pm

SSM Algonquin Community Room | Video/Teleconference

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Sally Hagman - Chair
Luc Morrisette - 1st Vice-Chair
Deborah Graystone - 2nd Vice-Chair
Julila Hemphill
Donald McConnell
Loretta O'Neill
Matthew Shoemaker
Sonia Tassone
Suzanne Trivers
Jody Wildman

APH MEMBERS

Dr. Jennifer Loo - Medical Officer of Health & CEO
Dr. John Tuinema - Associate Medical Officer of Health &
Director of Health Protection
Rick Webb - Director of Corporate Services
Kristy Harper - Director of Health Promotion & Chief Nursing
Officer
Leo Vecchio - Manager of Communications
Leslie Dunseath - Manager of Accounting Services
Liliana Bressan - Manager of Effective Public Health Practice
Tania Caputo - Board Secretary

GUESTS: Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, MOH and CEO for Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

1.0 Meeting Called to Order - 5:00 pm

- a. Land Acknowledgment - S.Hagman welcomed the APH staff members and guests attending.
- b. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- c. Roll Call

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

**RESOLUTION
2023-104**

Moved: D. Graystone

Seconded: S. Tassone

THAT the Board of Health meeting agenda dated November 22, 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 Delegations / Presentations

Not applicable.

4.0 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**RESOLUTION
2023-105**

Moved: J. Wildman

Seconded: L. O'Neill

THAT the Board of Health meeting minutes dated October 25, 2023, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5.0 Business Arising from Minutes (in addendum)

- a. Briefing Note - Voluntary mergers related to provincial public health sector changes anticipated in 2024-2026.
- b. Slide Deck - Strengthening Public Health - Voluntary Mergers - for information only
- c. Resolution 69-23 - Public Health Strengthening - BOH Sudbury and Districts Public Health - for information only.

Dr. Loo introduced the briefing note that provides an update and outlines the most recent objectives and outcomes to support voluntary mergers that came from the ministry on October 30, 2023, and also outlined some of the key points that were discussed at the in person meeting that was hosted by Public Health, Sudbury and Districts. She advised on the timelines involved in merger implementation with proposals due to be submitted through the 2024 Annual Service Plan submission process. Discussion and concerns brought forward by the Board focused on meeting the needs of our communities and striving to ultimately make the services in Algoma better.

**RESOLUTION
2023-106**

Moved: D. Graystone
Seconded: L. O'Neill

THAT the Board of Health for the District of Algoma Health Unit, having reviewed the Ministry of Health Outcomes and Objectives to Support Voluntary Mergers, October 30, 2023, and considered related discussions, direct the Medical Officer of Health to engage with Public Health Sudbury & Districts to seek provincial funding to undertake a feasibility study on the potential benefits and drawbacks of a voluntary merger of our two local public health agencies for the delivery of public health objectives; and

THAT additional Board of Health direction be sought should further consultation result in a recommendation to explore voluntary mergers with other regional local public health agencies; and

THAT the Medical Officer of Health continues to report back to the Board on this matter and that the recommendations be brought back to the board for discussion and direction.

A recorded vote was taken on the motion.

Voting in favour: D. Graystone
S. Hagman
J. Hemphill
D. McConnell
L. Morrisette
L. O'Neill
S. Trivers
J. Wildman

Voting against: M. Shoemaker
S. Tassone

CARRIED

6.0 Reports to the Board

a. Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer Reports

i. MOH Report - November 22, 2023

- Program Highlights – Exploring Barriers and Facilitators to Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) Behaviours in Algoma: The Community Partner Interview Project.

J. Loo spoke about the findings that we share with partners alongside targeted, actionable steps that organizations could take to advance healthy eating and active living. This is an example of how our work can strengthen local coalitions and advance the social determinants of health, like transportation, income, food insecurity, and demonstrate our role as a knowledge broker and enabler of Community Action in the realm of health promotion.

- **Public Health Champion Awards**

APH is calling on residents to nominate local citizens and organizations to shine a spotlight on the heroes who are working to improve the communities we live in. This year we are highlighting the work of individuals, one adult, one youth and one organization. Nominations are open until January 10 and there will be a public announcement of the winners at the Board meeting in January.

**RESOLUTION
2023-107**

Moved: M. Shoemaker
Seconded: L. Morrisette

THAT the report of the Medical Officer of Health and CEO for November 22, 2023 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

b. Finance and Audit

i. Finance Committee Chair Report (in addendum)

**RESOLUTION
2023-108**

Moved: L. O'Neill
Seconded: L. Morrisette

THAT the Finance Committee Chair Report for November 15, 2023, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

ii. Unaudited Financial Statements ending September 30, 2023

L. Dunseath provided an overview of the financial statements.

**RESOLUTION
2023-109**

Moved: D. Graystone
Seconded: L. Morrisette

THAT the Board of Health approves the Unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending September 30, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

iii. 2024 Recommended Capital and Operating Budget Report

J. Loo provided a contextual overview of the budget for 2024 and L. Dunseath spoke about the financial details in the report.

**RESOLUTION
2023-110**

Moved: S. Trivers
Seconded: L. O'Neill

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and accepts the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to approve the 2024 Public Health Capital and Operating Budget Report.

CARRIED

7.0 New Business/General Business

Not applicable.

8.0 Correspondence

- a.** Letter to Federal Ministers Freeland, Sudds, MacAulay, and Duclos from Sudbury District Public Health regarding **Support for a Funded Healthy School Food Program in Budget 2024** dated October 27, 2023.

- b. Letter to Premier Ford and Provincial Ministers Jones and Tibollo from Sudbury & Districts Public Health regarding **Public Health Strengthening and Chronic Disease Prevention** dated October 27, 2023.

S. Hagman requested that similar resolutions be drafted by APH staff to support the Funded Healthy School Food Program in Budget 2024, and Public Health Strengthening and Chronic Disease Prevention.

9.0 Items for Information

- a. **alPHA Information Break - November 2023**
- b. **AOHT (Algoma Ontario Health Team) - Board of Director Information Session and Discussion**
D. Graystone is attending and will provide a summary to the Board.
- c. **alPHA - Strengthening Public Health - Planning and Next Steps.**
- d. **alPHA Summary - Fall Economic Statement.**

10.0 Addendum

- a. Briefing Note - Voluntary mergers related to provincial public health sector changes anticipated in 2024-2026.
- b. Slide Deck - Strengthening Public Health - Voluntary Mergers - for information only.
- c. Resolution 69-23 - Public Health Strengthening - BOH Sudbury and Districts Public Health - for information only.
- d. Finance and Audit Committee Chair Report.

11.0 In-Camera 7:02 pm

For discussion of **labour relations and employee negotiations, matters about identifiable individuals, adoption of in-camera minutes, security of the property of the board**, litigation or potential litigation.

RESOLUTION 2023-111

Moved: J. Wildman

Seconded: S. Tassone

THAT the Board of Health go in-camera.

CARRIED

12.0 Open Meeting 7:30 pm

There were no resolutions resulting from the in-camera meeting.

13.0 Announcements / Next Committee Meetings:

Board of Health

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 - 5:00 pm

SSM Algoma Community Room | Video Conference

Finance and Audit Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 - 5:00 pm

SSM Algoma Community Room | Video Conference

14.0 Evaluation

- a. Evaluation** - T.Caputo will send the November meeting evaluation.

Note - 2024 BOH Positions & Committees - S.Hagman reminded BOH members to consider Board positions in the New Year.

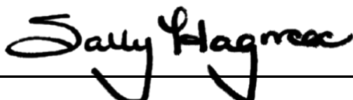
15.0 Adjournment - 7:35 pm

RESOLUTION
2023-115

Moved: M. Shoemaker
Seconded: S. Tassone

THAT the Board of Health meeting adjourns.

CARRIED



Sally Hagman, BOH Chair

January 24, 2024

Date



Tania Caputo, BOH Secretary

January 24, 2024

Date



February 20, 2024

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Algoma Community Room / Videoconference

www.algomapublichealth.com

Meeting Book - February 20, 2024 Board of Health Meeting

Table of Contents

1. Call to Order

- a. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

2. Adoption of Agenda

- a. February 20, 2024, Board of Health Meeting Agenda 4

3. In-Camera

4. Open Meeting

5. Adoption of Minutes

- a. January 24, 2024, Board of Health Meeting Minutes 7
- b. February 15, 2024, Board of Health Special Meeting Minutes 12

6. Delegation/Presentations

- a. School Health Program: Achieving Optimal Health for Children & Youth 14

7. Business Arising

8. Reports to Board

- a. Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer Report
 - i. Report of MOH CEO - February 2024 28
- b. Finance and Audit
 - i. APH Unaudited Financial Statements ending December 31, 2023 41

9. New Business

10. Correspondence

- a. Letter to the Premier of Ontario from Public Health Sudbury and Districts regarding Household Food Insecurity dated January 18, 2024. 49
- b. Resolution by the City of Sault Ste. Marie regarding potential merger of Algoma Public Health and Public 52

Health Sudbury and Districts dated January 29, 2024.

c. Resolution from the Municipality of Wawa to Algoma Public Health Board of Health regarding potential merger with Public Health Sudbury and Districts dated February 6, 2024. 53

d. Letter to the Board of Health Chairs for Algoma Public Health and Public Health Sudbury and Districts from Chadwic Home Board of Directors regarding a potential merger, dated February 14, 2024. 55

11. Items for Information

12. Addendum

13. Resolutions Resulting From In-Camera

14. Announcements

a. Next Meeting Dates

15. Adjournment



Board of Health Meeting
AGENDA
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 - 11:00 am
SSM Algoma Community Room | Videoconference

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Graystone
Sally Hagman - Chair
Julila Hemphill
Donald McConnell - 2nd Vice-Chair
Luc Morrisette - 1st Vice-Chair
Loretta O'Neill
Matthew Shoemaker
Sonia Tassone
Suzanne Trivers
Jody Wildman

APH MEMBERS

Dr. Jennifer Loo - Medical Officer of Health & CEO
Dr. John Tuinema - Associate Medical Officer of Health & Director of Health Protection
Rick Webb - Director of Corporate Services
Kristy Harper - Director of Health Promotion & Chief Nursing Officer
Leo Vecchio - Manager of Communications
Leslie Dunseath - Manager of Accounting Services
Tania Caputo - Board Secretary

STAFF GUESTS: Hilary Cutler - Manager, School Health & Community Wellness, Angela Piaskoski - Health Promotion Specialist, School Health, Stephanie Caughill - Public Health Nurse, School Health, Lindsay Fera – Registered Dietitian, School Health - *Presenters*

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 1.0 | Meeting Called to Order
a. Land Acknowledgment
b. Roll Call
c. Declaration of Conflict of Interest | S. Hagman |
| 2.0 | Adoption of Agenda
<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px; margin: 5px 0;">RESOLUTION</div> THAT the Board of Health agenda dated February 20, 2024 be approved as presented. | S. Hagman |
| 3.0 | In-Camera
For discussion of labour relations and employee negotiations, matters about identifiable individuals, adoption of in camera minutes, security of the property of the board, litigation or potential litigation, a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. | S. Hagman |
| 4.0 | Open Meeting
Resolutions resulting from in-camera meeting. | S. Hagman |
| 5.0 | Delegations / Presentations
School Health Program: Achieving Optimal Health for Children & Youth | H. Cutler,
A. Piaskoski,
S. Caughill,
L. Fera |
| 6.0 | Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting
<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px; margin: 5px 0;">RESOLUTION</div> THAT the Board of Health minutes dated January 24, 2024 and February 15, 2024, be approved as presented. | S. Hagman |

7.0	Business Arising from Minutes	
	a. Report back from Merger Feasibility Oversight Committee	<i>S. Trivers</i>
	b. Report back from Merger Feasibility Governance Workgroup	<i>D. McConnell</i>
8.0	Reports to the Board	
	a. Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer Reports	<i>Dr. J. Loo</i>
	i. MOH Report - February 2024	
	Program Highlights: • Monitoring Food Affordability in Algoma • Balanced Scorecard	
	RESOLUTION	
	THAT the report of the Medical Officer of Health and CEO for February 2024 be accepted as presented.	
	b. Finance and Audit	
	i. Financial Statements - December 2023	<i>L. Dunseath</i>
	RESOLUTION	
	THAT the Board of Health approves the Unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2023, as presented.	
9.0	New Business/General Business	<i>S. Hagman</i>
10.0	Correspondence	<i>S. Hagman</i>
	a. Letter to the Premier of Ontario from Public Health Sudbury and Districts regarding Household Food Insecurity dated January 18, 2024.	
	b. Resolution approved by the City of Sault Ste. Marie regarding potential merger of Algoma Public Health and Public Health Sudbury and Districts dated January 29, 2024.	
	c. Resolution from the Municipality of Wawa to Algoma Public Health Board of Health regarding potential merger with Public Health Sudbury and Districts dated February 6, 2024.	
	d. Letter to the Board of Health Chairs for Algoma Public Health and Public Health Sudbury and Districts from Chadwic Home Board of Directors regarding a potential merger, dated February 14, 2024.	
11.0	Items for Information	<i>S. Hagman</i>
12.0	Addendum	<i>S. Hagman</i>
13.0	Announcements / Next Committee Meetings:	<i>S. Hagman</i>
	Finance & Audit Committee Wednesday, February 21, 2024 @ 5:00 pm Video Conference SSM Algoma Community Room	
	Governance Committee Wednesday, March 6, 2024 - 5:00 pm Video Conference SSM Algoma Community Room	
	Board of Health Meeting Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 5:00 pm Video Conference SSM Algoma Community Room	

14.0 Evaluation

S. Hagman

15.0 Adjournment

S. Hagman

RESOLUTION

THAT the Board of Health meeting adjourns.

School Health Program:

Achieving Optimal Health for Children & Youth

Presenter(s):

- Hilary Cutler - Manager, School Health & Community Wellness
- Angela Piaskoski - Health Promotion Specialist, School Health
- Stephanie Caughill - Public Health Nurse, School Health
- Lindsay Fera – Registered Dietitian, School Health

Date: February 20, 2024

Overview

- Public Health Guiding Documents
- School Health Program & Team
- Community Needs
 - Mental Health Promotion
 - Substance Use Prevention & Harm Reduction
 - Healthy Relationships
 - Positive Relationships with Food & Bodies
- Building Partnerships
- Next Steps

Strategic Directions



Advance the priority public health needs of Algoma's diverse communities.

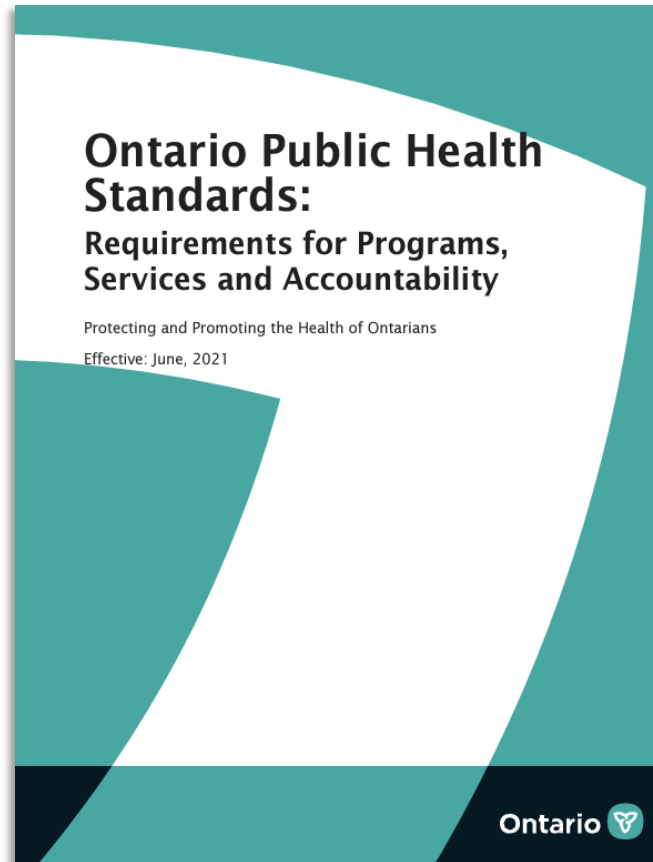


Improve the impact and effectiveness of Algoma Public Health programs.

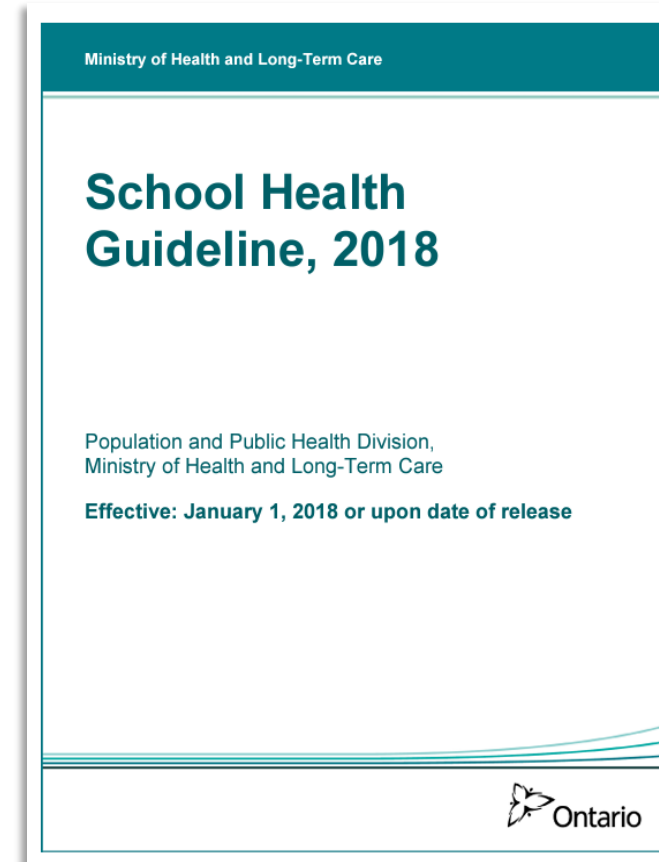


Grow and celebrate an organizational culture of learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Ontario Public Health Standards

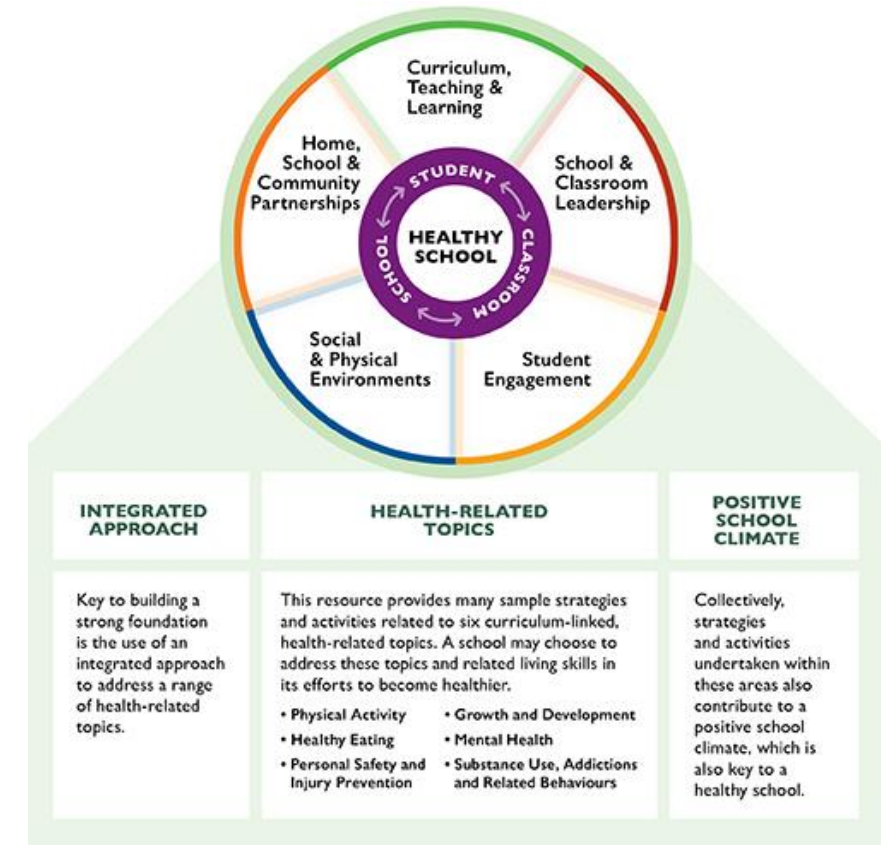


Goal
To achieve optimal health of school-aged children and youth through partnership and collaboration with school boards and schools.



School Health Program

- The school setting is ideal for promoting the health of children & youth.
- Foundations for a Healthy School
 1. Curriculum, teaching & learning
 2. School & Classroom Leadership
 3. Student Engagement
 4. Social & Physical Environments
 5. Home, School, & Community Partnerships
- School communities



Ministry of Education. Foundations for a Healthy School [Internet]. Government of Ontario. 2014. Available from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/foundations-healthy-school-companion-resource-k-12-school-effectiveness-framework>

School Health Team

- Who are we?
- Aligned to schools, boards, and topics
 - 4 school boards, 81 schools
 - 14+ topics
- Impacted by COVID-19, school-based immunization & Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) support
- Return to health promotion and a comprehensive school health approach



Community Needs

- Local school community needs
- Provincial data – Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey
- APH Community Health Profile
- Priority areas:
 - Mental health promotion
 - Substance use prevention and harm reduction
 - Healthy relationships
 - Positive Relationships with Food & Bodies

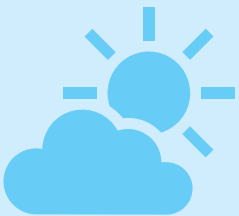
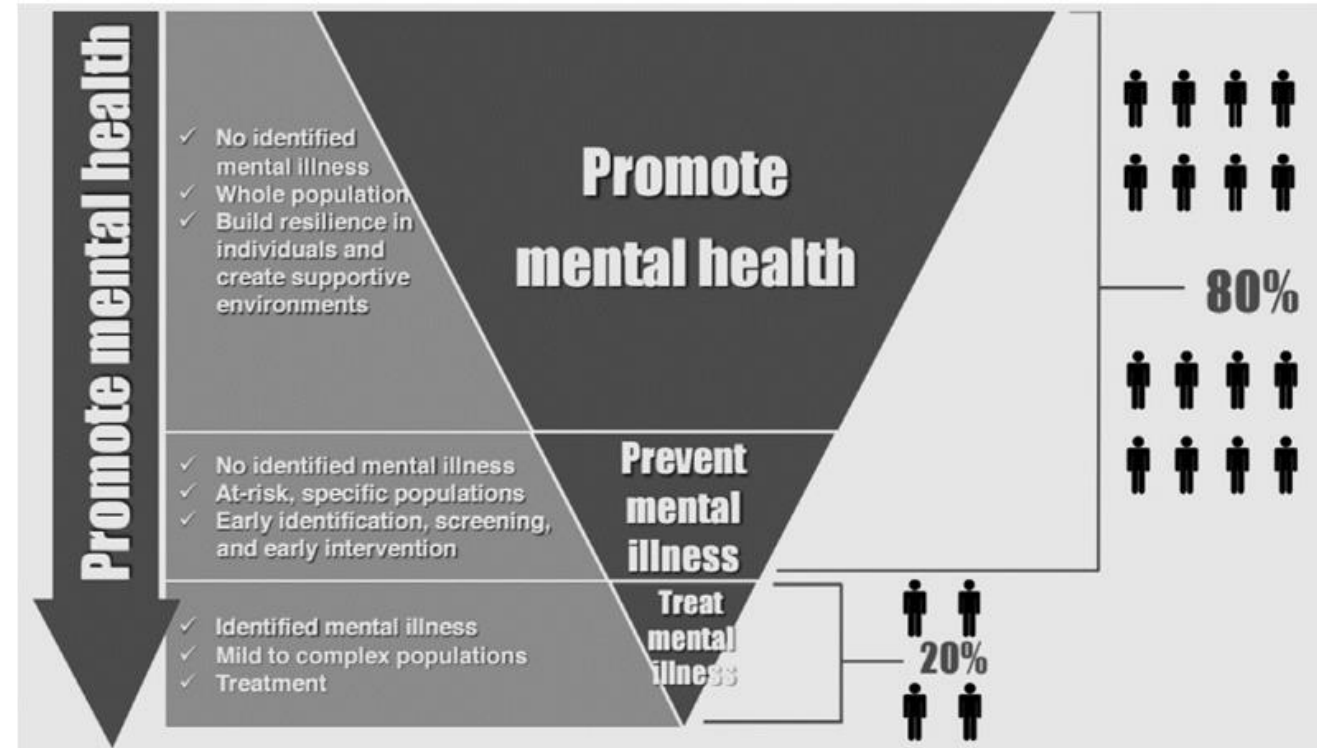


Boak A, Elton-Marshall T, Hamilton HA. The well-being of Ontario students: Findings from the 2021 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS). 2022. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth smoking, vaping, and mental health. 2023. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario.

Mental Health Promotion (MHP)

- Important topic for school aged children & youth
- Local mental health supports available in schools
- School Mental Health Ontario
- Pathways for Coming Together LCDP
- Embedded MHP strategies & approaches

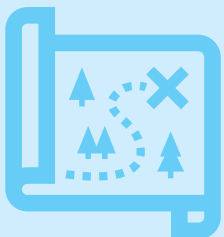
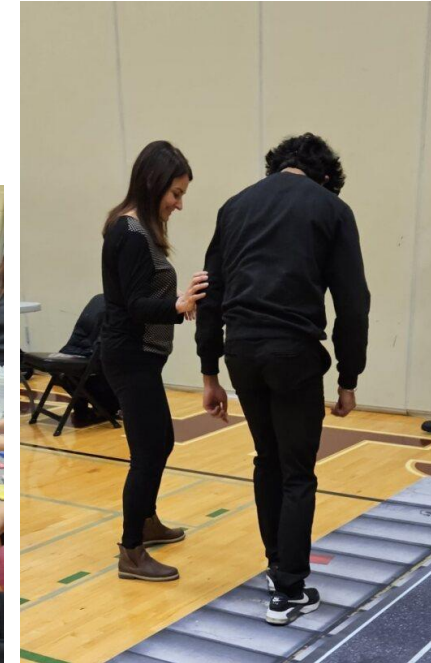


Boak A, Elton-Marshall T, Hamilton HA. The well-being of Ontario students: Findings from the 2021 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS). 2022. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Mental Health Promotion Guideline 2018. Available from: <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-guidelines-mental-health-promotion-guideline-en-2018.pdf>

Substance Use Prevention & Harm Reduction

- A key concern
- Vaping prevention
 - Presentations & demonstrations
- Alcohol & cannabis harm reduction
 - Get Home Safe sessions
 - Interactive workshops on impaired & distracted driving
 - Harm reduction messaging



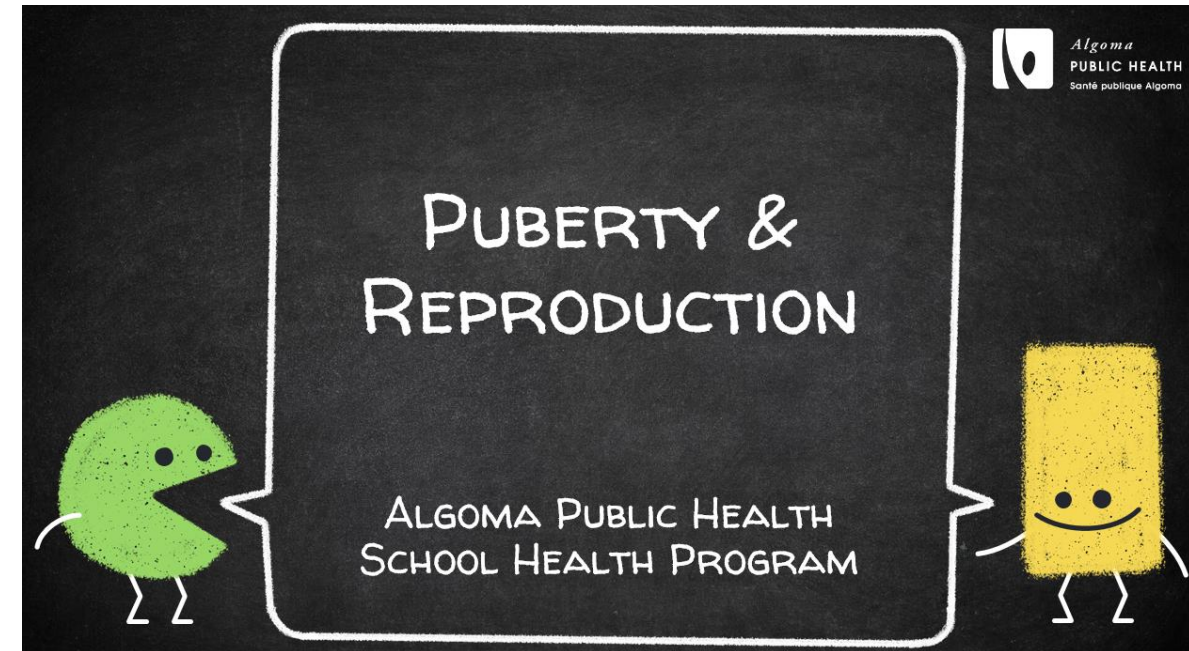
Boak A, Elton-Marshall T, Hamilton HA. The well-being of Ontario students: Findings from the 2021 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS). 2022. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Health Canada. Summary of Results for the Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs Survey 2021-22. 2021. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/canadian-student-tobacco-alcohol-drugs-survey/2021-2022-summary.html>

Health Canada. Driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs. 2022. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/talking-about-drugs/driving-impaired-drug.html>

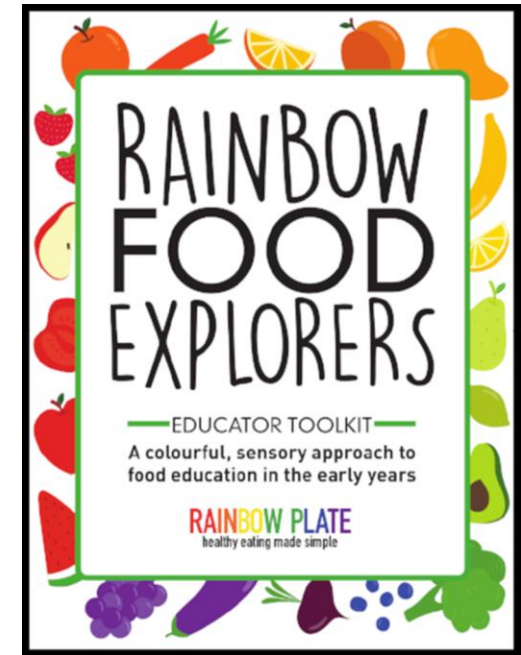
Healthy Relationships

- Relationships as a protective and risk factor for other issues
- Exploring initiatives & programs
 - Positive youth development
 - Creating healthy and supportive environments
- Providing support for healthy sexuality curriculum topics
 - Talking to educators
 - Presenting to students to supplement class learnings



Positive Relationships with Food & Bodies

- Eating Disorder Ontario – Prevention (EDO-P) & Foundational Training:
 - Foundational Training increased our self-awareness of personal attitudes/biases and knowledge, while providing opportunities to apply our learnings.
- Food Neutrality & Body Diversity:
 - Strategies that foster positive relationships with food & bodies
 - These relationships contribute to health and mental wellness
- Rainbow Food Explorers; Educator Toolkit:
 - Explorative & sensory-based approach to food education



Boak A, Elton-Marshall T, Hamilton HA. The well-being of Ontario students: Findings from the 2021 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS). 2022. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Eating Disorders Ontario Prevention. Building capacity for the local adoption of evidence based prevention of Eating Disorders across Ontario – Annual Report 2021-2022. 2022. Available from: <https://bana.ca/edop/>

McVey, G., Eating Disorder Promotion, Prevention, and Early intervention. Eating Disorders are More Than a Clinical Issue. 2020. Available from: https://www.ocoped.ca/Portals/0/ED-PPEI%20Public%20Health%20Issues%209_3_20.pdf

Building & Growing Partnerships

- School boards
- Schools
- Community partners



Next Steps

- Implement our plans for the identified priority areas
- Shift our focus back to comprehensive school health
- Continue to collaborate with community partners while seeking new potential partnerships
- Collaborate internally on shared topics (e.g. mental health promotion framework)
- Strive to reach our goals:
 - Creating health promoting schools
 - Achieving optimal health & well-being for school aged children and youth





Questions?

Chi-Miigwech. Merci. Thank You.



Algoma
PUBLIC HEALTH
Santé publique Algoma

February 20, 2024

Report of the

Medical Officer of Health / CEO

Prepared by:
Dr. Jennifer Loo and the
Leadership Team

Presented to:
Algoma Public Health Board of Health

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APH At-a-Glance and Our Partnerships	Page 3
Program Highlight – Monitoring Food Affordability in Algoma	Pages 4-9
Program Highlight – Balanced Scorecard	Pages 10-13

APH AT-A-GLANCE

This month's report to the Board of Health (BOH) highlights APH's ongoing work in the key areas of health equity and continuous improvement and evaluation.

As broadly shared in a recent news release and report, APH has completed its annual costing of the nutritious food basket and is in the process of disseminating these results to our partners and the public. With the cost of feeding a family rising nearly 7% in Algoma from 2022 to 2023, the report shows that income continues to be a barrier to healthy eating for many in our communities, and that the need persists for income-based policies to effectively reduce household food insecurity.

This report also describes the advancement of a public health balanced scorecard approach to monitor, report on, and improve public health programming. The indicators in the four quadrants of a public health balanced scorecard – health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness – respectively identify population health needs, seek to understand the views of communities served, describe the amount of resources used and services delivered, and identifies structural integration and the capacity to transform in response to evolving needs, issues and evidence. As illustrated in the sample scorecard spreads on the topics of the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic and toxic drugs – opioids, these indicators help tell the story of public health return on investment, show the power of community partnerships, all the while linking back to the health outcomes in our communities that we are ultimately focused on improving. Further use of the public health balanced scorecard approach will be reflected in ongoing internal planning processes, as well as key external reports, such as the forthcoming 2023 annual report.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT – Monitoring Food Affordability in Algoma

Topic: Monitoring Food Affordability in Algoma: 2023 Nutritious Food Basket

From: Hilary Cutler, Manager, School Health & Community Wellness
Kristy Harper, Director of Health Promotion & Chief Nursing Officer

Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-Being Program Standard Requirements¹ addressed in this report:

- The board of health shall collect and analyze relevant data to monitor trends over time, emerging trends, priorities, and health inequities related to chronic diseases and report and disseminate the data and information in accordance with the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2018 (or as current).

2021-2025 Strategic Priorities addressed in this report

[X] Advance the priority public health needs of Algoma's diverse communities.

[X] Improve the impact and effectiveness of Algoma Public Health programs.

[] Grow and celebrate an organizational culture of learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Key Messages

- Food insecurity is an urgent public health issue that affects approximately 1 in 5 Algoma households² with negative impacts on physical and mental health across the lifespan.
- Algoma Public Health (APH) monitors food affordability annually to fulfill the requirement of the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2018.
- The 2023 results of the NFB costing show that the monthly cost to feed a family of four is \$1180.92, representing a nearly 7% increase over the cost in 2022.
- The income scenario analysis indicates that social assistance rates are inadequate to cover food, rent, and other expenses in Algoma. A single individual collecting Ontario Works would be in debt \$260 each month after paying only food and rent.
- Next steps include disseminating the results to community partners and the public, and continuing to monitor food affordability in 2024.

Monitoring Food Affordability in Algoma

Introduction

Algoma Public Health (APH) has monitored food affordability annually since 2008, with the exception of 2020 and 2021 (due to the COVID-19 pandemic). Monitoring food affordability is completed annually to fulfill the requirement laid out by the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2018. Food affordability is defined as the economic sufficiency to procure an adequate diet that meets nutrient needs with safe and affordable foods³.

Phase 1: Ontario Nutritious Food Basket Costing

The NFB is comprised of a list of approximately 60 food items based off the [National Nutritious Food Basket](#) developed by Health Canada and updated in 2019 to be consistent with [Canada's Food Guide](#).

Locally, NFB data collection, management, and interpretation is led by APH Registered Dietitians (RD), with assistance from an RD-trained food surveyor (typically a dietetic student, if available). The NFB costing is conducted annually at eight full-service grocery stores across Algoma, selected in consultation with APH's Foundations and Strategic Support Team (FAAST). The stores are considered a representative sample of Algoma grocery retailers based on population and geographic distribution, including a mix of premium, discount, and independent stores. Stores must be full-service grocery retailers that consistently carry the full range of items from the NFB in the specified sizes. The costing was completed over two consecutive weeks in May 2023 and was conducted either in-person or online.

2023 NFB Results in Algoma

The 2023 NFB data indicates that the monthly cost of eating for a single individual (male, aged 31-50) is \$423.32 and the monthly cost to feed a family of four (two adults aged 31-50, one male aged 14, and one female aged 8) is \$1180.92. It is important to note that while the NFB does include an additional 5% cost to cover miscellaneous foods, such as spices, coffee, tea, and baking supplies, it does not include infant food or formula, or food for special diets (ex. gluten-free) or household items.

In 2019, the NFB survey was significantly updated to reflect the new Canada's Food Guide and allow for online costing of validated stores therefore, the 2022 and 2023 data cannot be compared to years prior to 2019. Comparing data from May 2022 to May 2023 shows that the monthly cost of the NFB for a family of four in Algoma increased by *nearly 7%*.

Limitations of the NFB

The NFB is not intended for use as an individual or household meal planning or budgeting tool. The NFB also makes the following assumptions:

- People have time, ability, skills, space and equipment to prepare meals from scratch
- Food is always chosen based on lowest available price
- People have access to grocery stores and can grocery shop regularly (every 1-2 weeks)

Further, the NFB is not inclusive for all religious and cultural groups, including Indigenous Peoples, as it does not reflect the full spectrum of ingredients, food preparation, or procurement practices. APH recognizes this as a significant limitation of this data.

Phase 2: Income Scenarios to Monitor Food Affordability

To assess food affordability, NFB data is interpreted with household income scenarios for individuals and families. The household income scenarios are developed by Ontario Dietitians in Public Health (ODPH) to provide real-world context. In 2023, ODPH contracted WoodGreen Community Services to conduct a comprehensive review of the calculations for the income scenarios. APH was one of eight public health units to make a financial contribution to this review, which allowed ODPH to maximize the accuracy and authenticity of the income scenarios.

Income estimates for each scenario include family and tax benefit entitlements available to Ontario residents. For each income scenario, APH uses the monthly cost of food (NFB) and average rental costs for Algoma to determine how much money is left over each month to cover other essential expenses. The average rental cost for Algoma has been obtained from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)⁴ and adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index⁵. The FASST team

conducted additional market research to assess how well the adjusted CMHC data represents the current rental market, and initial findings suggest it underestimates current rental prices by as much as 35-50%⁶. This limitation should be considered when evaluating the income scenarios, as the amount left over for other expenses may be overestimated.

Several income scenarios indicate that social assistance rates are not sufficient to pay for rent, food, and other household necessities (Appendix A). A single individual collecting Ontario Works would be in debt \$260 each month after paying only food and rent. In 2022, a family of four relying on Ontario Works as their primary source of income would have had \$536 leftover after paying for food and housing to cover all other essential expenses, such as childcare, transportation, phone, internet, hygiene products, etc. In 2023, this value dropped to \$420, indicating that food and housing have become less affordable.

Food Affordability and Food Insecurity in Algoma

Food insecurity is an urgent public health issue. People living in food insecure households are more likely to suffer from physical and mental health problems, leading to greater need for healthcare services, higher rates of hospitalization, and elevated risk of premature death⁷. Children in food insecure households are more likely to have poorer overall health, including greater risk for bone fractures, asthma, and mental health conditions such as social anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation⁷.

From 2020-2022, the prevalence of household food insecurity in Algoma was 19.4% or approximately 1 in 5 households⁸. This is likely an underestimate, as Indigenous Peoples living on-reserve are not captured in data collection. Indigenous communities are more likely to experience food insecurity due to historical and ongoing experiences of racism, colonialism, and restricted access to traditional lands, water, and food resources. There are eight First Nations communities across Algoma and up to 14.3% of Algoma residents have Indigenous identity⁹.

The APH Board of Health (BOH) is a leader in addressing food insecurity and advocating for change. In June 2023, the BOH endorsed a resolution to support income-based policies outlined by ODPH to effectively reduce household food insecurity.

Next Steps: 2024 and Beyond

The next steps for the 2023 NFB and food affordability data are to disseminate the 2023 NFB results to community partners to support their work, and to share with the public to situate the results within the local context. The communications team has assisted the community wellness dietitian in updating a sharable infographic (Appendix B) with 2023 data, developing a downloadable report for the APH website, and sharing a media release. APH dietitians will continue to monitor food affordability in May 2024 while working to integrate with community partners to advocate for policy solutions to address inadequate income as the root cause of household food insecurity.

References

1. Ontario Ministry of Health. Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability. 2021. Available from: https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/docs/protocols_guidelines/Ontario_Public_Health_Standards_2021.pdf
2. Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Estimates from the Canadian Income Survey: Ontario 2019-2022. Date extracted: August 28, 2023.
3. Ontario. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2018. Available from: <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-population-health-assessment-surveillance-protocol-2018-en.pdf>
4. Canadian Mortgage and Housing corporation (CMHC). Rental Market Survey, Data Table 3.1.2 Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Average Rents (\$), by Bedroom Type - Ontario 10,000+ (October 2022). Date extracted: November 9
5. Statistics Canada. Table 18-10-0004-01 Consumer Price Index, monthly, not seasonally adjusted. Available from: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1810000401>
6. Algoma Public Health. Unpublished data. 2023.
7. Ontario Dietitians in Public Health. (2020). Position Statement and Recommendations on Responses to Food Insecurity. Available from: <https://www.odph.ca/odph-position-statement-on-responses-to-food-insecurity-1>
8. Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Estimates from the Canadian Income Survey: Ontario 2019-2022. Date extracted: August 28, 2023.
9. Statistics Canada. 2022. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released December 15, 2022. Government of Canada (2012).

Appendix A

Nutritious Food Basket Income Scenarios for Algoma, 2023

	Family of Four ⁱ on Ontario Works	Single Parent with 2 Children, on Ontario Works	Single Person on Ontario Works	Single Person on ODSP	Single Pregnant Person, ODSP	Single person, Old Age Security/ Guaranteed Income Supplement
Monthly Income ⁱⁱ	\$2821	\$2587	\$882	\$1386	\$1426	\$2010
Average Monthly Rent ⁱⁱⁱ	\$1220	\$1091	\$718	\$718	\$916	\$916
Monthly Cost of Food ⁱⁱⁱⁱ	\$1181	\$870	\$423	\$423	\$423	\$306
% of Income Required to Purchase Healthy Food	42%	34%	48%	31%	28%	15%
Amount leftover for other expenses ^{viii}	\$420	\$627	-\$260	\$46	\$108	\$787

10. ⁱFamily of four: two adults aged 31-50, one male aged 14, and one female aged 8.

11. ⁱⁱBased on Ontario averages, including benefits, such as the Canadian Child Benefit.

12. ⁱⁱⁱBased on CMHC data⁴ and Consumer Price Index⁵. Algoma Public Health conducted additional research to assess how well CMHC data represents the current rental market, and initial findings suggest it underestimates rental prices by as much as 35-50%. Please consider these limitations when evaluating the income scenarios.

13. ⁱⁱⁱⁱCalculated using the 2023 Nutritious Food Basket data collected by Algoma Public Health.

14. ^{viii}Other expenses may include daycare, transportation, hygiene and cleaning products, heat/water, internet, phone, etc.

Food Affordability in Algoma

Food is a basic human right. Everyone should be able to decide what foods to buy with dignity.

Food Insecurity means not having enough money to buy food.

Food insecure households are likely to:

worry



have less food



have lower quality food



skip meals



This leads to poorer overall physical & mental health.



2023 Nutritious Food Basket results.

Cost to feed a family of **4** in Algoma: **\$1181** /month

Social assistance rates are **NOT** adequate.



After paying rent & food



A family of four living on **Ontario Works** has **\$420.00** left over to cover all other necessities.



A single male receiving **Ontario Works** has **-\$260.00**. There is not enough money to cover rent and food, let alone any other necessities.

Other necessities:



hygiene products



daycare



transportation



dentist



eyeglasses



internet



phone



prescriptions



clothing



electricity



heat

Minimum wage is **NOT** adequate.

58.6% of food insecure households in Ontario have income from employment.

Poverty is the root cause of food insecurity.

What can **YOU** do?



LEARN

Learn more about food insecurity by visiting odph.ca/centsless or proof.utoronto.ca



SHARE

Be kind and compassionate. Avoid making judgements about people living in poverty.

What can **WE** do as a community?

- Encourage these actions from political leaders:
 - Support universal basic income
 - Increase social assistance rates
 - Decrease tax for the lowest income households
- Create free tax **filing clinics**
- Pay employees a **living wage**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT – Balanced Scorecard

Topic: Use of the public health balanced scorecard for monitoring, continuous improvement and evaluation

From: Jasmine Bryson, Supervisor of Effective Public Health Practice

Program Standard Requirements¹ addressed in this report: Foundational Standards, Effective Public Health Practice; Program Planning, Evaluation, and Evidence-Informed Decision-Making (Requirement 2)

- The board of health shall routinely monitor program activities and outcomes to assess and improve the implementation and effectiveness of programs and services, including collection, analysis, and periodic reporting of indicators related to inputs, resources, implementation, processes, reach, outputs, and outcomes.

2021-2025 Strategic Priorities addressed in this report:

- ☐ Advance the priority public health needs of Algoma's diverse communities.
- ☒ Improve the impact and effectiveness of Algoma Public Health (APH) programs.
- ☐ Grow and celebrate an organizational culture of learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Key Messages

- A public health balanced scorecard is a framework for organizing indicators into meaningful categories for monitoring, improvement and reporting of public health programming.
- The four categories of a public health balanced scorecard include health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness.
- A preview of how this approach will be applied to annual reporting of APH programs is included, focused on two topics- opioids and COVID-19.

Overview

Indicators for monitoring, continuous improvement and evaluation

Monitoring, continuous improvement and evaluation processes are central to effective public health practice, a foundational standard⁽¹⁾. Indicators are fundamental to these processes. Indicators are specific and observable measures that are used to monitor progress or achievement of outcomes in program and service delivery^(1,2). One way to monitor indicators in a health system is through the balanced scorecard framework. This approach has been developed and implemented by researchers and public health practitioners in Ontario⁽³⁾.

A public health balanced scorecard

The public health balanced scorecard approach focuses on aligning indicators in four key quadrants or categories: health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness⁽³⁾. The table below offers a description of the types of indicators that can be considered

for inclusion under each category and some examples of related indicators.

<i>Description of the public health balanced scorecard categories and sample indicators</i>	
Balanced scorecard quadrant/ category ⁽³⁾	Sample indicators
(1) Health status considers indicators for health behaviours, and trends in disease morbidity, mortality, and social determinants of health: This category is used to identify population health needs and assess distribution of resources, though indicators included in this category are influenced by factors outside of local public health units sole influence	- Proportion of residents that eat fruit and vegetables less than 5 times a day - Rate of hospitalizations for injury due to falls per 100,000 people
(2) Community engagement considers indicators for community knowledge, understanding of and satisfaction with public health programs: This category is used to understand the views of communities in regard to public health programs	- Number of municipalities engaged in public health consultation - Levels of satisfaction (%) with a service or program
(3) Resources and services considers indicators that influence organizational capacity such as financial, human and agency resources, recruitment and retention, and development: This category is used to identify the amount of resources and services delivered	- Number of FTE aligned to a program - Cost of program per client
(4) System integration and responsiveness considers indicators that demonstrate inter-sectoral partnership and work with health care sectors and community agencies: This category is used to identify structural integration and the capacity to transform in response to evolving needs, issues and evidence	- Number of service agreements with partners - Number of alignments to local system strategy tables

A preview of public health balanced scorecard approach at APH

Attached is a preview of the public health balanced scorecard at APH. Indicators for two public health topics – toxic drug use (opioids) and COVID-19 – are organized according to the four categories described in the table above.

Next Steps:

The balanced scorecard approach will be applied across APH programs to align program and population indicators to the four quadrants of a public health balanced scorecard. The public health balanced scorecards for programs will be used as a component of monitoring, continuous improvement and evaluation efforts, to reflect the Ontario Public Health Standards for programs. The public health balanced scorecards for programs will also provide a framework for external reporting, such as through Algoma Public Health's annual report.

Health Status

Community Engagement

Resources & Services

Integration & Responsiveness

Public Health Balanced Scorecard: COVID-19

During the pandemic, Algoma Public Health (APH) worked to minimize serious illness and death while minimizing societal disruption and preserving health care capacity.

A public health balanced scorecard approach focuses on aligning indicators in four key quadrants or categories: health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness.



12,451

cases of COVID-19 in Algoma



700

hospitalizations for COVID-19

Maintained capacity of acute care beds across Algoma



104

deaths due to COVID-19

Overall COVID-19 death rate in Algoma remained lower than the provincial rate [2020 to 2023 Q2]



143

staff hired specifically for COVID-19 response



85%

of positive cases reached within 48 hours



80.8%

of eligible Algoma residents received 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine by June 2023



205,250

staff hours spent working on the COVID-19 response



\$50 per person

per year, for cost of COVID-19 response, including APH led vaccine administration



18

sectors engaged throughout the pandemic (i.e., municipalities, workplaces, Indigenous partners)



95,069

phone calls across 5 COVID-19 dedicated phone lines



7.1 M

views on APH COVID-19 webpages



9.5 M

impressions on APH Facebook posts about COVID-19



3

letters of instructions and Section 22 class orders issued to control local spread of COVID-19



Engaged

in numerous cross sector working groups and system strategy tables at the local, provincial, federal and international level



13

Indigenous community partners worked with APH to deliver COVID-19 immunizations based on their self-determined community preferences, needs and capacities

Note: data presented here covers the response time frame from March 2020 - June 2023 as available.

Health Status

Community Engagement

Resources & Services

Integration & Responsiveness

Public Health Balanced Scorecard: Toxic Drugs - Opioids

Algoma Public Health (APH) works to reduce harms and deaths associated with toxic drugs.

A public health balanced scorecard approach focuses on aligning indicators in four key quadrants or categories: health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness.



407

Emergency Medical Service calls for suspected opioid poisoning



212

opioid related visits to the emergency department



50

opioid related deaths

Opioid related mortality was 3 times higher in Algoma than Ontario



42

community partners distributing naloxone in Algoma through service agreements with APH

5,396

naloxone kits distributed through service agreements with APH



15

community partners distributing harm reduction supplies with memorandums of understanding with APH

332,085

harm reduction supply items distributed in Algoma



3,021

views on APH opioid related webpages



10

community partners attended an APH workshop to identify Algoma priorities for action to decrease opioid related harms



5

community awareness events attended by APH staff

Over 100 attendees at a documentary about substance use followed by a panel discussion facilitated by APH



3

local and regional strategy and partnership committees with APH representation



32

community partners received opioid poisoning surveillance bulletins

One early warning sent to partners signalling higher than normal opioid related harms in the community



1

research manuscript submitted to a peer reviewed journal highlighting northern Ontario disparities in opioid related deaths

Note: data presented here covers 2023 except mortality attributed to opioids which is 2022.

**Algoma Public Health
(Unaudited) Financial Statements December 31, 2023**

<u>Index</u>	<u>Page</u>
Statement of Operations	1
Statement of Revenues - Public Health	2
Statement of Expenses - Public Health	3
Notes to the Financial Statements	4-6
Statement of Financial Position	7

Algoma Public Health
Statement of Operations
December 2023
(Unaudited)

	Actual YTD 2023	Budget YTD 2023	Variance Act. to Bgt. 2023	Annual Budget 2023	Variance % Act. to Bgt. 2023	YTD Actual/ YTD Budget 2023
Public Health Programs (Calendar)						
Revenue						
Municipal Levy - Public Health	\$ 4,189,217	\$ 4,189,216	\$ 1	\$ 4,189,216	0%	100%
Provincial Grants - Cost Shared Funding	8,861,200	8,861,200	0	8,861,200	0%	100%
Provincial Grants - Public Health 100% Prov. Funded	2,276,617	3,363,439	(1,086,822)	3,363,439	-32%	68%
Provincial Grants - Mitigation Funding	1,037,800	1,037,800	-	1,037,800	0%	100%
Fees, other grants and recovery of expenditures	538,013	452,384	85,629	452,384	19%	119%
Total Public Health Revenue	\$ 16,902,847	\$ 17,904,039	\$ (1,001,192)	\$ 17,904,039	-6%	94%
Expenditures						
Public Health Cost Shared	\$ 15,520,771	\$ 15,618,689	\$ 97,918	\$ 15,618,691	-1%	99%
Public Health 100% Prov. Funded Programs	2,766,634	2,285,349	(481,285)	2,285,349	21%	121%
Total Public Health Programs Expenditures	\$ 18,287,404	\$ 17,904,038	\$ (383,366)	\$ 17,904,040	2%	102%
Total Rev. over Exp. Public Health	\$ (1,384,557)	\$ 1	\$ (1,384,558)	\$ 0		

Healthy Babies Healthy Children (Fiscal)

Provincial Grants and Recoveries	\$ 801,011	801,008	3	1,068,011	0%	100%
Expenditures	799,956	801,632	1,676	1,068,011	0%	100%
Excess of Rev. over Exp.	1,055	(624)	1,679	(0)		

Public Health Programs (Fiscal)

Provincial Grants and Recoveries	\$ 849,976	803,400	46,577	992,500	6%	106%
Expenditures	665,917	669,125	3,208	992,500	0%	100%
Excess of Rev. over Fiscal Funded	184,059	134,275	49,784	-		

Fiscal Programs

Revenue						
Provincial Grants - Community Health	\$ 196,617	\$ 196,615	\$ 2	\$ 262,153	0%	100%
Municipal, Federal, and Other Funding	114,447	114,447	-	114,447	0%	100%
Total Community Health Revenue	\$ 311,064	\$ 311,062	\$ 2	\$ 376,600	0%	100%
Expenditures						
Brighter Futures for Children	69,246	85,835	16,589	114,447	-19%	81%
Nurse Practitioner	121,035	121,615	580	162,153	0%	100%
Stay on Your Feet	72,904	75,000	2,096	100,000	-3%	97%
Total Fiscal Community Health Programs	\$ 263,185	\$ 282,450	\$ 19,265	\$ 376,600	-7%	93%
Total Rev. over Exp. Fiscal Community Health	\$ 47,879	\$ 28,612	\$ 19,267	\$ (0)		

Explanations will be provided for variances of 15% and \$15,000 occurring in the first 6 months
and variances of 10% and \$10,000 occurring in the final 6 months

Algoma Public Health
Revenue Statement

For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

(Unaudited)

	Actual YTD 2023	Budget YTD 2023	Variance Bgt. to Act. 2023	Annual Budget 2023	Variance % Act. to Bgt. 2023	YTD Actual/ Annual Budget 2023	Comparison Prior Year:		
							YTD Actual 2022	YTD BGT 2022	Variance 2022
Levies Sault Ste Marie	2,913,655	2,913,655	0	2,913,655	0%	100%	2,951,725	2,951,725	(0)
Levies District	1,275,562	1,275,562	0	1,275,561	0%	100%	1,237,491	1,237,491	0
Total Levies	4,189,217	4,189,217	0	4,189,216	0%	100%	4,189,216	4,189,216	(0)
MOH Public Health Funding	8,861,200	8,861,200	0	8,861,200	0%	100%	8,773,422	8,773,425	(3)
Total Public Health Cost Shared Funding	8,861,200	8,861,200	0	8,861,200	0%	100%	8,773,422	8,773,425	(3)
MOH Funding - MOH / AMOH Top Up	182,521	189,300	(6,779)	189,300	-4%	96%	181,896	189,300	(7,404)
MOH Funding Northern Ontario Fruits & Veg.	117,400	117,400	0	117,400	0%	100%	117,400	117,400	0
MOH Funding Unorganized	530,400	530,400	0	530,400	0%	100%	530,400	530,400	0
MOH Senior Dental	1,350,250	1,350,250	0	1,350,250	0%	100%	1,114,150	1,114,150	0
MOH Funding Indigenous Communities	98,000	98,000	0	98,000	0%	100%	98,000	98,000	(0)
One Time Funding (Tobacco Cessation)	5,000	0	5,000	0	#DIV/0!	100%	0	0	0
OTF COVID-19 Extraordinary Costs	(6,954)	1,078,089	(1,085,043)	1,078,089	-101%	-1%	2,203,446	2,210,400	(6,954)
Total Public Health 100% Prov. Funded	2,276,617	3,363,439	(1,086,822)	3,363,439	-32%	68%	4,245,292	4,259,650	(14,358)
Total Public Health Mitigation Funding	1,037,800	1,037,800	0	1,037,800	0%	100%	1,037,800	1,037,800	0
Recoveries from Programs	11,808	10,000	1,808	10,000	18%	118%	(23,961)	27,450	(51,411)
Program Fees	41,912	79,600	(37,688)	79,600	-47%	53%	48,497	51,625	(3,128)
Land Control Fees	196,325	225,000	(28,675)	225,000	-13%	87%	245,845	183,000	62,845
Program Fees Immunization	71,206	50,000	21,206	50,000	42%	142%	25,236	50,000	(24,764)
HPV Vaccine Program	17,986	9,500	8,486	9,500	89%	189%	5,194	9,500	(4,307)
Influenza Program	16,320	23,500	(7,180)	23,500	-31%	69%	220	23,500	(23,280)
Meningococcal C Program	8,840	7,000	1,840	7,000	26%	126%	3,740	7,000	(3,260)
Interest Revenue	171,916	32,784	139,132	32,784	424%	524%	87,718	20,000	67,718
Other Revenues	1,700	15,000	(13,300)	15,000	-89%	11%	17,000	7,000	10,000
Total Fees and Recoveries	538,013	452,384	85,629	452,384	19%	119%	409,489	379,075	30,414
Total Public Health Revenue Annual	16,902,848	17,904,040	(1,001,192)	17,904,039	-6%	94%	18,655,219	18,639,166	16,053
Public Health Fiscal April 2023 - March 2024									
Infection Prevention and Control Hub	452,556	452,550	6	603,400	0%	75%			
School Nurses Initiative	175,000	175,000	0	175,000	0%	100%			
Needle Syringe Program	15,220	15,225	(5)	20,300	0%	75%			
New Purpose-Built Vaccine Fridge	8,324	8,325	(1)	11,100	0%	75%			
PHI Practicum Program	22,500	22,500	0	30,000	0%	75%			
Security System Upgrades	91,600	68,700	22,900	91,600	33%	100%			
Upgrade Network Switches	61,085	61,100	(15)	61,100	0%	100%			
Total Provincial Grants Fiscal	826,285	803,400	22,885	992,500	3%	83%	0	0	0

Algoma Public Health
Expense Statement- Public Health
For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

	Actual YTD 2023	Budget YTD 2023	Variance Act. to Bgt. 2023	Annual Budget 2023	Variance % Act. to Bgt. 2023	YTD Actual/ Budget 2023	Comparison Prior Year:		
							YTD Actual 2022	YTD BGT 2022	Variance 2022
Salaries & Wages	10,607,635	10,833,060	225,425	10,833,060	-2%	98%	\$ 10,366,514	\$ 11,220,407	\$ 853,893
Benefits	2,673,289	2,541,380	(131,909)	2,541,380	5%	105%	2,405,805	2,621,584	215,779
Travel	170,538	158,800	(11,738)	158,800	7%	107%	138,138	188,705	50,567
Program	1,631,587	1,237,163	(394,424)	1,237,163	32%	132%	1,377,581	1,320,941	(56,640)
Office	58,442	82,400	23,958	82,400	-29%	71%	61,945	67,400	5,455
Computer Services	942,098	895,892	(46,206)	895,892	5%	105%	932,865	852,416	(80,449)
Telecommunications	332,288	265,000	(67,288)	265,000	25%	125%	326,935	327,528	593
Program Promotion	32,558	45,000	12,442	45,000	-28%	72%	66,217	84,932	18,715
Professional Development	44,292	80,424	36,132	80,424	-45%	55%	75,006	86,141	11,135
Facilities Expenses	941,211	924,000	(17,211)	924,000	2%	102%	1,271,925	1,106,391	(165,534)
Fees & Insurance	396,046	383,500	(12,546)	383,500	3%	103%	362,920	332,300	(30,620)
Debt Management	457,421	457,421	0	457,421	0%	100%	457,421	457,421	0
Recoveries	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	0%	(6,750)	(27,000)	(20,250)
	\$ 18,287,405	\$ 17,904,040	\$ (383,365)	\$ 17,904,040	2%	102%	\$ 17,836,522	\$ 18,639,166	\$ 802,644

Notes to Financial Statements – December 2023

Reporting Period

The December 2023 financial reports include twelve months of financial results for Public Health. All other non-funded public health programs are reporting nine months of results from the operating year ending March 31, 2024.

Statement of Operations (see page 1)

Summary – Public Health and Non Public Health Programs

In November 2023, APH received the revised 2023 Amending Agreement from the province identifying the approved funding allocations for APH's cost-shared and 100% funded programming. The annual budgets for public health programs have been updated to reflect these allocations. The following allocations/changes from the previous year are of significant note:

- A 1% or \$88,000 increase to base funding for cost-shared mandatory programs (pro-rated for the months of April through December)
- A \$129,800 annualized increase in base funding for the Ontario Senior Dental Care Program (pro-rated for the months of April through December).
- One time fiscal funding totaling \$931,400 for special initiatives (including COVID school focused nurses which were funded from April through June of 2023)

As of December 31, 2023, Public Health calendar programs are reporting a \$1,385K negative variance – which is driven by a \$383K negative variance in expenditures and a \$1,001K negative variance in revenue (which is largely contributed to by \$1.1M in budgeted COVID one-time extraordinary funding that we have yet to receive a formal approval for).

Public Health Revenue (see page 2)

Our Public Health calendar revenues are approximately 6% negative variance to budget for 2023.

Although the province has confirmed that one-time extraordinary cost reimbursement for the COVID 19 programs will continue through 2023 (with approval and on-going funding to be based off of our Annual Service Plan and quarterly submissions to the province), no allocations have been provided to date, which is driving the above noted variance - noting that if we were to eliminate this variance APH's revenues would be within 1% of budget. Our Annual Service Plan was submitted to the Ministry on April 3, 2023 and our Q4 Standards Activity report was submitted to the Ministry on January 31, 2024 forecasting the need for \$697K in COVID 19 one-time extraordinary funding for the 2023 calendar year.

For the fiscal year ending March 2024, funding has been approved totaling \$993K which includes continuation of the COVID School Focused Nurse initiative (which expired in June 2023) and \$61K of one-time funding related to upgrading of essential IT network switches which has been carried over from fiscal 2022-23, as approved by the Ministry in March 2023. Other initiatives for which one-time fiscal funding has been provided for include the needle syringe program, new purpose-built vaccine fridge, PHI practicum and capital security system upgrades. This amount also includes continued IPAC Hub funding for which APH received formal approval for funding totaling \$603K for the 2023-24 fiscal year in

order to support enhancement of IPAC practices in congregate care settings in Algoma's catchment area.

No funding has been approved to date for COVID Recovery initiatives (\$650K was requested in 2022).

Public Health Expenses (see page 3)

Salaries & Benefits

There is a \$94K positive variance associated with salaries and benefits. This is driven by gapped position vacancies which are partially offset by the increased cost of non-statutory benefits caused by significantly increased usage and fee rates year over year.

Programs

There is a \$394K negative variance associated with programs. This is driven by ongoing COVID recovery initiatives (leadership and workforce development programs), physician coverage as well as increasing program demand for our Ontario Senior Dental program. We note that APH has requested an increase to base funding for the 100% funded Ontario Senior Dental program with the 2023 Annual Service Plan to fund these identified pressures. Although only a portion of our request has been approved to date, conversations with the Ministry related to required funding to maintain this program are ongoing and APH has been instructed to continue programming as planned, with in year funding opportunities to come to address ongoing pressures. On December 7, APH submitted a formal request for one-time funding totaling \$503K in order to reimburse for total forecasted pressures in this program identified for January 1 through December 31st, 2023. We continue to await response for this request.

Telecommunications

There is a \$67K negative variance associated with telecommunications, largely driven by ongoing one time needs associated with implementation of retro-fitting our office telecommunication systems for current needs based on full staff return to the office with intentions of reduction hardware and service costs in the future (which will result in cost savings of at least \$3K per month moving forward). The project has now been completed.

COVID-19 Expenses

COVID-19 Response

This program includes case and contact management as well as supporting the information phone lines. October year to date expenses were \$359K (versus \$2,006K this time last year).

COVID-19 Mass Immunization

This program includes the planning, support, documentation, and actual needles in arms of the various COVID-19 vaccines. October year to date expenses were \$299K (versus \$1,151K this time last year).

The majority of these costs consist of salaries and benefits costs of APH staff associated with the hours committed year to date to COVID response activities (versus work completed under normal 'home' program delivery).

Financial Position - Balance Sheet (see page 7)

APH's liquidity position continues to be stable and the bank has been reconciled as of December 31, 2023. Cash includes \$2.1M in short-term investments.

Long-term debt of \$4.1 million is held by TD Bank @ 1.80% for a 60-month term (amortization period of 120 months) and matures on September 1, 2026. \$239k of the loan relates to the financing of the Elliot Lake office renovations, which occurred in 2015 with the balance, related to the financing of the 294 Willow Avenue facility located in Sault Ste. Marie. There are no material accounts receivable collection concerns.

Algoma Public Health
Statement of Financial Position
(Unaudited)

	December 2023	December 2022
Date: As of December 2023		
Assets		
Current		
Cash & Investments	\$ 4,602,244	\$ 6,759,408
Accounts Receivable	955,761	1,550,507
Receivable from Municipalities		6,482
Receivable from Province of Ontario		
<i>Subtotal Current Assets</i>	5,558,005	8,316,397
Financial Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	1,245,824	1,319,570
Payable to Gov't of Ont/Municipalities	3,149,150	4,628,303
Deferred Revenue	271,134	317,901
Employee Future Benefit Obligations	2,849,656	2,849,656
Term Loan	3,702,106	3,702,106
<i>Subtotal Current Liabilities</i>	11,217,870	12,817,535
Net Debt	(5,659,864)	(4,501,139)
Non-Financial Assets:		
Building	23,012,269	23,012,269
Furniture & Fixtures	2,113,823	2,113,823
Leasehold Improvements	1,583,166	1,583,166
IT	3,284,893	3,284,893
Automobile	40,113	40,113
Accumulated Depreciation	-12,619,708	-12,619,708
<i>Subtotal Non-Financial Assets</i>	17,414,556	17,414,556
Accumulated Surplus	11,754,691	12,913,417

January 24, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Recipient:

Re: Household Food Insecurity

At its meeting on January 18, 2024, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #06-24:

WHEREAS food security is a chronic and worsening health issue as documented by annual local data on food affordability and as recognized by multiple Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) resolutions: [A05-18](#) (Adequate Nutrition for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), [A18-02](#) (Minimum Wage that is a Living Wage), [A15-04](#) (Basic Income Guarantee), and [A23-05](#) (Monitoring Food Affordability in Ontario and the Inadequacy of Social Assistance Rates)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts call on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

THAT in the context of the Public Health Strengthening roles and responsibilities deliberations, the Board of Health urge all health system partners to remain committed to population health assessment and surveillance as it relates to monitoring food environments and, specifically, to monitoring food affordability; and share this motion broadly with local and provincial stakeholders.

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON P0M 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



Letter
Re: Household Food Insecurity
January 24, 2024
Page 2

Household food insecurity is one of the strongest predictors of poor health, making it a serious public health issue (PROOF, 2023). Individuals who are food insecure are at higher risk of diet-related diseases like diabetes and are at higher risk for a wide range of chronic conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders, arthritis, and chronic pain. Household food insecurity leaves an indelible mark on children's health and well-being (PROOF, 2023). The experience of food insecurity in childhood is associated with mental health concerns throughout childhood and into early adulthood (PROOF, 2023). In Ontario, the healthcare costs of individuals who are the most food insecure can be more than double that of individuals who are food secure (PROOF, 2023, Tarasuk et al., 2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – the solutions for which will not only help many Ontarians in need but also protect the sustainability of our critical health and social services resources.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Honourable Peter Bthlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
France G  linas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Jacqueline Edwards and Jennifer Babin-Fenske, Co-chairs, Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council
Richard Lathwell, Local Food Manitoulin
Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources
All Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Letter
Re: Household Food Insecurity
January 24, 2024
Page 2

PROOF (2023). What are the implications of food insecurity for health and health care? Identifying Policy Options to Reduce Household Food Insecurity in Canada. Retrieved from:
<https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/what-are-the-implications-of-food-insecurity-for-health-andhealth-care/>

Tarasuk, V., Cheng, J., de Oliveira, C., Dachner, N., Gundersen, C., Kurdyak, P. (2015). Association between household food insecurity and annual healthcare costs. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 1 87 (14) E429-E436. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.150234>

January 29, 2024 - Sault Ste. Marie City Council unanimously passed a resolution opposing the merger of Algoma Public Health with Public Health Sudbury and District.

Mover Councillor M. Scott
Seconder Councillor C. Gardi

Whereas on November 22, 2023 the Algoma Public Health Board passed a resolution to “undertake a feasibility study on the potential benefits and drawbacks of a voluntary merger of our two local public health agencies for the delivery of public health objectives.”; and

Whereas Algoma Public Health (APH) and Public Health Sudbury and District (PHSD) jointly wrote to numerous stakeholders on January 19, 2024 advising that they are “undertaking a process to explore a potential merger of the two public health units” and seeking feedback from those stakeholders on this proposal; and

Whereas since 2019, the Government of Ontario has attempted to change the delivery of public health throughout the province, first by attempting to force the merger of all Northeastern Ontario health units into a single health unit in 2019, which the government abandoned at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and subsequently by incentivizing health units to explore voluntary mergers by paying the costs associated with undertaking the feasibility studies for such exploratory reviews; and

Whereas the delivery of public health has been shown, within the last four years to be a matter of great local concern; and

Whereas consolidation of APH with PHSD would be servicing an area spanning over 700km east-west from White River to Warren and 500km northsouth from Chapleau to Manitoulin Island; and

Whereas any merged board would be unable to maintain all the regional representation that is currently represented on the Algoma Public Health Board, which is made up of a representative from Elliot Lake, one representative from Blind River, Spanish or Township of the North Shore, one representative from Wawa, White River or Dubreuilville, one representative from Thessalon or the Municipality of Huron Shores, one representative from Bruce Mines, Village of Hilton Beach, Townships of Hilton, Jocelyn, Johnson, Laird, MacDonald, Meredith and Aberdeen, Plummer Additional, Prince, St. Joseph, or Tarbutt; and

Whereas the history of services being delivered on a regional basis has often led to Northeastern services being consolidated in Sudbury; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the City of Sault Ste. Marie opposes the merger of Algoma Public Health with Public Health Sudbury and District and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Board Chairs of both APH and PHSD.

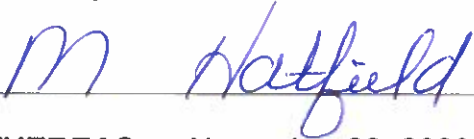
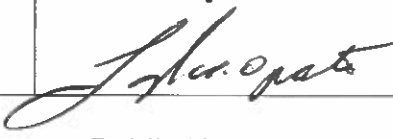


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24019	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS on November 22, 2023 the Algoma Public Health Board passed a resolution to “undertake a feasibility study on the potential benefits and drawbacks of a voluntary merger of our two local public health agencies for the delivery of public health objectives.”; and

WHEREAS Algoma Public Health (APH) and Public Health Sudbury and District (PHSD) jointly wrote to numerous stakeholders on January 19, 2024 advising that they are “undertaking a process to explore a potential merger of the two public health units” and seeking feedback from those stakeholders on this proposal; and

WHEREAS since 2019, the Government of Ontario has attempted to change the delivery of public health throughout the province, first by attempting to force the merger of all Northeastern Ontario health units into a single health unit in 2019, which the government abandoned at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and subsequently by incentivizing health units to explore voluntary mergers by paying the costs associated with undertaking the feasibility studies for such exploratory reviews; and

WHEREAS consolidation of APH with PHSD would be servicing an area spanning over 700km east-west from White River to Warren and 500km north-south from Chapleau to Manitoulin Island; and

WHEREAS any merged board would be unable to maintain all the regional representation that is currently represented on the Algoma Public Health Board, which is made up of a representative from Elliot Lake, one representative from Blind River, Spanish or Township of the North Shore, one representative from Wawa, White River or Dubreuilville, one representative from Thessalon or the Municipality of Huron Shores, one representative from Bruce Mines, Village of Hilton Beach, Townships of Hilton, Jocelyn, Johnson, Laird, MacDonald, Meredith and Aberdeen, Plummer Additional, Prince, St. Joseph, or Tarbutt; and;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Municipality of Wawa opposes the merger of Algoma Public Health with Public Health Sudbury and District and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Board Chairs of both APH and PHSD, Municipalities in the Algoma District, FONOM and the Ministry of Health.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR – JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL
	

This document is available in alternate formats.



February 14, 2024

Sally Hagman & René Lapierre
Board of Health Chairs
Algoma Public Health & Public Health Sudbury & Districts

Dear Ms. Hagman and Mr. Lapierre,

Thank you for your letter of January 18th, 2024 in which you indicate the potential merger of the two public health units.

Our Board of Directors met February 7th and discussed your letter and the possible implications for our area and the clients we serve. CHADWIC Home offers emergency shelter and support, informal counselling, and referrals to women and their children who are experiencing Intimate Partner Violence.

We serve the communities of Wawa, Hornepayne, White River, Dubreuilville and Chapleau including the unorganized communities and First Nations within this catchment area. So, we are on the actual exterior parameter of the Algoma Public Health and Sudbury Public Health Units' Northern service area.

As your boards have your initial discussions, we would like you to keep in mind that the services and supports provided by the public health units to our area are crucial to the women & children that we serve. Any reduction in service available in our area would be problematic both for our clients and for the communities at large. The staff are valued community partners and we often look to them for advice and guidance on health matters affecting our clients and our organization.

As you discuss the potential merger of the two public health units, please keep in mind the valuable and necessary role that these services play in the smaller, northern communities and work hard to ensure their continued presence and level of service in our area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marnie Laffeur", is written over the typed name and title.

Marnie Laffeur
Chairperson
CHADWIC Home Board of Directors

CHADWIC HOME – LA MAISON CHADWIC P.O. Box 1580 | Wawa, Ontario | P0S 1K0 | Canada
tel: 705.856.2848 | fax: 705.856.2020 | email: info@chadwichome.com | www.chadwichome.com



Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and
Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
VIA EMAIL:

Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

MPP Jill Dunlop
Unit 9
575 West St. S
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6
VIA EMAIL:
Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL:
info@thebao.ca

MPP Brian Saunderson
Suite 28
180 Parsons Rd.
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8
VIA EMAIL:
Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-003: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED



As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Ontario Municipalities



Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

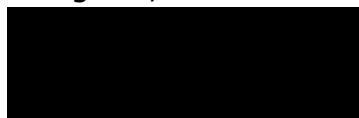
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

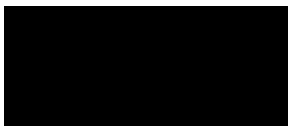
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,



Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

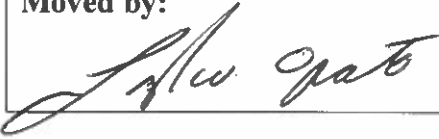


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24017	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Wawa Cemetery Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 where the Committee received correspondence from Tay Township requesting support regarding Provincial Cemetery Management,

AND WHEREAS, under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

AND WHEREAS over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

AND WHEREAS municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

AND WHEREAS the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE		
☒ CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐ DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR – JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

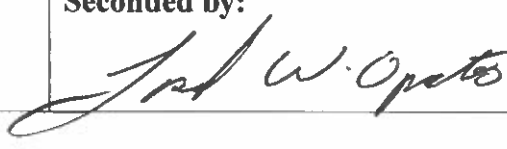


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24016	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS By-Law 1070-96, being a By-Law to continue and regulate a Fire Department for the Corporation of the Municipality of Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 1070-96, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on January 24, 2024, Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa received the 2024 Wawa Fire Service Review by The Loomex Group that identifies and evaluates Wawa's current and anticipated fire protection needs, Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt;

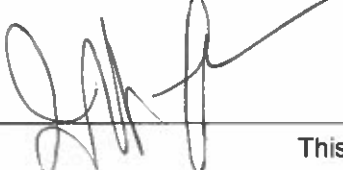
AND FINALLY RESOLVE THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR – JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL
	

This document is available in alternate formats.



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca
(sent via e-mail)

February 15th, 2024

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Motion #11

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support correspondence item 'r' from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
All Ontario Municipalities

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown



TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com E-Mail: clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6th, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #2024-53

Moved by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution 2024-46 from the County of Prince Edward relating to a request to the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



Township of Central Frontenac

1084 Elizabeth Street, P.O. Box 89, Sharbot Lake, ON K0H 2P0

Tel: 613-279-2935 or 1-800-300-6851, Fax: 613-279-2422

www.centralfrontenac.com



February 16, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Please be advised that Council carried a motion, at its meeting on February 13th, in support of Prince Edward County's resolution #2024-46, regarding support for the province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements:

RESOLUTION NO.	47-2024
DATE:	February 13, 2024
MOVED BY:	Councillor Phillip Smith
SECONDED BY:	Councillor Susan Irwin

That Council Support the resolution from Prince Edward County dated January 22, 2024, regarding support for the province to expand the life cycle of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

And Further That Council authorize the CAO/Clerk to send a letter of support to Premier Doug Ford, Honourable David Piccini Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

CARRIED

Kind Regards,

Cathy MacMunn AMCT ACST
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
cmacmun@centralfrontenac.com

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing- Paul Calandra
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skill Development- David Piccini
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

CM/jl

Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0
T: 613-269-4791
W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its regular meeting on February 12th, 2024, passed the following motion endorsing the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #: R-21-12-02-24

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barr

Seconded by: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford endorse the resolution received from Prince Edward County regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements Fire Underwriters Survey requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca.

Your truly,



Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Clerk

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown

Resolution Number 2024-046

Title: Support Resolution - Fire Apparatus Life Span

Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Moved by Councillor Jaworski

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Long

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Glengarry hereby supports the resolution passed by the County of Prince Edward and the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities

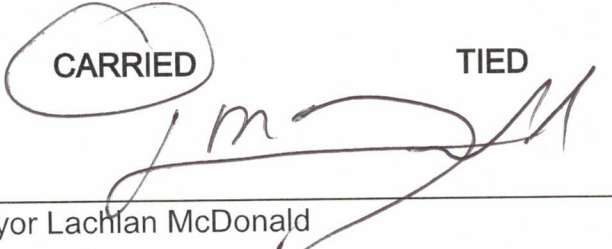
AND FURTHERMORE that this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the County of Prince Edward.

CARRIED

TIED

DEFEATED

POSTPONED



Mayor Lachlan McDonald



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 7, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara Street, P.O. Box 250
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 5, 2024, received and supported correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming dated December 1, 2023, regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters) with the following motion:

Resolution No: RC-2024-06

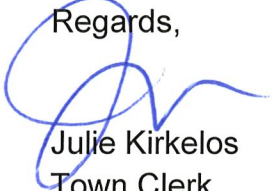
Moved by Councillor JD Pachereva; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

THAT Council support and endorse the resolution within the correspondence received re: Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,


Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



Lianne Rood
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

December 1st 2023

Sent via e-mail: Lianne.Rood@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Dear Ms. Rood,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).

Motion 13

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Bob Woolvett

That Council support item 'R' of correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Tax Credit for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario – info@oafc.on.ca
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) – resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Fannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>J. M. Al</i>

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.



TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com E-Mail: clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

February 16, 2024

Re: support Bill C-310 – increase tax credits for volunteer firefighting

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6th, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from the Municipality of Wawa to call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Resolution #2024-53

Moved by: Terry Currie

Seconded by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution RC23265 from Municipality of Wawa calling on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsection 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>J. Mal</i>

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

February 8, 2024

Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Attn: Board of Directors
Via email roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Good Roads Association
Attn: Board of Directors
Via email info@goodroads.ca

Via email

RE: return to combined ROMA and OGRA conferences

Dear ROMA & OGRA Board of Directors,

During the February 5, 2024 regular meeting of council, council in response to a notice of motion from Deputy Mayor Joel Field the following resolution passed:

MOVED: Bill Clark

SECONDED: Chad Hyatt

WHEREAS as a past attendee of combined conferences, it makes great sense for the OGRA & ROMA conferences to be returned to a combined conference effort, not only financially for the municipality but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff; and

WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, returning to a combined conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation; and

WHEREAS during the 2019 OGRA conference AGM a resolution was passed regarding the re-establishment of an annual combined conference for both OGRA & ROMA; and

WHEREAS it is understandable that little movement has happened since the resolution at the 2019 OGRA conference AGM was passed, due to delays of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person, that a hybrid participation option be considered for the sessions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Petrolia call upon both the ROMA & OGRA boards to re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference.

FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MPP Bob Bailey and be circulated to Municipalities of Ontario; as amended

Carried

Phone: (519)882-2350 • Fax: (519)882-3373 • Theatre: (800)717-7694

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0

www.town.petrolia.on.ca
Page 91 of 133



Kind regards,

Original Signed

Mandi Pearson
Clerk/Operations Clerk

cc:

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca
Hon. Paul Calandra Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
MPP Bob Bailey, Sarnia-Lambton bob.bailey@pc.ola.org
Ontario Municipalities

Phone: (519)882-2350 • Fax: (519)882-3373 • Theatre: (800)717-7694

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0

www.town.petrolia.on.ca
Page 92 of 133



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Sent via Email

February 9, 2024

Dear Premier Ford:

RE: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'

At its Regular meeting on February 7, 2024, Council of the Township of Springwater passed the following resolution:

C56-2024

That Council for the Township of Springwater endorse the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury, and recognize resolutions from other Ontario municipalities such as the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, petitioning the province to amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project ; and,

That the resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario and MPP for Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at clerks@springwater.ca or by phone at 705-728-4784.

Regards,

C. Sarah A. Elliott, B.A., Dipl. M.A.,
Committee Coordinator/Administrative Assistant

cc:

Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development;
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario and MPP for Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte;
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario; The Council of Ontario Construction Associations; The Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.



Northumberland County

Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 22, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Northumberland County Resolution –
'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify
the Definition of Employer'**

At a meeting held on February 21, 2024 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109 adopting the below recommendation from the February 6, 2024 Corporate Support Committee meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Lucas Cleveland
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at matherm@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Mather".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By L. Cleveland Agenda Item 10 Resolution Number 2024-02-21- 109
 Seconded By O. Anwar
 Council Date: February 21, 2024

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the four Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held February 6 and 7), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
- Social Services Committee, Item 7.a, 'Correspondence, '310 Division Street, Cobourg' – Held by Councillor Cleveland			

And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
 Councillor's Name

Deferred _____
 Warden's Signature

Carried  _____
 Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
 Warden's Signature

Corporate Support Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: February 6, 2024

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2024-02-06-071

Moved by: S. Dibb

Seconded by: B. Ostrander

Council Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried



Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated

Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred

Committee Chair's Signature



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca
DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

January 15th 2024

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10th 2024, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

Motion 14

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bob Bailey, MPP – Sarnia-Lambton
Association of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario's Big City Mayors
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario
Council of Ontario Construction Associations
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

Sent Via Email

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

PO BOX 5000 STN A
200 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

CP 5000 SUCCA
200, RUE BRADY
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;

AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;

AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;

AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;

AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;

705.671.2489

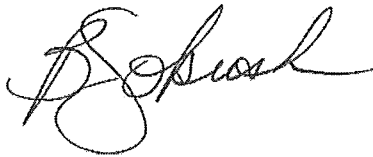
www.greatersudbury.ca
www.grandsudbury.ca

AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brigitte Sobush', with a stylized, flowing script.

Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE
69 FOURTH AVENUE, P. O. BOX 40, LARDER LAKE, ON P0K 1L0
PH: 705-643-2158 FAX: 705-643-2311
LARDERLAKE.CA

January 11th, 2024

****Sent Via Email****

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, the following resolution of support was adopted:

Resolution: 4

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crystal Labbe', written over a horizontal line.

Crystal Labbe
CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON

Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

- ☐ Thomas Armstrong
☐ Patricia Hull
☒ Paul Kelly
☐ Lynne Paquette

SECONDED BY:

- ☐ Thomas Armstrong
☐ Patricia Hull
☐ Paul Kelly
☐ Lynne Paquette

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities OF Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Reginal Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Recorded vote requested: ☐

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull		
Paul Kelly		
Lynne Paquette		
Patty Quinn		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

I declare this motion

☒ Carried

☐ Lost / Defeated

☐ Deferred to: _____ (enter date)

Because:

☐ Referred to: _____ (enter body)

Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Chair:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Kelly', is written over a horizontal line.

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.



TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com E-Mail: clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier@ontario.ca

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6th, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury.

Resolution #2024-51

Moved by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution CC2023-303 from City of Greater Sudbury relating to a request to the Province for an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer". Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini
MPP Graydon Smith
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

Sent Via Email

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

PO BOX 5000 STN A
200 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCCA
200, RUE BRADY
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

www.greatersudbury.ca
www.grandsudbury.ca

CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;

AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;

AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;

AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;

AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brigitte Sobush', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



2297 Highway 12
PO Box 130
Brechtin, ON L0K 1B0
www.ramara.ca

February 9, 2024

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Attn: Minister Paul Calandra
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

RE: Township of Ramara Resolution 2024.24
Request for Province of Ontario and AMO Social and Economic Prosperity
Review to Promote the Stability and Sustainability of Municipal Finances

Dear Minister Paul Calandra,

At their regular meeting on January 29, 2024, the Council of the Township of Ramara passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND THAT staff circulate it to MPP Jill Dunlop, applicable Ministries, and Ontario Municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory; however, if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Connor".

Jennifer Connor CMO, AOMC

Director of Legislative Services & Community Services / Clerk

Cc. MPP Jill Dunlop

Via email: Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

Date: February 13, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024- 55

9.1.2 AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Municipality Review

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Grant

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; **And further that** a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

MPP Victor Fedeli

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Ontario Municipalities

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	☐	☐
Councillor Moreton	☐	☐
Councillor Latimer	☐	☐
Councillor Grant	☐	☐
Councillor Manson	☐	☐



February 6, 2024

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South
7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Cres.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7
Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Dear Honourable Minister Bethlenfalvy:

Re: Support for Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

At their meeting held on February 6, 2024, Council discussed the need for a stable and sustainable municipal financial position. Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario as they request that the Province undertake a comprehensive review of social and economic prosperity. The resolution adopted by Council is below.

R-43-2024

It was **Moved** by C. Hull, **Seconded** by T. Bell and **Carried**

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

And whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

And whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

And whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like delivering long term care services, homelessness and affordable housing options, addressing the mental health and addictions crises, and other social services;

And whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;



TOWN OF SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

And whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And whereas the Province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the Provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that The Town of South Bruce Peninsula requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that this resolution be sent to The Premier of Ontario Doug Ford, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy – Ontario's Minister of Finance, Rick Byers – MPP Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all other Ontario municipalities.

We trust that you will consider our request and look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Yours very truly,

Angie Cathrae

Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

519-534-1400 ext 122

Angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

cc: Premier Doug Ford, Rick Byers MPP Bruce/Grey/Owen Sound, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, All Ontario Municipalities

February 13, 2024

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Minister.MLITSD@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

RE: Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Dear Minister Piccini,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2024, the council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Powassan supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND THAT, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator

Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli, and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

If you have any questions regarding Resolution 2024-43, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Allison Quinn
Clerk
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
AMO
All Municipalities in Ontario

Office of the
County Warden



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-7288
FAX: 613-735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

January 31, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

RE: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

Dear Premier Ford,
Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 31, 2024, The County of Renfrew passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) (Section 1.6.6.2) states that municipal sewage services and municipal water services are the preferred form of servicing for settlement areas to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety and that intensification and redevelopment within these settlement areas should be promoted; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Section 2.2.1 (f)) states that planning authorities shall protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water by implementing the necessary restrictions on development and site alternation to protect all drinking supplies and designated vulnerable areas, and protect, improve, or restore vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive groundwater features, and their hydrologic functions; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Sections 2.2.1(h) and (i)) states that there is consideration of environmental lake capacity as well as stormwater management practices; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Protection and Conservation (MECP) Procedural Guideline B-1-5 Policy 2 provision states that water quality which presently does not meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives shall not be further degraded and all practical measures shall be undertaken to upgrade the water quality to the Objectives; and

WHEREAS in 2014 the Township of Whitewater Region authorized Jp2gConsultants Inc. to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of evaluating viable options to upgrade the 1979 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant did not meet guidelines for effluent flow into Muskrat Lake and Cobden Wetland being highly sensitive, at-capacity, inland lake, and Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW) and acknowledged as one of

the most eutrophic in the province. The plant had ongoing seasonal overflow events, and was operating at maximum capacity; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region approved the construction of a new parallel mechanical system that would meet all provincial environmental and regulatory requirements including accommodating future growth. Federal and provincial contributions only covered 50% of the final construction costs, as there was no ability to renegotiate with federal and provincial partners once real costs were known. As a result, the balance of costs (\$6M) was debentured over 30 years at interest rates that are slightly punitive to rural and small urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS in 2019 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region conducted a Water and Wastewater Rate Study that demonstrated the need for rate increases of over 100% to fund the new wastewater treatment plant construction debenture and the significantly increased operating costs for a parallel mechanical system. Rural and small urban municipalities experience very limited growth as federal and provincial policies heavily support growth in urban centers. As there are no other sources of available operational funding, rural and small urban municipalities are expected to fund the construction and operation of these state-of-the-art systems from existing property owners and nominal forecasted growth; and

WHEREAS in 2023 the Township of Whitewater Region combined water and wastewater rates have risen to almost \$3,000/year for its five hundred and eleven (511) users and are among the highest in the County of Renfrew and across the Province of Ontario. There are similarly high user rates in the Township of Madawaska Valley as a result of Provincial regulations and a small number of users. Other examples of rapidly increasing rates include the Towns of Deep River, Renfrew, Arnprior, Laurentian Hills, and Petawawa, and the Townships of Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley and Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where significant upgrades in short periods of time are making rates unaffordable even with an increased number of users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Renfrew:

Advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and Advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Emon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Emon, Warden

County of Renfrew

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

cc: Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario)
Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada)
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke
John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.



Box 608, Little Current, Ontario, P0P 1K0
705-368-3500

Please find below a motion of support for the recent motion shared by Renfrew County. We would also like to bring to everyone's attention a motion that we recently passed and forwarded on.

This is an issue that seems to be affecting many small communities and in these tight economic times an important factor to keeping residents in their homes and our water systems safe.

Resolution No. 38-02-2024

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: L. Cook

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands supports the resolution put forth by the County of Renfrew to advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine of the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

Carried

Resolution No. 29-02-2024

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: M. Erskine

where they do not have sufficient financial resources to meet the ongoing demands of everyday living.

This has created a situation where residents who are struggling to pay their daily expenses lack the financial resources to maintain the critical infrastructure required to sustain the water and wastewater systems that service their homes. It is critically important that the other levels of government recognize this fact and provide funding assistance that can be accessed based on operational and financial need.

Whereas the current housing accelerator fund provides financial support for small communities and water and distribution systems are considered eligible under the program guidelines,

And whereas one of the primary criteria for this funding is the ability to prove that the funds will accelerate the development of housing stock on the water or distribution system,

And whereas many smaller communities are not experiencing the level of growth necessary to meet the requirements of the program for growth in housing stock,

And whereas the water and wastewater systems in those communities represents a higher cost to operate per capita than the systems in larger built-up areas,

And whereas the cost of maintaining those systems on a user-pay basis is creating undue financial hardship for the limited number of residents on those systems

Therefore be it resolved that the Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands requests that the Province of Ontario implement a funding stream for water and wastewater systems that primarily utilizes operational and financial need as a criteria.

And furthermore that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Ford, the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of the Environment and Michael Mantha, MPP

Carried



February 14th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

ATTENTION: Premier of Ontario

Dear Premier Ford:

RE: Resolution – Conservation Officer Reclassification

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held January 23rd, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Roberts

Seconded by Councillor Summers

THAT, Council supports the resolution from Coleman Township regarding Conservation Officer Reclassification;

AND THAT, this resolution of support be circulated to the Premiere of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, local Members of Parliament and all Ontario Municipalities.

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. Minister of Natural Resources, Graydon Smith
Local MP's and MPP's
Association of Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities

**Resolution
Regular Council Meeting**



Agenda Number: 9.4.
Resolution Number 23-371
Title: 23-R-49 Letter of Support - Conservation Officer Reclassification
Date: Monday, November 20, 2023

Seconded by: M. Lubbock

Moved by: S. Cote

WHEREAS Ontario has 196 field Conservation Officers including 6 canine handlers who provide protection to Municipalities Natural Resources and uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths that result from hunting-related accidents; in addition, Conservation Officers are often First Responders and ensure public safety by facilitating evacuations and enforcing Emergency Area orders during forest fires during record breaking wildfires such as we witnessed this past summer; and

WHEREAS Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training; and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required that their constituents are informed, and their interests are safeguarded and ensure they have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Coleman does here by support the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution with a letter of support be forwarded to Ontario Premiere Doug Ford, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, the Local Provincial Member of Parliament (MPP) John Vanthof, Temiskaming Municipal Association and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 0

S. Cote

M. Lubbock

P. Rieux

L. Perry

Certified True Copy

Christopher W. Oslund
CAO/Clerk - Treasurer



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

VIA: Email

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd Smith, M.P.P
Minister of Energy
Todd.Smithco@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, M.P.P
Minister of Finance
Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Colin Best
President of Association of Municipalities of Ontario
amopresident@amo.on.ca

February 14, 2024

Subject: Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy

Dear Premier Ford, Ministers Smith and Bethlenfalvy, and President Best,

City Council, at its meeting held on February 14, 2024, passed the following resolution in support for the decision of the Ontario Energy Board to end the Gas Pipeline Subsidy:

WHEREAS, residents are struggling with energy bill increases and need relief;

WHEREAS, natural gas is no longer the cheapest way to heat homes because electric heat pumps are now much more efficient, can provide all heating needs even in the cold climates, and result in far lower energy bills over the long term compared to gas heating;

WHEREAS, natural gas is methane gas, which is a fossil fuel that causes approximately one-third of Ontario's GHG emissions, and must be phased out because it is inconsistent with all climate targets, while heat pumps result in the lowest GHG emissions and are consistent with a zero-carbon future;

WHEREAS, the Ontario Energy Board ("OEB") decided to end a subsidy for methane gas pipelines to be built in new construction developments, effective 2025, finding that this would lower energy bills for existing gas customers and improve

affordability for new homebuyers, but this decision is at risk of being overturned by the provincial government;

WHEREAS, the OEB decision will help lower energy bills and encourage heating systems that are consistent with climate targets and plans;

WHEREAS, the construction of *new* methane gas pipelines, which have 60-year lifetimes, should not be subsidized because they are inconsistent with the City's climate targets and will result in higher carbon emissions, higher energy bills, higher future decarbonization retrofit costs to get off fossil fuel heating, and a continued financial drain as dollars leave the province to pay for fossil fuels extracted in other jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, Hamilton City Council declared a climate emergency in 2019;

WHEREAS, transforming our buildings by supporting actions that improve the energy efficiency and GHG profile of new buildings within the City is one of 5 low-carbon transformations from ReCharge Hamilton, the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP); and

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is actively working to support the decarbonization of heating and cooling systems in existing and future building stock within the community, as demonstrated by the Better Homes Hamilton Home Energy Retrofit Pilot Program, which will provide 0% interest loans to up to 50 Hamilton homeowners to enable them to transition away from fossil-fuel powered heating and cooling equipment to low carbon air or ground source heat pump systems.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the City of Hamilton expresses its support for the decision of the Ontario Energy Board to end the gas pipeline subsidy and requests that the Ontario Government allow the decision to stand; and

(b) That this resolution be circulated to the President of Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Colin Best; Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; Minister of Energy, Todd Smith; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy and all Ontario Municipalities requesting support for the proposed changes.

Sincerely,



Andrea Horwath
Mayor

CC: All Ontario Municipalities (by email)

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge
Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division
Tel: (519) 740-4680 ext. 4585
mantond@cambridge.ca

February 14, 2024

Re: Catch and Release

At its Council Meeting of February 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

WHEREAS this council believes that the safety of our community and its protection from crime in all its forms is of utmost importance.

WHEREAS our taxpayer-funded judicial system exists to protect the public, who in return for their tax dollars are entitled to a system that works.

WHEREAS the number of charges laid for failure to comply with court orders – primarily failure to comply with the terms of a promise to appear, undertaking, recognizance, probation order, or peace bond – are steadily on the rise in the province of Ontario.

WHEREAS there has been a notable increase in the number of violent offences committed in the province of Ontario by individuals who are concurrently subject to release orders.

WHEREAS the Ontario justice system is backlogged, court systems under strain, and police and prosecutors overwhelmed by their caseloads.

WHEREAS we have seen a dramatic lowering of the threshold for release, resulting in violent, serious, or repeat offenders who should by rights have been reasonably detained in custody, released on supervision plans that are increasingly deficient.

WHEREAS the general sense among the criminal population is that breaching bail conditions will not result in much by way of consequence for the offender, as evidenced by a clear pattern province-wide of unjustifiable release, a pattern which is bound to continue given insufficient resources to conduct Crown bail reviews, surety bond estreatment hearings, and ensure the subsequent collection of surety bond funds after judgment.

WHEREAS a 'catch and release' system constitutes a failure of government to perform a core function of its existence, that being the protection of public safety and that this failure constitutes a clear and present danger to the public.

WHEREAS the current hard drug crisis has contributed to a desperate criminal element that is exacting a significant financial and emotional toll on communities across Canada including Cambridge.

WHEREAS our police services are being demoralized by expending precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of these habitual criminal offenders within a system that limits their ability to effectively protect the public.

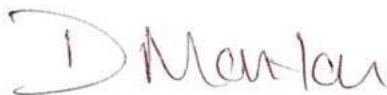
AND WHEREAS this ineffective follow-through by our judicial system unfairly erodes the public's trust in our police services, who consequently become the target of frustrated and angry residents who feel they are no longer being protected from crime.

AND WHEREAS the increasing erosion of public faith and trust in our judicial system ultimately brings the administration of justice in the province of Ontario into disrepute and leads to a growing feeling amongst residents that they are no longer protected by a system perceived to prioritize the rights and freedoms of the criminal over the rights and safety of themselves and their families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge send a letter to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MP Bryan May, MP Valerie Bradford, MPP Jess Dixon, MPP Bryan Riddell, Police Chief Mark Crowell, Waterloo Regional Police Service, all Ontario Police Associations and Police Departments, Ontario Provincial Police, all Ontario MPPs and MPs, and all municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration, requesting additional funding in Ontario's legal system to support a meaningful resistance to the current "catch and release" practice, including hiring sufficient court staff, with a specific focus on additional assistant Crown Attorneys.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Danielle Manton
City Clerk

Cc: (via email)

Hon. Prime Minister Trudeau

Hon. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

Attorney General of Ontario

Ontario Solicitor General

Hon. Premier Ford

Ontario Police Associations

Ontario Police Departments

Ontario MPPs and MPs

All Ontario Municipalities



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
(sent via e-mail)

February 15th, 2024

Re: Carbon Tax

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

Motion #12

Moved by Councillor John van Klaveren

Seconded by Councillor Mike Vasey

That Council support correspondence item 'o' from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All Ontario municipalities



**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA
City Clerk's Department**

255 Christina Street N. PO Box 3018
Sarnia ON Canada N7T 7N2
519-332-0330 (phone) 519-332-3995 (fax)
519-332-2664 (TTY)
www.sarnia.ca clerks@sarnia.ca

January 19, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Carbon Tax

At its meeting held on January 15, 2024, Sarnia City Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the federal government recently increased the carbon tax in April 2023 and will almost triple it by 2030; and

Whereas the Parliamentary Budget officer has admitted that when fiscal and economic impacts of the federal fuel charge are considered that the vast majority of households will see a staggering loss; and

Whereas this tax flows through from producers to transporters to the grocery store floor for our citizens; and

Whereas this tax does very little to reduce pollution and emissions; and

Whereas two thirds of Canadians are approximately \$200 away or less from not being able to pay all their bills at the end of the month; and

Therefore, be it resolved that Sarnia City Council write a Letter to the Federal government (and copied to other Municipalities for their consideration) strongly urging them to cancel the carbon tax which is financially hurting our citizens at a time

when affordability concerns are at an all-time high to ease the financial and inflationary pressure on our Citizens.

Your consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Amy Burkhart'.

Amy Burkhart
City Clerk

cc: All Ontario Municipalities



TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com E-Mail: clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: support of resolution from Township of Conmee

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6th, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from Township of Conmee relating to requested changes to the Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act.

Resolution #2024-56

Moved by: Daniel O'Halloran

Seconded by: Wesley Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 2023-0247 from Township of Conmee relating to lobbying the Provincial Government to amend the Municipal Act & Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record pardoned from RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in Municipal Elections or holding office in Municipal Council. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Attorney General – Doug Downey
Solicitor General – Michael Kerzner
Minister of Municipal Affairs – Paul Calandra
MPP – Graydon Smith
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
All Ontario Municipalities



19 Holland Rd W. RR.#1
Kakabeka Falls, ON POT 1W0

www.conmee.com

On December 19th 2023, Council passed the following resolution at its regular meeting:

RESOLUTION 2023-0247

Moved by Councillor Arnold

Seconded by Councillor Halvorsen

WHEREAS duly elected Officials of a Municipality, or a Township are expected to be above reproach and to conduct themselves with integrity, truth, justice, honesty, transparency and courtesy.

AND WHEREAS there are people of dubious character who have a Criminal Record, having been convicted of a Federal Offence of any of the Federal Statutes of Canada, but not limited to the Criminal Code or Narcotic Control Act, who are currently on Council of a Municipality or have let their name stand for election for Mayor, Reeve or Councillor as a municipal candidate.

NOT WITHSTANDING the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Conmee lobby the Provincial Government to amend The Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record pardoned from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in municipal elections or holding office in municipal council

AND THAT an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a criminal offense and must resign

AND THAT Council of the Township of Conmee direct the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, Minister of Municipal Affairs Paul Calandra, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP and Leader of the Official Opposition Marit Stiles, MPP and Critic of the Attorney General Kristyn Wong-Tam, MPP and Critic of Solicitor General John Vanthof, MPP and Critic of Municipal Affairs Jeff Burch, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario



19 Holland Rd W. RR.#1
Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0
www.conmee.com

Municipal Association, Northern Ontario Municipal Association, Thunder Bay District
Municipal League, and all Ontario municipalities

CARRIED

February 16, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of February 13, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-81

DATE: February 13, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS poverty is taking a devastating toll on communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, with people in receipt of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program being disproportionately impacted;

WHEREAS the cost of food, housing, medicine, and other essential items have outpaced the highest inflation rates seen in a generation;

WHEREAS people in need of social assistance have been legislated into poverty, housing insecurity, hunger, poorer health, their motives questioned, and their dignity undermined;

WHEREAS Ontario Works (OW) Financial Assistance rates have been frozen since 2018 (\$733 per month);

WHEREAS Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefit rates have been increased by 6.5 per cent as of July 2023 to keep up with inflation, however even with the increase, ODSP rates still fall below their value in 2018 (\$1,376 when adjusted for inflation) and significantly below the disability-adjusted poverty line (\$3,091 per month)

WHEREAS OW and ODSP rates do not provide sufficient income for a basic standard of living and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of people across Ontario who rely on these programs live in poverty;

WHEREAS the poverty risk profile for Prince Edward County created by Vital Signs states that 10.1% - 13.5% of County residents are living on low income;

WHEREAS designated Service Managers are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity, or tools to provide the necessary income and health related supports to people experiencing poverty; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the Provincial Government to immediately develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to address the rising levels of poverty in Ontario, in particular for those on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County joins the Town of Orangeville to calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation, answering calls already made by “Raise the Rates” campaign and the “Income Security Advocacy Centre”;
- b) Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;
- c) Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch, and Marcia Wallace, CAO

February 16, 2024

Re: Res. #24-05-39 – Algoma Public Health Feasibility Study

The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Huron Shores passed Resolution #24-05-39 at the Regular Meeting held Wednesday, February 14th, 2024, as follows:

“WHEREAS on November 22, 2023, the Algoma Public Health Board passed a resolution to ‘undertake a feasibility study on the potential benefits and drawbacks of a voluntary merger of our two local public health agencies for the delivery of public health objectives’;

AND WHEREAS Algoma Public Health (APH) and Public Health Sudbury and District (PHSD) jointly wrote to numerous stakeholders on January 19, 2024, advising that they are “undertaking a process to explore a potential merger of the two public health units” and seeking feedback from those stakeholders on this proposal;

AND WHEREAS since 2019, the Government of Ontario has attempted to change the delivery of public health throughout the province, first by attempting to force the merger of all Northeastern Ontario health units into a single health unit in 2019, which the government abandoned at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and subsequently by incentivizing health units to explore voluntary mergers by paying the costs associated with undertaking the feasibility studies for such exploratory reviews;

AND WHEREAS consolidation of APH with PHSD would be servicing an area spanning over 700km east-west from White River to Warren and 500km north-south from Chapleau to Manitoulin Island;

AND WHEREAS any merged board would be unable to maintain all the regional representation that is currently represented on the Algoma Public Health Board, which is made up of a representative from Elliot Lake, one representative from Blind River, Spanish, or Township of the North Shore, one representative from Wawa, White River or Dubreuilville, one representative from Thessalon or the Municipality of Huron Shores, one representative from Bruce Mines, Village of Hilton Beach, Townships of Hilton, Jocelyn, Johnson, Laird, MacDonald, Meredith and Aberdeen, Plummer Additional, Prince, St. Joseph, or Tarbutt;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Huron Shores opposes the merger of Algoma Public Health and Public Health Sudbury and District;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Board Chairs of both APH and PHSD, Municipalities in the Algoma District, FONOM and the Ministry of Health.”

Should you require anything further in order to address the above-noted resolution, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Natasha Roberts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Natasha" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Roberts".

Natashia Roberts

CAO/Clerk
NR/KN

Cc: Board Chairs of both APH and PHSD, Municipalities in the Algoma District, FONOM and the Ministry of Health