



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

August 14, 2026

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# Workforce Development and Job Vacancies

FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES

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**FEDERATION OF NORTHERN MUNICIPALITIES – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND JOB VACANCIES**

**Introduction**

Small Northern municipalities face unique workforce development challenges that can affect their ability to deliver essential services, support economic growth, and remain resilient in the face of demographic and labour market changes. Limited populations, geographic isolation, competition for skilled workers, and constrained organizational capacity often make it more difficult to recruit, retain, and develop employees than in larger urban centres.

Better understanding these challenges is important to provide evidence-based insights that can inform targeted strategies, strengthen local workforce capacity, and help ensure Northern communities are well positioned to meet current and future service and economic development needs.

**Methodology**

In the spring of 2026, the Federation of Northern Ontario municipalities (FONOM) partnered with the four Northeastern Ontario Workforce Planning Boards on a new initiative focused on better understanding the workforce challenges facing municipalities across Northeastern Ontario.

A survey tool was developed to gather real, on-the-ground information related to recruitment and retention, hard-to-fill positions, succession planning, skills shortages, and the broader pressures communities are facing in attracting and keeping skilled workers.

The survey was launched at the Spring FONOM conference in Timmins from May 11-13, 2026. The survey was open for a total of 3 weeks and garnered 61 responses from FONOM’s 109 member municipalities.

The responses were received from the following regions:

|                          |                      |     |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----|
| District of Sudbury:     | 5 out of 10 members  | 50% |
| District of Manitoulin:  | 1 out of 9 members   | 1%  |
| District of Temiskaming: | 5 out of 23 members  | 22% |
| District of Nipissing:   | 6 out of 11 members  | 54% |
| District of Algoma:      | 10 out of 21 members | 47% |
| District of Parry Sound: | 12 out of 22 members | 55% |
| District of Cochrane:    | 4 out of 13 members  | 30% |

**Overview**

In total, 61 responses to the survey were received. These included seven instances where two individuals replied from the same municipality, and one instance where three individuals replied from the same municipality.

In a perfect world, one would eliminate the duplicate responses, so as not to give additional weight to those municipalities that contributed more than one response. But survey respondents can sometimes provide inaccurate responses. It is not possible to determine which of the multiple responses is accurate. The value of collecting more responses is that the overall average is more likely to reflect the accurate result. For this reason, all responses, including multiple responses, have been relied upon in this analysis.

***Profile of respondents***

The 61 respondents primarily represented small municipalities with populations under 5,000 residents (Table 1).

**Table 1: Survey respondents by municipality population**

| <b>Municipal population</b> | <b>Number</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Under 1,000                 | 22            |
| 1,000-5,000                 | 28            |
| 5,000-10,000                | 6             |
| 10,000-50,000               | 1             |
| 50,000 plus                 | 4             |

***Number and type of employees***

Respondents were asked to provide their staffing numbers by different categories of employees. Table 2 provides the responses, by different sizes of municipalities.

**Table 2: Average number of employees by employment type and by size of municipality**

|                      | <b>Full-time</b> | <b>Part-time</b> | <b>Contract</b> | <b>Seasonal</b> |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Under 1,000</b>   | 7                | 2                | 1               | 3               |
| <b>1,000-5,000</b>   | 18               | 5                | 1               | 5               |
| <b>5,000-10,000</b>  | 91               | 14               | 8               | 13              |
| <b>10,000-50,000</b> | 95               | 52               | 1               | 20              |
| <b>50,000 plus</b>   | 887              | 443              | 240             | 136             |

Not surprisingly, the larger the municipality, the greater the number of employees. Some other patterns are apparent as well:

- Larger municipalities have a proportionately higher number of part-time employees; among municipalities with 10,000 or more residents, the part-time workforce is approximately 50% to

55% as large as the full -time workforce, while among the smaller municipalities, that proportion of between 15% and 29%

- The largest municipalities (50,000 or more residents) have a proportionately higher number of contract workers compared to the size of their full-time workforce, but municipalities with under 1,000 residents come second in terms of the proportion comparison of their contract workers to full-time workers
- These small municipalities also hire a proportionately larger number of seasonal employees compared to their number of full-time employees

### ***Presence of HR staff***

Respondents were asked whether they had a designated HR department or a dedicated staff position whose primary focus is HR (hiring, firing and so on). Table 3 presents the results by size of municipality.

**Table 3: Presence of HR department or dedicated staff position**

|                      | HR presence |     |       | Comment                                                                                   |
|----------------------|-------------|-----|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      | Yes         | No  | Other |                                                                                           |
| <b>Under 1,000</b>   | 32%         | 68% | 0%    |                                                                                           |
| <b>1,000-5,000</b>   | 14%         | 79% | 7%    | We have an HR Committee comprised of the clerk and 2 members of council; CAO/Clerk        |
| <b>5,000-10,000</b>  | 83%         | 0%  | 17%   | Payroll person has partial HR duties while our CAO also shares a big portion of HR duties |
| <b>10,000-50,000</b> | 100%        | 0%  | 0%    | Dedicated staff position that assists with HR and payroll                                 |
| <b>50,000 plus</b>   | 75%         | 25% | 0%    |                                                                                           |

In general, larger municipalities are more likely than smaller municipalities to have an HR department or dedicated HR staff position.

**Table 4: Presence of union**

|                      | Union presence |     |       |
|----------------------|----------------|-----|-------|
|                      | Yes            | No  | Other |
| <b>Under 1,000</b>   | 41%            | 59% | 0%    |
| <b>1,000-5,000</b>   | 43%            | 57% | 0%    |
| <b>5,000-10,000</b>  | 50%            | 33% | 17%   |
| <b>10,000-50,000</b> | 100%           | 0%  | 0%    |
| <b>50,000 plus</b>   | 100%           | 0%  | 0%    |

The likelihood of a unionized workplace increases with the size of the municipality. Indeed, municipalities with over 10,000 residents all had a unionized workplace, whereas in the case of those with less than 10,000 residents half or less had a unionized workplace. The one instance of an “Other” response was because the workplace represented a mix of unionized and non-unionized workers.

***Job vacancies and job candidate recruitment***

Respondents were asked how many municipal staff positions were vacant at the time the survey was being completed, as well as the nature of the position. The average responses are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5: Average number of job vacancies, by type of position and by size of municipality**

|                      | Union Positions | Non-Union Positions | Skilled Trades | Permanent | Temporary | Professional |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Under 1,000</b>   | 0.4             | 0.3                 | 0.1            | 0.2       | 0.2       | 0.1          |
| <b>1,000-5,000</b>   | 0.7             | 0.7                 | 0.7            | 0.8       | 0.6       | 0.7          |
| <b>5,000-10,000</b>  | 0.5             | 0.5                 | 0.3            | 0.5       | 0.0       | 0.0          |
| <b>10,000-50,000</b> | 1.0             | 1.0                 | 0.0            | 0.0       | 1.0       | 0.0          |
| <b>50,000 plus</b>   | 1.0             | 1.0                 | 1.0            | 1.0       | 0.8       | 1.0          |

While there were more vacancies among larger municipalities than among smaller ones, the magnitude of the difference was not nearly as much as one might expect. For example, municipalities with 50,000 or more residents have more than 100 times the number of full-time employees as municipalities with 1,000 or less employees, yet they only have at most 10 times the number of job vacancies in any given category.

***Duration of job vacancies***

Respondents were asked how long job vacancies remained unfilled. The responses by size of municipality are shown in Table 6.

**Table 6: Duration of job postings by size of municipality**

|                           | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Less than 1 month</b>  | 29% | 29%         | 32%         | 20%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>1-3 months</b>         | 19% | 10%         | 18%         | 40%          | 100%          | 25%         |
| <b>3-6 months</b>         | 7%  | 10%         | 7%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>More than 6 months</b> | 5%  | 5%          | 4%          | 20%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>More than 1 year</b>   | 3%  | 10%         | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>None of the above</b>  | 22% | 29%         | 25%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other</b>              | 15% | 10%         | 14%         | 20%          | 0%            | 50%         |

By and large. Job postings last from zero to three months. What is more difficult to interpret is what respondents may have meant by selecting “none of the above,” as the time frames offered would seemed to have covered all the options. Their comments submitted under the “Other” category may shed some light here. In most instances, respondents indicated that the answer to this question varied by the type of occupation. Also, some positions are permanently posted (the example given was lifeguards and temporary front desk clerks).

One can compare those answers that selected a specific time frame to the available data on duration of job vacancies, available through the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey. Table 7 compares the results. The Job Vacancy and Wage Survey data represents the average duration over the last five reported quarters for all Ontario. It is striking that the values are virtually identical.

**Table 7: Reported duration of job postings, FONOM survey and Ontario data**

|                          | FONOM | ONTARIO |
|--------------------------|-------|---------|
| <b>Less than 1 month</b> | 46%   | 49%     |
| <b>1-3 months</b>        | 30%   | 29%     |
| <b>3-6 months</b>        | 24%   | 22%     |

Ontario data from Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0443-01

### ***Hardest to fill positions***

Respondents were asked which positions were hardest to fill by selecting from a set of occupational categories. Table 8 shows the results by size of municipality and is ordered from the most to least difficult among all municipalities.

**Table 8: Hardest to fill positions by size of municipality**

|                                | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Senior Management</b>       | 38% | 36%         | 39%         | 50%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Public Works</b>            | 31% | 45%         | 21%         | 33%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Finance</b>                 | 31% | 14%         | 39%         | 50%          | 0%            | 50%         |
| <b>Administrative/Clerical</b> | 25% | 27%         | 25%         | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>By-Law Enforcement</b>      | 20% | 14%         | 18%         | 50%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Water/Wastewater</b>        | 18% | 5%          | 18%         | 33%          | 0%            | 75%         |
| <b>Fire Services</b>           | 8%  | 5%          | 11%         | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Recreation</b>              | 5%  | 0%          | 7%          | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>None of the above</b>       | 5%  | 5%          | 7%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other</b>                   | 26% | 27%         | 21%         | 17%          | 100%          | 50%         |

The positions most often cited as most difficult are senior management, public works and finance.

A medium number of municipalities expressed high recruitment difficulty with positions relating to administrative/clerical, by-law enforcement and water/wastewater.

Few municipalities expressed high levels of difficulty recruiting for positions in fire services and recreation.

Under the “Other” category, seven municipalities named Chief Building Official, Building Inspector, Building Official or Building Department, three mentioned Planners or Planning, and two mentioned IT. A few mentioned employment categories such as part-time, casual or seasonal, and then there were half a dozen individual positions mentioned, each by one respondent, from Transfer Station Attendant to Chief Administrative Officer.

### ***Identifying and assessing recruitment methods***

The next two questions asked about recruitment methods, firstly, about which methods were used, then about which worked best. In asking about recruitment methods, respondents were provided with a list of the typical recruitment activities. The survey was set up in such a way that only one method could be selected. The method with the largest number of responses (one out of three respondents) was “Other,” where they were allowed to write in their response. In almost all instances, the answer was that they used some multiple of these options, and quite a few indicated that they used a majority or all of them. For this reason, Table 9 illustrating the responses has labelled the “Other” selection as “Multiple/All.” The table is ordered from the method with the most responses to the least, followed by none of above.

**Table 9: Recruitment methods by size of municipality**

|                                              | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Multiple/All</b>                          | 33% | 23%         | 36%         | 17%          | 100%          | 75%         |
| <b>Municipal website</b>                     | 20% | 18%         | 29%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Social Media</b>                          | 18% | 18%         | 18%         | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other online job boards</b>               | 18% | 23%         | 11%         | 50%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Local newspapers</b>                      | 3%  | 9%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Indeed</b>                                | 3%  | 5%          | 4%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Word of mouth/<br/>community networks</b> | 3%  | 0%          | 4%          | 0%           | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Colleges/Universities</b>                 | 0%  | 0%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>LinkedIn</b>                              | 0%  | 0%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>None of the above</b>                     | 2%  | 5%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |

Some respondents did specify which multiple methods they used. Among those which received many mentions were social media, job boards and the municipal website. Methods which were mentioned that were not part of the survey list included professional associations, Municipal World for management positions and local employment services offices.

Respondents were next asked which of these recruitment methods worked best. The survey asked that they write in their response. In some cases, the respondents entered two responses or provided a comment. Several respondents noted that a different method was used depending on the occupation. To reflect all the input, where a response has two entries it was treated as two responses and all the answers were aggregated for all sizes of municipalities. In total, there were 74 entries, counting the multiple responses mentioned earlier.

By far, social media received the most mentions with 20, followed by on-line job boards (11) and the municipal website (8). Seven respondents specifically mentioned Indeed, although only four cited it as the best method, while three commented that it attracted many applicants but also many more unqualified candidates. Six respondents mentioned professional associations or industry associations (AMCOT, OBOA). Another six cited a variety of local resources (local advertising, local job boards, local media, and local employment services).

In cases where a comment was provided, it is usually explained that the best method depended on the position, requiring a more targeted approach for a professional position, whereas social media, the municipal website or local media was relied upon for other positions.

### ***Challenges relating to job recruitment***

With regard to recruitment challenges, respondents were first asked whether they had difficulty attracting qualified candidates. In the closed-ended question, respondents were provided with several possible responses to choose from:

- Yes
- Yes, for some positions
- No
- None of the above
- Other (please specify)

No respondent chose “none of the above” or “other.” Table 10 shows the remaining responses.

**Table 10: Difficulty in attracting qualified candidates**

|                                | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Yes</b>                     | 51% | 68%         | 50%         | 17%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Yes, for some positions</b> | 43% | 27%         | 43%         | 67%          | 100%          | 75%         |
| <b>No</b>                      | 7%  | 5%          | 7%          | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |

Very few respondents expressed no difficulty in attracting qualified candidates – only 7% (four of 61 responses). Half said they experienced difficulty, while slightly over four in ten qualified the difficulty, saying it was present for some positions. It appears that smaller municipalities were more likely to experience difficulty overall, while larger municipalities were much more likely to limit the difficulty to some positions.

Respondents were next asked the extent to which competition with other industry sectors impacted their ability to recruit job candidates. The answers (measured in percentages) are shown in Table 11.

**Table 11: Extent to which competition with other industry sectors impacts ability to recruit**

| ALL | < 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | > 50,000 |
|-----|---------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| 54% | 49%     | 53%         | 70%          | ---           | 59%      |

*There were no replies from municipalities with 10,000 to 50,000 residents*

Perhaps the best way to express the result is that municipalities face a moderate degree of competition with other industry sectors in attracting job candidates. It is worth diving deeper into the responses, however. Among municipalities with 5,000 or fewer residents, where the overall rating around 50% (49% and 53%), the actual answers fall into three distinct categories: approximately one-third express a high level of competition (a score of 65% or more); around one-third score it as medium (41% to 63%) and one-third score it as low (30% or less). In short, municipalities experience the recruitment competition to significantly different degrees, from high through moderate to low, where the average rating is moderate.

Respondents were further asked which industries they felt they were competing against for employees. Respondents were required to write in their responses, and the results are presented in Table 12, divided by the degree of competition respondents felt from other industry sectors for job applicants.

**Table 12: Industries that provide competition for employees**

| High level of competition from other employers |    | Moderate level of competition from other employers |   | Low level of competition from other employers |   |
|------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------|---|
| Industry                                       | #  | Industry                                           | # | Industry                                      | # |
| Mining                                         | 12 | Mining                                             | 5 | Mining                                        | 2 |
| Other public sector                            | 7  | Other public sector                                | 7 | Other public sector                           | 6 |
| All industries                                 | 4  | All industries                                     |   | All industries                                |   |
| Other                                          | 5  | Other                                              | 8 | Other                                         | 4 |
| Don't know                                     | 1  | Don't know                                         | 4 | Don't know                                    | 4 |

The two sectors most likely to be named as competitors for employees were other public sector (usually expressed as other municipalities, but also included other public services or agencies, provincial parks, and First Nations governments) and mining. Mining was by far most often cited among municipalities that experienced a high level of competition from other employers (who also were the only category to feel that the competition came from all industries). Otherwise, other public sectors were more often named by those municipalities who experienced a moderate or low degree of competition from other industries. These latter municipalities were also more likely to say they did not know which industries were providing recruitment competition or they did not provide an answer.

Respondents were next specifically asked which positions were most affected by salary competition with mining operations. In total, 49 respondents provided an answer:

- One-third (35%) said there was no impact or that it was not applicable (several indicating there was no mining operation close by)
- Over four in ten (43%) named public works primarily, or equipment operators or labourers
- The larger municipalities (over 10,000 residents) specifically cited mechanics, engineers and other skilled trades positions

### ***Questions relating to wages, pension and benefits as part of the attraction package***

The next set of questions inquired about strategies relating to wages, as well as how pension and benefits may influence recruitment outcomes.

The first question asked whether the municipality had increased salaries or adjusted pay scales to remain competitive. In most cases (75% of all respondents), said they had (Table 13). As shown in Table 13, approximately one in eight (12%) indicated it was not possible within their budget (all were municipalities with fewer than 10,000 residents), while one in ten (10%) said no.

**Table 13: Increasing salaries or adjusting pay scales to remain competitive**

|                                   | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Yes</b>                        | 75% | 67%         | 79%         | 83%          | 0%            | 100%        |
| <b>Not possible within budget</b> | 12% | 14%         | 11%         | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>No</b>                         | 10% | 10%         | 11%         | 0%           | 100%          | 0%          |
| <b>Considering it</b>             | 3%  | 10%         | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |

Those municipalities that answered yes were asked to indicate what adjustments were made. The 45 responses fell into numerous categories:

- Cost of living increased
- Added benefit (s) (e.g. vacation time)
- Offered a bonus
- Increased starting rates of positions
- Increased wage for specific positions to remain competitive or retain staff
- Pay increased to attract candidates with experience or with desired educational credentials
- Some increased for certain positions based on comparisons with neighbouring municipalities or market levels
- Increased the wage grid
- Increased wages through collective agreement negotiations
- Pay equity increased
- Review of all positions together with a labour market survey
- Periodic salary reviews
- Compensation review by outside consultant

Next, all respondents were asked whether they believed job candidates understood the value of the OMERS or municipal pension plan. The responses are provided in Table 14.

**Table 14: Job candidates' understanding of value of municipal pension plan**

|                    | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|--------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Yes</b>         | 33% | 38%         | 21%         | 67%          | 0%            | 50%         |
| <b>No</b>          | 27% | 10%         | 46%         | 0%           | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Not certain</b> | 28% | 33%         | 21%         | 33%          | 100%          | 25%         |
| <b>Other</b>       | 12% | 19%         | 11%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |

While there are large variations in the responses by size of municipality, there is no obvious pattern of response by size. The overall results for all respondents better reflect reality; one-third (33%) say that job candidates do understand, just under one-third (27%) say they do not, and a similar proportion (28%) are uncertain. Those municipalities that answered “Other” as a response usually had no pension plan or only had it for certain positions. In a few other instances, the “Other” response was used to express the view that young people are less concerned about preparing for their retirement.

Further on the topic of pensions as part of the compensation package, respondents were asked what challenges they faced in promoting pension value to younger or mid-career applicants. The answer relied on respondents writing in their reply.

Of the 50 comments entered, almost half (24, or 48%) said some variant of “younger workers are more interested in the immediate pay cheque.” This included such observations as “the future is too far away for younger workers,” “younger workers have immediate cash needs, such as saving for a house, as opposed to saving for retirement,” or “they feel it represents a large cut into their pay cheque (every dollar counts).” Most suggest this immediate-term attitude is particularly prevalent among this generation of youth, although a couple of respondents said that it has always been this way.

Eight respondents (16%) said they had no challenges in communicating about the benefits, while another five (10%) said the question was not applicable. A further five (10%) said that current workers are less interested in or committed to employment for the long-term. Another three (6%) felt that the workers did not understand the mechanics of how a pension worked.

Respondents were asked how they communicated pension and benefit information to applicants. Table 15 provides the results.

**Table 15: How pension and benefit information is provided to applicants**

|                          | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Job posting</b>       | 35% | 29%         | 39%         | 50%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>Interview stage</b>   | 25% | 29%         | 25%         | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Offer letter</b>      | 12% | 19%         | 11%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Website</b>           | 2%  | 0%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>None of the above</b> | 3%  | 10%         | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other</b>             | 23% | 14%         | 25%         | 17%          | 100%          | 50%         |

A little over one third (35%) of all respondents provide this information in the job posting and another quarter (25%) convey it during the interview stage. Almost a quarter (23%) chose “Other,” which when asked to specify, meant all of the above options or some mix of most of the options. In one instance, a respondent indicated that they communicated this information during onboarding.

Finally, respondents were asked whether tools or benefits from FONOM would help better communicate about these benefits. Only one-quarter (27%) said yes, while two-thirds were uncertain; that high level of uncertainty was consistent across all sizes of municipalities (Table 16). One possible reason for the uncertainty might be that it is unclear what that support from FONOM could look like.

**Table 16: Would communication tools from FONOM help?**

|                  | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Yes</b>       | 27% | 40%         | 18%         | 33%          | 0%            | 25%         |
| <b>No</b>        | 7%  | 0%          | 14%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Uncertain</b> | 66% | 60%         | 68%         | 67%          | 100%          | 75%         |

### ***Skill gaps and addressing workforce and recruitment challenges***

Respondents were asked to identify the most evident skills gap by selecting from a list of options. Table 17 presents the answers. They are listed from highest to lowest percentage response among all responses.

**Table 17: Most evident skills gaps**

|                                                 | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Leadership/management</b>                    | 21% | 15%         | 25%         | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Regulatory/technical knowledge</b>           | 17% | 15%         | 18%         | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Skilled trades certifications</b>            | 16% | 15%         | 11%         | 0%           | 0%            | 100%        |
| <b>Soft skills (communication, reliability)</b> | 12% | 15%         | 14%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Heavy equipment operation</b>                | 10% | 10%         | 7%          | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Digital/IT skills</b>                        | 2%  | 5%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other</b>                                    | 17% | 20%         | 18%         | 0%           | 100%          | 0%          |
| <b>None of the above</b>                        | 5%  | 5%          | 7%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |

Three skills top the list (between one in five and one in six of respondents): leadership/management; regulatory/technical knowledge; and skilled trades certifications. Two other skills attracted around one in ten respondents: soft skills (communication, reliability) and heavy equipment operation. Digital/IT skills received a small number of responses and only among municipalities with under 1,000 residents.

Among those who selected “Other,” four in ten indicated that all of the listed options represented skills gaps, while two others selected two options from the list.

Additional comments were:

- Many municipal staff obtain training once hired as opposed to coming with a municipal education
- There is a lack of skills for any municipal management positions: i.e. Clerk, Treasurer, CBO, Fire Chief. As these people retire, it is getting harder to find replacements. Often "stealing" from other municipalities.

Respondents were next asked what specific supports or policy changes would help their municipality address workforce challenges. The question invited respondents to write in their response. Of the 40 comments offered, 15 were either “don’t know,” “unsure” or “unknown.” The largest substantive cluster of responses involved six comments supporting training, notably soft skills training at the high school and post-secondary levels, more funding to support training (in relation to DZ or AZ license, or heavy equipment certification), including more classrooms beyond the five biggest cities in the North to improve access, and streamlined qualification and certification pathways. Two other comments specifically targeted more promotion of skilled trades, another two desired more support with succession planning, and two sought policies encouraging migration to the North or expanding housing options for people wishing to work in the North.

More specifically, respondents were next asked what they saw as the primary barrier to successful recruitment in their municipality. The 55 respondents often cited more than one barrier; the three most common issues (each mentioned by around a third of respondents) were:

- Salary: the inability to offer a competitive wage, in relation to other municipalities, other employers and the fact that the job sometimes involves multiple hats; some noted that either their council was skeptical about the need for higher wages or their tax base precluded higher wages
- Lack of candidates: This was often expressed as a lack of qualified or skilled/educated candidates, often related to their smaller population base and remote location, and the consequent competition for qualified staff with other employers (often combined with the issue of a less than competitive salary)
- Location: A more remote location not only limited the job candidate pool, but it could also be less attractive as a draw for people to relocate for a position; several simply stated theirs was a rural location less enticing to younger staff, others noticed the limited availability of public services, retailers, restaurants and other amenities available in larger urban settings

Several respondents also mentioned either the cost or limited availability of suitable housing, combining this with the remote location and/or less competitive salary barrier.

A couple of respondents noted the challenge of competing for qualified bilingual staff or the difficulties of working in an environment that attracts more public scrutiny. Only two respondents said they were not facing recruitment difficulties.

The next question asked respondents which supports from FONOM would be most helpful when recruiting qualified individuals for municipal positions. The survey offered a set of possible responses, with the results shown in Table 18, in order of the highest to lowest scores among all respondents.

**Table 18: Preferred supports from FONOM for recruiting qualified job candidates**

|                                               | ALL | Under 1,000 | 1,000-5,000 | 5,000-10,000 | 10,000-50,000 | Over 50,000 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Salary benchmarking data</b>               | 31% | 24%         | 32%         | 33%          | 100%          | 50%         |
| <b>Centralized job posting platform</b>       | 19% | 33%         | 11%         | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Shared HR resources</b>                    | 7%  | 10%         | 7%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Recruitment best practices guide</b>       | 5%  | 0%          | 11%         | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Pension/benefits communication toolkit</b> | 3%  | 0%          | 0%          | 33%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Template job descriptions</b>              | 2%  | 5%          | 0%          | 0%           | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>Other</b>                                  | 24% | 24%         | 29%         | 17%          | 0%            | 0%          |
| <b>None of the above</b>                      | 9%  | 5%          | 11%         | 0%           | 0%            | 50%         |

The support which was clearly the most preferred was salary benchmarking data, which increased in preference the larger the municipality. Second was a centralized job posting platform, but mainly of interest to municipalities with fewer than 10,000 residents. The remaining options received limited support. Nearly one-quarter of respondents selected “Other” with most indicated that they would have chosen all of the available options.

Finally, respondents were asked if they wished to provide any further comments relating to the workforce development challenges they are facing. Of the fourteen comments made, only one topic was referenced by three respondents, that is, the challenge of managing with a small staff team. In their view, it meant individuals taking on multiple roles, which can pose availability, scheduling and workload management challenges (especially with respect to seasonal demands or emergencies), create difficulties for training and succession planning, cause disruptions due to staff leaves or retirements, and make it difficult to find job candidates with the necessary skills, experience and versatility. It also generates compounded pressures arising from increased administrative and regulatory requirements.

The other comments were:

- Rising transportation costs for employees
- Use FONOM to host sessions to train new councillors or to develop a roster of consultants for staff training
- Sharing with others that succession planning was very useful to them
- Cannot always guarantee enough hours for part-time staff
- Retention is an issue too; younger staff come to build their resumes, but then some move on

- Council sometimes goes beyond their role and gets too involved in operational issues
- Sometimes a toxic dynamic may develop with some members of council or the public
- Firefighter training is a big burden for small municipalities
- Have had hires who turned out to have been less qualified than they stated, resulting in people being let go soon after they are hired

In closing, respondents were asked if they would be willing to participate in a follow-up interview or discussion about workforce development challenges. Three in ten said yes, another three in ten said no, and four in ten said maybe.

### **Conclusion**

The survey findings demonstrate that workforce recruitment and retention remain significant challenges for municipalities across Northeastern Ontario, regardless of community size. While the nature and scale of these challenges vary, respondents consistently identified difficulty attracting qualified candidates, competition from other employers, succession planning pressures, and limited organizational capacity as key barriers to building and sustaining a stable municipal workforce.

Smaller municipalities face particularly complex challenges. Limited financial resources, smaller candidate pools, geographic isolation, and fewer dedicated human resources supports often make it more difficult to compete for skilled workers. At the same time, respondents highlighted increasing competition from mining, other public sector employers and larger municipalities, particularly for technical, skilled trades, public works, finance and senior management positions.

The findings also demonstrate that municipalities are actively adapting their recruitment strategies through salary adjustments, broader advertising approaches, and enhanced benefits. However, many respondents indicated that compensation alone is insufficient to address long-term workforce shortages. Sustainable solutions will require continued investment in workforce development, skills training, succession planning and strategies that improve the attractiveness of municipal careers.

Respondents identified several areas where regional collaboration could strengthen municipal workforce capacity. Salary benchmarking information, centralized recruitment resources, shared human resource supports, and improved access to training and certification opportunities were among the most frequently identified priorities. These findings suggest that coordinated regional approaches, supported by organizations such as FONOM and workforce planning partners, can help municipalities respond more effectively to shared labour market challenges.

Overall, the survey provides valuable evidence of the workforce realities facing Northern Ontario municipalities. The findings establish a foundation for future workforce planning initiatives and highlight opportunities to strengthen recruitment, retention and workforce development strategies that support resilient municipal services and sustainable community growth across the region.



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2026

### FONOM AND WORKFORCE PLANNING BOARDS IDENTIFY MUNICIPAL WORKFORCE CHALLENGES ACROSS NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO

Machar Township - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), in partnership with the four Northeastern Ontario Workforce Planning Boards, has released a new report examining the recruitment, retention and workforce development challenges facing municipalities across the region.

The Municipal Workforce Development and Job Vacancies Survey was launched at the 2026 FONOM Conference in Timmins. It gathered 61 responses from municipal representatives across the districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Sudbury and Timiskaming.

The findings demonstrate that workforce pressures are affecting municipalities of every size. Ninety-four per cent of respondents reported difficulty attracting qualified candidates, either generally or for specific positions. The positions most frequently identified as difficult to fill were senior management, public works and finance, followed by administrative, by-law enforcement and water and wastewater positions.

"Municipal employees deliver the essential services that residents and businesses rely on every day. When a community cannot recruit a treasurer, public works employee, building official or senior administrator, the impacts are felt throughout the municipality," **said FONOM President Dave Plourde.** "Northern Ontario continues to be an economic engine for the province, but our communities need a strong and sustainable municipal workforce to support that growth. FONOM looks forward to working with the Province and our workforce planning partners on practical solutions."

Smaller municipalities reported particularly difficult circumstances due to limited financial resources, smaller candidate pools, geographic isolation and a lack of dedicated human resources capacity. Municipalities also face increasing competition from mining operations, other public-sector employers and larger communities for skilled and experienced employees.

Three-quarters of respondents indicated that their municipality had increased salaries or adjusted pay scales to remain competitive. However, the report concludes that compensation alone will not resolve the challenge. Municipalities identified salary benchmarking, centralized recruitment resources, shared human resources support, improved training opportunities and assistance with succession planning as important regional priorities.

"This survey gives us valuable, on-the-ground information directly from municipal leaders and staff," **said Stacie Fiddler, Executive Director of the Labour Market Group.** "The results confirm that

recruitment and retention pressures are widespread, but they also point us toward practical areas for collaboration. Better labour market information, expanded access to training and certification, and stronger workforce planning tools can help municipalities prepare for both their immediate and long-term staffing needs.”

The report also found that leadership and management abilities, regulatory and technical knowledge, and skilled trades certifications are among the most evident skills gaps. Respondents highlighted the need for more accessible training, including opportunities outside the largest Northern centres, streamlined certification pathways and increased support for succession planning.

“Northeastern Ontario municipalities are competing for workers in a challenging labour market, often with fewer resources and fewer qualified candidates available locally,” said **Julie Joncas, Executive Director of the Far Northeast Training Board**. “This partnership provides a stronger regional understanding of those pressures. By working together, we can develop solutions that reflect the realities of Northern communities and help build the workforce needed to support municipal services and future economic growth.”

FONOM and the four Workforce Planning Boards will use the findings to support continued regional collaboration and discussions with the Ontario government. The partners will explore opportunities to improve municipal recruitment, retention, training, succession planning and workforce development across Northeastern Ontario.

“Municipalities are doing everything they can to adapt, but this is a regional and provincial challenge that requires a coordinated response,” added Plourde. “Supporting the municipal workforce is an investment in strong communities, reliable public services and the continued economic success of Northern Ontario.”

The four participating Workforce Planning Boards are:

The Labour Market Group;  
Algoma Workforce Investment Corporation;  
Far Northeast Training Board; and  
Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin.

-30-

Media Contact:

Dave Plourde, President,  
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities  
705-335-1615 | [fonom.info@gmail.com](mailto:fonom.info@gmail.com)



**SAULT STE. MARIE SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY  
2026 REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, August 18, 2026  
Hybrid Meeting (1100 Fifth Line East / ZOOM)  
@ 4:45 PM  
Agenda**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the SPA Agenda be approved as presented.

**4. Administration**

**A. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2026**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the SPA Regular Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2026, be adopted.

**B. Correspondence of July 20, 2026, re: Response to Angela Coleman from  
MECP**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the correspondence to the SPA as provided in the agenda package  
be received as information.

**5. Program Update**

**Ratify June 22, 2026, Email Poll: Recommendation to approve the Prince  
Representative**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the staff memo titled "DWSP Program Update" dated June 16, 2026,  
be accepted as information, and;

FURTHER THAT the SPA endorses the recommended appointment of Rose  
Zgraja as the Prince Township representative on the Source Protection  
Committee, be approved, be ratified.

## **6. Adjournment**

For members of the public interested in attending this meeting, please contact the General Manager, Corrina Barrett, at [cbarrett@ssmrca.ca](mailto:cbarrett@ssmrca.ca) to make arrangements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



## **SSMRCA Regular Board Meeting**

Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority

August 18, 2026, at 5:00 PM

1100 Fifth Line East / ZOOM

### **Agenda**

#### **I. Call to Order**

#### **II. Declaration of a Conflict of Interest**

#### **III. Adoption of Agenda**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

#### **IV. Delegations**

There are no requests for delegations received for this meeting.

#### **V. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)**

#### **VI. Finance and Administration**

##### **A. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2026**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2026, be adopted.

##### **B. Accounts Payable**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the list of accounts payable be received as information, be approved.

##### **C. 2026 Budget Update**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the staff memo titled "2026 Budget Update" dated August 18, 2026, be received as information, be approved.

##### **D. Skylight Removal Quotes**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the staff memo titled "Skylight Removal Quotes" dated August 18, 2026, be received as information, and

FURTHER THAT the Board approve the hiring of XXXXX for the removal of the office skylight, be approved.

**E. 2027 Draft Budget**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the memo on the 2027 Draft Budget, Version 1.0, dated August 18, 2026, be received as information, and

Further THAT the Board approve the 2027 Draft Budget for consultation purposes.

**F. New GIC and Business Investment Growth Account**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the staff memo titled “New GIC and Business Investment Growth Account” dated August 18, 2026, be received as information, and

Further THAT the Board approve the transferring of the Capital Reserve Account into a GIC and Business Investment Growth Account, respectively, be approved.

**VII. Water and Related Land Management**

**A. Application Approvals: Ontario Regulation 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits, and the *Conservation Authorities Act*, Part VI**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the summary of the site reports approved by staff pursuant to Ontario Regulation 41/24 and the *CA Act*, be received as information, be approved.

**VIII. Correspondence**

**A. Minister’s direction under section 1.14 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* with respect to budget and apportionment matters – From MECP, 2026-06-26**

**B. Project Executives Chairing Transition Committees – From OPCA, 2026-07-15**

**C. Members of the Transition Committees – From OPCA, 2026-07-30**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the correspondence to the Board as provided in the agenda package be received as information.

**IX. New Business and Other**

**A. General Manager's Report**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the General Manager’s Report of June 16, 2026, be received as information, be approved.

**B. Ratify June 22, 2026, Email Poll: New IT Services Provider**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board allow the signing of a 1-year contract with CONNEX for Managed IT Services, be approved, be ratified.

**C. Ratify June 22, 2026, Email Poll: CIF Forests and Carbon Signage**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board approve the installation of the Forests and Carbon sign in the CIF Plantation, by the CIF, be approved, be ratified.

**D. Ratify June 25, 2026, Email Poll: 2026-2027 WECI Projects**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board allow the signing of the WECI Agreement for the Fort Creek Dam Repair Works for 2026-2027, and

FURTHER THAT the Board allow the allocation of \$8,000.00 from the SSMRCA Capital Reserve account towards the WECI Agreement be approved, be ratified.

**E. Ratify July 17, 2026, Email Poll: ATMOS-41 Weather Station and Datalogger**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board allow the purchase of the ATMOS 41 Weather Station, Data Logger, and accessories as outlined in Quote 360791-02 as part of the Biomonitoring Project, be approved., be ratified.

**F. Ratify August 4, 2026, Email Poll: Reallocation of Funds**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board allow the reallocation of up to \$10,000 from the staffing budget to put towards the rental of needed operations equipment, be approved, be ratified.

**G. Acceptable Use Policy**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board approve the new Acceptable Use Policy as outlined in the Human Resources Policies and Procedures Manual for sign off and implementation by staff, be approved.

**X. Closed Session**

That the Board move into closed session to discuss potential legal matters of the SSMRCA.

**XI. Adjournment**

For members of the public interested in attending this meeting, please contact the General Manager, Corrina Barrett, at [cbarrett@ssmrca.ca](mailto:cbarrett@ssmrca.ca) to make arrangements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**From:** [Stacey Cleave](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Request for Council Meeting - Review of PUC Water and Sewer Arrears Policy  
**Date:** Friday, July 24, 2026 3:47:00 PM

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This email originated outside of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie.  
Do not open attachments or click links unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

I am requesting that this email be forwarded to the Mayor and all members of city council.

In addition, I am formally requesting the opportunity to meet with Council, or with the appropriate committee and City staff to discuss this policy in detail and explore practical solutions. I believe this issue deserves more than a review - it deserves a meaningful discussion that results in action.

Earlier this year, after purchasing an apartment building, I discovered that unpaid water and sewer charges from the previous owner had been transferred to my property taxes. Fortunately, my title insurance covered those costs.

Since then, I have learned something even more concerning: if a tenant fails to pay their water and sewer charges, those arrears can also be transferred to the landlord's property taxes.

After speaking with PUC and the City's Tax Department, I have several serious concerns about how this process currently works.

### **My concerns**

- From my understanding, when tenants make partial payments on their PUC account, those payments are applied to the electricity portion first.
- Meanwhile, the water and sewer balance continues to grow.
- As long as the tenant continues paying enough to keep their electricity connected, the water and sewer arrears can continue increasing month after month.
- Once those arrears reach a certain threshold, they are transferred directly to the property owner's tax bill.

### **I would like answers to the following questions**

- What is the threshold before these arrears are transferred to property taxes?
- Who determined that threshold?
- Why isn't this information readily available to property owners?
- Why are landlords not notified when a tenant first begins falling behind?

### **The current system gives landlords no opportunity to prevent the problem.**

- We receive no warning.
- We have no knowledge that a debt is accumulating.

- We cannot take action through the Landlord and Tenant Board because we don't even know there is a problem.
- By the time we find out, the debt has already become ours.

If landlords were notified when a tenant was, for example, approximately **\$200 in arrears**, we could immediately address the issue with the tenant and begin the appropriate legal process if necessary.

Instead, we are left completely unaware while the balance continues to grow.

**The payment allocation should be reviewed.**

I believe every payment should be applied proportionately across:

- Electricity
- Water
- Sewer

rather than allowing one portion of the account to be paid while another continues increasing unchecked.

**Accountability is being placed on the wrong person.**

If a tenant incurs the debt:

- Why does it become the landlord's responsibility?
- Why isn't that debt pursued against the individual who incurred it?
- Why isn't it sent to collections in the tenant's name?
- Why is the landlord expected to pay it first and then spend additional time and money trying to recover it through Small Claims Court?

**My experience**

I have already been left responsible for:

- \$844.94 from one former tenant.
- \$604.25 from another former tenant.
- \$2099.00 from a current tenant
- \$5370.00 from the previous owner of the building

Those debts were not mine.

Once those amounts are transferred to my property taxes and I pay them, the water and sewer arrears are effectively cleared from the tenant's account. If they have continued paying enough to keep their electricity connected, they move forward while I am left to recover the money on my own.

That does not seem fair or reasonable.

**This policy creates the wrong incentive.**

Once tenants become aware of how this system works, what incentive do they have

to pay their water and sewer charges?

If they simply keep enough paid on their electricity to avoid disconnection, they can continue using water and sewer while knowing those arrears may eventually become the landlord's responsibility.

That shifts accountability away from the person who incurred the debt and onto the property owner.

### **My recommendations**

- Lower the arrears threshold substantially before balances are transferred to property taxes.
- Implement mandatory notification to landlords when arrears begin accumulating.
- Review how payments are allocated between electricity, water, and sewer.
- Review whether transferring private utility debt to municipal property taxes remains an appropriate and equitable policy.

### **Administrative costs**

I recognize that lowering the transfer threshold or implementing earlier notifications may require additional administrative work within the City's Tax Department.

Personally, I would much rather see tax dollars invested in protecting property owners from avoidable financial losses than dealing with preventable problems after they have already occurred.

Responsible landlords provide an essential service to our community by supplying safe, clean, well-maintained rental housing. Policies should support responsible property owners, not leave them financially responsible for debts incurred by someone else.

### **Final thoughts**

I have already begun hearing from other landlords who have experienced similar situations, and I believe many more are unaware this policy even exists until they receive an unexpected addition to their property tax bill.

This is not simply my issue, it is an issue that affects landlords across Sault Ste. Marie.

I am asking Council to take this seriously, place this matter on an upcoming agenda, and schedule a meeting with the appropriate City and PUC representatives so we can work together to find practical solutions that protect both property owners and the community.

I would appreciate a response confirming that this email has been forwarded to Council and advising what the next steps will be regarding a meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stacey Cleave

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Leave a **GOOGLE** review

<https://g.page/r/CUBBDEdDrxYzEAI/review>

Thank you!



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH-WEST OXFORD  
R. R. # 1, Mount Elgin, ON N0J 1N0  
312915 Dereham Line  
Phone: (519) 877-2702; (519) 485-0477  
Fax: (519) 485-2932

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July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy  
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
[minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford and Minister McCarthy,

**Re: Request for Changes to the *Pesticides Act* to Permit the Use of Pesticides in Playground Areas for Weed Management**

I am writing to inform you that, at their meeting held on July 14, 2026, the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford passed a resolution advocating for changes to the Pesticides Act to allow for the use of pesticides in playground areas for weed mitigation.

WHEREAS the Ontario *Pesticides Act* and Ontario Regulation 63/09 (Cosmetic Pesticides Ban) restrict the use of herbicides for cosmetic weed control in playground areas;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Township of South-West Oxford recognize the importance of maintaining safe, clean, accessible, and well-maintained recreational spaces for everyone;

AND WHEREAS playgrounds are valued public recreational spaces that enhance the health, well-being, and enjoyment of residents;

AND WHEREAS the Township is responsible for the ongoing maintenance, inspection, and upkeep of playgrounds, including costly surfacing materials, and despite regular maintenance and manual weed removal, weed growth within and around the playground area continues to present ongoing maintenance challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of South-West Oxford respectfully request that the Province of Ontario consider amending the *Pesticides Act* and Ontario Regulation 63/09 (Cosmetic Pesticides Ban) to permit the



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH-WEST OXFORD  
R. R. # 1, Mount Elgin, ON N0J 1N0  
312915 Dereham Line  
Phone: (519) 877-2702; (519) 485-0477  
Fax: (519) 485-2932

---

controlled use of pesticides for weed management in playground areas, with any application being carried out by qualified and authorized individuals in accordance with all applicable provincial legislation, product requirements, and safety measures.

Yours truly,

Denny Giles  
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk  
Township of South-West Oxford

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All Ontario Municipalities

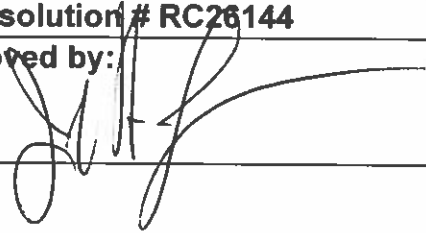
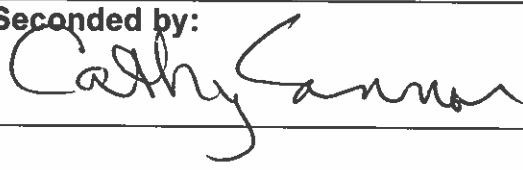


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

|                                                                                             |                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC26144                                                                        | Meeting Order: 6                                                                                |
| Moved by:  | Seconded by:  |

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Municipality of Wawa recognizes that excessive speeding and unsafe driving behaviours continue to pose significant risks to public safety in municipalities across Ontario, including rural and northern communities;

**AND WHEREAS** protecting pedestrians, cyclists, school-aged children, seniors, and all road users is a priority for municipalities and requires effective traffic calming and speed mitigation measures;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has demonstrated its commitment to improving road safety by providing funding opportunities to municipalities utilizing Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) and other photo radar initiatives;

**AND WHEREAS** many small, rural, northern and remote municipalities do not have the population base, financial capacity, or legislative authority to implement Automated Speed Enforcement programs, yet continue to experience speeding and road safety concerns requiring effective mitigation;

**AND WHEREAS** equitable provincial funding should be made available to all municipalities to support alternative traffic calming and speed mitigation measures appropriate to local circumstances, including but not limited to roadway design improvements, traffic calming infrastructure, enhanced signage, speed feedback devices, pedestrian safety improvements, and other proven traffic safety initiatives;

**AND WHEREAS** the North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board has requested municipalities across Ontario support advocacy to the Province of Ontario for expanded funding opportunities applicable to all municipalities.

Page 2...



## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa endorses and supports the resolution of the North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board requesting that the Province of Ontario expand its financial commitment for traffic calming and speeding mitigation initiatives to include all municipalities across Ontario, regardless of whether they utilize Automated Speed Enforcement or photo radar programs;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Province establish a dedicated, province-wide funding program to assist municipalities in implementing locally appropriate traffic calming and road safety measures that improve public safety;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;
- The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation;
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
- Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma–Manitoulin;
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA);
- The North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board;
- All Ontario OPP Detachment Boards and Police Service Boards; and
- All Ontario municipalities.

| RESOLUTION RESULT                   |                             | RECORDED VOTE     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED                     | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES | NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DEFEATED                    | Mitch Hatfield    |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | TABLED                      | Cathy Cannon      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)   | Melanie Pilon     |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 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.



## Village of Merrickville Wolford

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

---

May 26, 2026

### **Re: OPP Detachment Board Resolution of Support - Traffic Calming & Speeding Mitigation Techniques**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its Regular Meeting on May 25, 2026, passed the following motion pertaining to the OPP Detachment Board Resolution of Support - Traffic Calming & Speeding Mitigation Techniques:

**Resolution #:** R-24-05-25-26

**Moved by:** Councillor Maitland

**Seconded by:** Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the resolution from the Municipality of North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board dated May 7, 2026 regarding traffic calming and speeding mitigation techniques;

AND THAT Council endorse and support the resolution from the OPP Detachment Board and direct staff to circulate the resolution of support to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Finance, MPP Steve Clark, AMO, ROMA, all Ontario Police Service Boards, and all 444 Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

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

Thank you.

Julia McCaugherty-Jansman  
Clerk



May 7, 2026

### **Traffic Calming/Speeding Mitigation Techniques**

The North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board, at its Meeting on May 7, 2026, passed the following motion with the request for municipal support:

**Moved by:** Ian Fraser

**Seconded by:** Jim Goodman

WHEREAS history demonstrates that speeding and public safety concerns are increasing across Ontario;

WHEREAS the Provincial government has shown interest and allocated financial resources to certain municipalities to implement alternative measures to photo radar, reaffirming its ongoing commitment to addressing public safety issues;

WHEREAS this commitment currently applies only to municipalities utilizing photo radar as a deterrent;

AND WHEREAS such funding support would assist municipalities with limited financial resources in protecting their citizens - especially seniors and school-aged children.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grenville 1 OPP Detachment Board respectfully request North Grenville and Merrickville-Wolford Councils advocate that the province expand its stated interest and financial commitment to include all municipalities in Ontario, adopting a province-wide approach to public safety and thereby ensuring the well-being of all Ontarians;

AND THAT this resolution be sent to the following:

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Transportation

Minister of Finance

MPP Steve Clark

AMO

ROMA

All Ontario Police Service Boards

And all 444 Municipalities in Ontario

**Carried.**



P.O. Box 129, 110 Main Street, Sundridge, Ontario, P0A 1Z0

Telephone (705) 384-5316  
Fax (705) 384-7874  
Email: [admin@sundridge.ca](mailto:admin@sundridge.ca)

Village of Sundridge Council Resolution  
July 15, 2026  
Item (9.5)

Township of Machar Resolution 86-26 – Opposing Changes to FIPPA

**Resolution #2026-177**  
**Moved By: Sharon Smith**  
**Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell**

**THAT** Council receives the Township of Machar Resolution 86-26 – Opposing Changes to FIPPA,

**AND THAT** The Village of Sundridge supports the Township of Machar in their opposition to Changes to FIPPA,

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities.

| Recorded Vote         | For | Against | Abstain |
|-----------------------|-----|---------|---------|
| Preston, Luke(absent) |     |         |         |
| Smith, Sharon         | x   |         |         |
| Whitmell, Vicki       | x   |         |         |
| Williamson, Fraser    | x   |         |         |
| Jackson, Shawn        | x   |         |         |
| CARRIED               |     |         |         |



CLEARVIEW  
TOWNSHIP

**Clerk's Department**  
Township of Clearview  
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street  
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0  
[clerks@clearview.ca](mailto:clerks@clearview.ca) | [www.clearview.ca](http://www.clearview.ca)  
Phone: 705-428-6230

July 28, 2026

Premier Doug Ford  
Premiers Office, Room 281  
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1A5

**Sent by Email:** [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

**RE: Clearview Council Support Resolution – Request for Traffic Calming and Speeding Mitigation Techniques**

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Please be advised that at its meeting held on July 27, 2026, Council of the Township of Clearview passed the following resolution supporting the Huronia West O.P.P Detachment Board in their request for traffic calming and speeding mitigation techniques.

Moved by Councillor Beelen, Seconded by Councillor Dineen, Whereas history demonstrates that speeding and public safety concerns are increasing across Ontario;

Whereas the Provincial government has shown interest and allocated financial resources to certain municipalities to implement alternative measures to photo radar, reaffirming its ongoing commitment to addressing public safety issues;

Whereas the commitment currently applies only to municipalities utilizing photo radar as a deterrent;

And Whereas such funding support would assist municipalities with limited financial resources in protecting their citizens - especially seniors and school-aged children;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby support the Huronia West O.P.P. Detachment Board in their request for the Province of Ontario to expand their stated interest and financial commitment to include all municipalities in Ontario, adopting a province-wide approach to public safety and thereby ensuring the well-being of all Ontarians;

And That this resolution be sent to the following:

- Premier Doug Ford
- Minister of Transportation
- Minister of Finance

- MPP Brian Saunderson
- AMO
- ROMA
- All 444 Municipalities in Ontario

Motion carried.

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

Sincerely,



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

cc: Hon. Steven MacKinnon, The Minister of Transport  
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, The Minister of Finance  
Brian Saunderson, Member of Provincial Parliament – Simcoe-Grey  
AMO  
ROMA  
All 444 Municipalities in Ontario



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

July 8, 2026

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
College Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026**

Hon. Rob Flack,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Springwater.

**Resolution No:** 2026-07-08-13  
**Moved by:** Councillor Keller  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Banks

**“Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Township of Springwater’s resolution regarding Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026 as attached.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, County of Renfrew, and all municipalities in Ontario.”

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



[www.springwater.ca](http://www.springwater.ca)

**2231 Nursery Road  
Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 1A8 Canada**

May 7, 2026

Sent via email: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
College Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026**

Please be advised that at its Regular meeting on May 6, 2026, Council of the Township of Springwater passed the following resolution:

**Resolution C203-2026**

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Cabral  
Seconded by: Councillor Moore

Whereas Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, proposes significant changes to the governance structure of upper-tier regional municipalities, including the County of Simcoe; and,

Whereas the proposed legislation would authorize the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to appoint the Warden of the County of Simcoe, rather than maintaining the longstanding practice of selection by County Council; and,

Whereas the County of Simcoe is comprised of 16 member municipalities, each represented at County Council, forming a governance model rooted in local representation and accountability to residents; and,

Whereas residents expect that those exercising authority over local decision-making are accountable to the communities they serve, and not appointed by or primarily aligned with the provincial government; and,

Whereas Bill 100 proposes a reduction in County Council composition and introduces the potential for provincially regulated weighted voting, creating uncertainty regarding equitable representation among member municipalities; and,

Phone: 705-728-4784  
Ext. 2304

Clerk's Department

Fax: 705-728-6957



[www.springwater.ca](http://www.springwater.ca)

**2231 Nursery Road  
Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 1A8 Canada**

**Whereas the Province has indicated its intention to extend "Strong Chair" powers to the Warden of the County of Simcoe, thereby concentrating decision-making authority in a single office; and,**

**Whereas such concentration of authority may alter the balance of municipal governance and reduce the role of council-based decision-making; and,**

**Whereas the introduction of Strong Chair powers at the upper-tier level may give rise to governance challenges where alignment between the Head of Council, Council, and the communities they serve is not maintained; and,**

**Whereas municipal professional associations have cautioned that such a governance model may place senior municipal staff in a difficult position that may undermine their neutrality and professionalism, and there continues uncertainty and concern among residents regarding the concentration of authority in a single office and the reduced role of councils; and,**

**Whereas the Township of Springwater has previously expressed opposition to the expansion of "Strong Mayor" powers and has consistently supported transparent, accountable, and locally driven governance structures that respect the role of elected councils and reflect the interests of residents.**

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:**

**The Council of the Township of Springwater opposes Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, in its current form; and,**

**That Council opposes the appointment of the Warden of the County of Simcoe by the Province, and affirms that the Warden should continue to be selected through a process that ensures accountability to the residents of Simcoe County; and,**

**That Council opposes the extension of "Strong Chair" powers to the Warden of the County of Simcoe, given the significant shift in governance authority and its potential impacts on local democracy, council function, and municipal administration; and,**

**That Council expresses concern regarding the potential introduction of provincially regulated weighted voting rules, and the absence of a clearly defined framework ensuring fair and equitable representation for all member municipalities; and,**

**Phone: 705-728-4784  
Ext. 2304**

**Clerk's Department**

**Fax: 705-728-6957**



[www.springwater.ca](http://www.springwater.ca)

**2231 Nursery Road  
Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 1A8 Canada**

That the Government of Ontario be requested to amend Bill 100 to preserve local democratic authority, maintain council-based governance structures, and ensure that upper-tier municipal leadership remains accountable to local councils and communities; and,

That the Government of Ontario be further requested to undertake meaningful consultation with affected municipalities, including the County of Simcoe and its 16 member municipalities, prior to advancing any legislative or regulatory changes impacting municipal governance; and,

That this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the County of Simcoe, and all Ontario municipalities, for their consideration; and,

That this resolution also be shared with local media outlets to reflect community concerns and to clearly communicate the Township of Springwater's position to its residents.

**Carried**

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Renée Ainsworth'.

**Renée Ainsworth**

**Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Corporate Services**

[renee.ainsworth@springwater.ca](mailto:renee.ainsworth@springwater.ca)

cc. Simcoe County Council, [clerks@simcoe.ca](mailto:clerks@simcoe.ca)  
Association of Ontario Municipalities [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)  
Members of Provincial Parliament  
All Ontario Municipalities

Phone: 705-728-4784  
Ext. 2304

Clerk's Department

Fax: 705-728-6957



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

July 8, 2026

**Re: Integrated Living and Participation Model for Adults with Developmental Disabilities**

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the City of Richmond Hill.

**Resolution No: 2026-07-08-15**

**Moved by: Councillor Quade**

**Seconded by: Councillor Keller**

**"Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the City of Richmond Hill's resolution regarding Integrated Living and Participation Model for Adults with Developmental Disabilities as attached.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Minister of Long-Term Care, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario."

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson

Deputy Clerk

Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



Extracts from Council Meeting  
C#08-26 held May 13, 2026  
Confirmatory By-law 54-26

**16. Other Business**

**16.1 Member Motion - Councillor Thompson - Integrated Living and Participation Model for Adults with Developmental Disabilities**

Moved by: Councillor Thompson

Seconded by: Councillor Cui

Whereas individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities often experience a significant reduction in structured supports and programming upon reaching adulthood, particularly after the age of 21; and

Whereas many of these individuals remain reliant on aging parents or caregivers, creating growing concern among families regarding long-term housing, care, and quality of life; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has, over time, transitioned away from large institutional models of care toward more community-based and inclusive approaches for individuals with developmental disabilities; and

Whereas while these changes have improved opportunities for inclusion and independence, the current system of supports is often delivered across multiple programs and providers and may not fully address the long-term need for integrated living environments that combine housing, supports, and meaningful daily participation; and

Whereas there is an increasing need for innovative, sustainable, and inclusive models of care that support independence, dignity, and community integration for adults with developmental disabilities; and

Whereas opportunities may exist to explore models that provide safe and supportive living environments for adults with developmental disabilities while also offering structured, voluntary, and supported participation in day-to-day activities that foster a sense of purpose, skill development, and social connection; and

Whereas such models, if thoughtfully designed, could complement existing care environments and contribute positively to the overall well-being of both participants and residents; and

...2/

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For Your Information and Any Action Deemed Necessary

225 East Beaver Creek Road, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 3P4 905-771-8800 RichmondHill.ca



**Extracts from Council Meeting  
C#08-26 held May 13, 2026  
Confirmatory By-law 54-26**

**Whereas the Regional Municipality of York is responsible for a range of human services including housing, community services, and the operation of long-term care homes, and is therefore well-positioned to explore integrated and interdisciplinary approaches to care.**

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the City of Richmond Hill request that the Regional Municipality of York consider exploring innovative models of housing and support for adults with developmental disabilities, including the potential for an "Integrated Living and Participation Model"; and**

**That such consideration includes opportunities for co-location or partnership with existing regional services, including long-term care and community housing, where appropriate; and**

**That this model emphasizes voluntary, supported, and meaningful participation in activities that enhance quality of life, social inclusion, and community engagement, without displacing existing workforce roles; and**

**That Council request that the Region engage with relevant stakeholders, including developmental service organizations, families, and advocacy groups, in considering such approaches; and**

**That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:**

- **York Region Council**
- **Daisy Wai, MPP – Richmond Hill; Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility**
- **Michael Parsa, MPP – Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services**
- **Natalia Kuzendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care**
- **Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
- **Ontario municipalities for information**

**Carried Unanimously**

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**For Your Information and Any Action Deemed Necessary**

**225 East Beaver Creek Road, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 3P4 905-771-8800 [RichmondHill.ca](http://RichmondHill.ca)**



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

July 8, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office  
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**RE: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus.

**Resolution No: 2026-07-08-14**  
**Moved by: Councillor Kauffeldt**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Banks**

**"Be it resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus's resolution regarding A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle as attached.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, EOWC Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, the Ontario Big City Mayors, the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus, the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and all municipalities in Ontario."

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



**Resolution 2026-03: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle**

---

**Date: May 8, 2026**

**Moved by: Warden Jennifer Murphy, County of Renfrew**

**Seconded by: Warden Robert Mullin, County of Hastings**

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) serves over 1.1 million residents across 13 upper-tier and single-tier municipalities, encompassing a total of 103 municipalities in Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities in Ontario are currently required to calculate property taxes based on property valuations from 2016, over a decade ago;

**AND WHEREAS** all other provinces in Canada have continued regular reassessment cycles, resulting in properties being reassessed multiple times since 2016, making Ontario the most outdated in Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the prolonged pause in the reassessment cycle has created significant distortions in assessed values, resulting in inequities among property classes; and

**AND WHEREAS** outdated assessments negatively impact investment decisions, economic competitiveness, municipal planning, and disproportionately affect independent small businesses; and

**AND WHEREAS** the continued pause on property tax reassessment in Ontario creates uncertainty for municipalities, property owners, and investors regarding future tax liabilities;

**AND WHEREAS** a current and predictable assessment system is essential to supporting strong communities, maintaining fairness in taxation, and encouraging economic investment consistent with the Ontario government's objective of being "Open for Business";

**AND WHEREAS** the lack of clarity regarding the timing of the next reassessment is contributing to delayed or deferred investment decisions, thereby impacting economic competitiveness across the province;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal governments, particularly in rural and small-urban communities, rely on a stable and updated assessment system to address financial pressures including inflation, rising labour costs, and increasing service demands;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the EOWC formally requests that the Government of Ontario commit to a clear and prompt return to the property tax reassessment cycle;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Province provide a defined timeline and transparent plan for implementing future reassessments on a regular and predictable basis;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Ontario work in coordination with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) to ensure properties are reassessed in an accurate and timely manner;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; EOWC Members of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation; the Ontario Big City Mayors; the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus; the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and all EOWC municipalities."

**Carried**

Signed by:

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

EOWC Chair Bonnie Clark

[info@eowc.org](mailto:info@eowc.org)



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

[www.southhuron.ca](http://www.southhuron.ca)

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July 31, 2026

Via email; [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

Premier's Office  
Room 281  
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

**Re: Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle**

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Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

300-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Aaron Neeb

**That South Huron Council supports the June 23, 2026 correspondence of the Township of North Stormount regarding the Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle; and**

**That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, AMO, ROMA, MPAC, WOWC, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant  
Municipality of South Huron  
[sjohnson@southhuron.ca](mailto:sjohnson@southhuron.ca)  
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Premier Ford, [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org); Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org); AMO [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca); ROMA, [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca); Joyce Gravelle, [joyce.gravelle@mpac.ca](mailto:joyce.gravelle@mpac.ca); [info@wowc.org](mailto:info@wowc.org); MPP Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org) and all municipalities in Ontario.



The Corporation of the Township of  
**NORTH STORMONT**  
**RESOLUTION**

**Date:** June 23, 2026

**Resolution No.** 163-2026

**MOVED BY:**

Mayor F. Landry  
Deputy Mayor S. Densham  
Councillor A. Bugelli  
Councillor A. McDonald  
Councillor C. Shane

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*es*

**SECONDED BY:**

Mayor F. Landry  
Deputy Mayor S. Densham  
Councillor A. Bugelli  
Councillor A. McDonald  
Councillor C. Shane

\_\_\_\_\_  
*AD*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

BE it resolved that the Council of the Township of North Stormont support the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolution 2026-03: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle, as presented.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; EOWC Members of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation; the Ontario Big City Mayors; the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus; the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and all EOWC municipalities."

☒ **CARRIED**   ☐ **DEFEATED**   ☐ **DEFERRED**

*Landry*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

**Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Disclosed His/Her/Their Interest**

☐ **Vacated His/Her/Their Seat**

**RECORDED VOTE**

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Councillor C. Shane     | _____ |
| Councillor A. McDonald  | _____ |
| Councillor A. Bugelli   | _____ |
| Deputy Mayor S. Densham | _____ |
| Mayor F. Landry         | _____ |



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

July 8, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office  
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**RE: Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

**Resolution No: 2026-07-08-16**  
**Moved by: Councillor Banks**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Keller**

**"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Plympton-Wyoming's resolution regarding Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario as attached.**

**And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of the Solicitor General, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP, and MP, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Association of Municipalities in Ontario, Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, Ontario Association of Fire Chief, Renfrew County Fire Chiefs Association and all Municipalities in Ontario."**

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



**Date:** 13 May 2026

15

**Moved By:** Deputy Mayor Netty McEwen

**Seconded By:** Councillor John van Klaveren

### **Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services In Ontario**

**WHEREAS** Municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the province through statutes, regulations, codes, and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operational requirements;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation;

**AND WHEREAS** current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably;

**AND WHEREAS** volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70–75% of firefighters in Ontario, protecting the majority of communities across the province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services;

**AND WHEREAS** other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements;

**AND WHEREAS** the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility;

**AND WHEREAS** reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector;

**AND WHEREAS** stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

The Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to **transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program** that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for **operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario**;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

---

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:

- The County of Lambton
- Lambton County Fire Chiefs Association
- All municipalities
- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association

---

**AND FURTHER THAT, upon endorsement, this resolution be submitted to:**

- Steve Pinnsoneault MPP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex
- Bob Bailey MPP Sarnia-Lambton
- The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General
- The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

|         |          |          |
|---------|----------|----------|
| ✓       |          |          |
| Carried | Defeated | Deferred |



## Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340

Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0

T: 613-269-4791

W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

---

August 4, 2026

### **Re: Resolution of Support - Sustainable Provincial Fire Services Funding**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its Regular Meeting on July 27, 2026, passed the following motion regarding the Resolution of Support - Sustainable Provincial Fire Services Funding:

**Resolution #:** R-17-07-27-26

**Moved by:** Councillor Maitland

**Seconded by:** Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the resolutions from the Township of Terrace Bay and the Town of Smiths Falls regarding the request for sustainable provincial grant funding for fire services;

AND FURTHER THAT Council does hereby endorse and support the request as presented and directs staff to circulate the resolution of support to the identified parties within the resolutions.

Carried.

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

Thank you.

Julia McCaugherty-Jansman  
Clerk



## The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

June 17, 2026

Premier Doug Ford

[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Mr. Ford,

At the Township of Terrace Bay's Regular Council Meeting held Monday June 15, 2026, the following resolution of support was passed:

### **RE: Resolution of Support – Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding For Fire Service**

**Resolution: CR142–2026**

**Moved by: Councillor Webb**

**Seconded by: Councillor Dube**

WHEREAS Municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the province through statutes, regulations, codes and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operation requirements.

AND WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation;

AND WHEREAS current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably;

AND WHEREAS volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70-75% of firefighters in Ontario protecting the majority of communities across the province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services;

AND WHEREAS other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements;



## The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

AND WHEREAS the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility;

AND WHEREAS reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector;

AND WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Terrace Bay respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:

- All municipalities
- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighter Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association

AND FURTHER THAT, upon endorsement, this resolution be submitted to:

- Lise Vaugeois, MPP Thunder Bay Superior North
- The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General
- The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario



## The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

Sincerely,

J. Hall  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

**CC:**

MPP Thunder Bay Superior North, Lise Vaugeois – [lvaugeois-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:lvaugeois-co@ndp.on.ca)

Minister of the Solicitor General – [Michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org](mailto:Michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org)

Minister of Infrastructure – [kinga.surma@pc.ola.org](mailto:kinga.surma@pc.ola.org)

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

AMO – [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)

NOMA – [admin@noma.on.ca](mailto:admin@noma.on.ca)

ROMA – [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca)

OAFC – [info@oafc.on.ca](mailto:info@oafc.on.ca)

OPFFA – [admin@ontariofirefighters.org](mailto:admin@ontariofirefighters.org)

OVFFA – [president@ffao.on.ca](mailto:president@ffao.on.ca)

All Northern Ontario Municipalities



# SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Primer of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Smiths Falls passed the following resolution at their June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Council meeting:

*The Council of the Town of Smiths Falls respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;*

*AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;*

*AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to:*

- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association
- Scott Reid, M.P. Lanark-Frontenac
- John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston
- Minister of the Solicitor General



**SMITHS FALLS**

**RISE AT THE FALLS**

- *Minister of Infrastructure*
- *Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing*
- *All Ontario Municipalities*

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and/or concerns.

Yours truly,

Kerry Costello  
Town Clerk

cc: Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs  
Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association  
Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Scott Reid, M.P. Lanark-Frontenac  
John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston  
Minister of the Solicitor General  
Minister of Infrastructure  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
All Ontario Municipalities

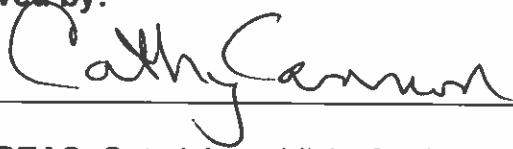
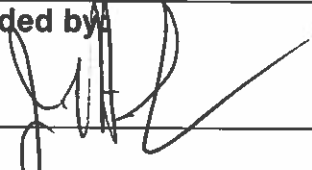


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

|                                                                                                |                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC26143                                                                           | Meeting Order: 5                                                                                   |
| Moved by:<br> | Seconded by:<br> |

**WHEREAS** Ontario's publicly funded hospital system provides essential health care services to residents across the Province, including those living in rural, northern, and remote communities; and

**WHEREAS** the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), in its report *Failure by Design*, identifies that Ontario hospitals are significantly underfunded compared to the growing demand for health care services, with rural and northern hospitals experiencing disproportionate impacts; and

**WHEREAS** increasing emergency department wait times, prolonged hospital admission delays, staffing pressures, and limited hospital capacity continue to affect the delivery of timely and accessible health care for Ontario residents; and

**WHEREAS** residents of the Municipality of Wawa rely on a strong and sustainable rural health care system, and adequate provincial funding is essential to ensure hospitals can continue to provide safe, high-quality care close to home; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands has requested municipalities across Ontario support its call for increased provincial investment in hospital funding;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports Resolution No. 133-06-2026 passed by the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands requesting that the Province of Ontario provide immediate and sustained funding to improve hospital finances and capacity; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa urges the Province of Ontario to implement the recommendations identified in the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' report *Failure by Design*, including an immediate investment of \$3.2 billion in Ontario's hospital system, supported by annual funding increases of 6 percent thereafter to address increasing health care costs and demand; and

Page 2...



## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health;
- Michael Mantha, MPP for Algoma–Manitoulin;
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA);
- The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands; and
- All Ontario municipalities, with a request for their consideration and support.

| RESOLUTION RESULT                   |                             | RECORDED VOTE     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED                     | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES | NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DEFEATED                    | Mitch Hatfield    |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | TABLED                      | Cathy Cannon      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)   | Melanie Pilon     |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 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.



6020 Highway 542, P.O. Box 420

Mindemoya, ON P0P 1S0

Tel: 705-377-5726

Fax: 705-377-5585

Email: [ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca](mailto:ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca)

July 20, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Bill Rosenberg MPP Algoma-Manitoulin  
All Municipalities, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association

**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE ONTARIO HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

Please be advised that at the Municipality of Central Manitoulin Council meeting of June 25, 2026, the following motion was approved:

**194-2026 That the Council of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin supports the following motion from the Municipality of Northeastern Manitoulin & The Islands:**

*WHEREAS the Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) has conducted research which unequivocally identifies that Ontario Hospitals are underfunded by the Government of Ontario;*

*AND WHEREAS the CCPA study, Failure by Design, clearly identifies that smaller and rural hospitals are disproportionately disadvantaged by the underfunding;*

*AND WHEREAS as a direct result of the underfunding Emergency Department wait times for an initial physician assessment have increased to 4.5 hours in 2024 – 2025 from 2.7 hours in 2020 – 2021;*

*AND WHEREAS 90 percent of patients spend on average 44 hours in the emergency department waiting to be admitted when further care is required;*

*AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government increased total health care spending from 7.4 percent of GDP in 2014 to only 7.6 percent of GDP by 2023, which did not keep pace with raising health care costs:*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Central Manitoulin request that the Province of Ontario provide immediate and sustained funding to improve hospital finances and capacity, which as per the recommendations in the CCPA study, would require an immediate injection of \$3.2 billion supported by annual increases of 6% per year thereafter.*

*AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:*

- *All municipalities*
- *Association of Municipalities of Ontario*
- *Rural Ontario Municipal Association*
- *Bill Rosenberg, MPP Algoma-Manitoulin*
- *The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario...carried.*

Sincerely,

Ms. Denise Deforge – CAO/Clerk  
Municipality of Central Manitoulin

cc. File

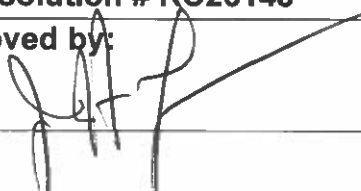
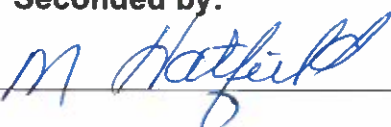


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

|                                                                                                |                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC26148                                                                           | Meeting Order:10                                                                                   |
| Moved by:<br> | Seconded by:<br> |

**WHEREAS** recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

**AND WHEREAS** the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

**AND WHEREAS** increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;



## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports MFOA's letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure.

| RESOLUTION RESULT                   |                             | RECORDED VOTE     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED                     | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES | NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DEFEATED                    | Mitch Hatfield    |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | TABLED                      | Cathy Cannon      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)   | Melanie Pilon     |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 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.



The Corporation of the Township of  
**NORTH STORMONT**  
**RESOLUTION**

**Date:** July 21, 2026

**Resolution No.** 185-2026

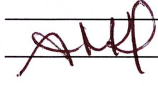
**MOVED BY:**

Mayor F. Landry  
Deputy Mayor S. Densham  
Councillor A. Bugelli  
Councillor A. McDonald  
Councillor C. Shane

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECONDED BY:**

Mayor F. Landry  
Deputy Mayor S. Densham  
Councillor A. Bugelli  
Councillor A. McDonald  
Councillor C. Shane

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH STORMONT supports MFOA's letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, the Executive Director of MFOA, Donna Herridge, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and all municipalities in Ontario.



**Township of Central Frontenac**  
**Office of the Clerk**

---

I hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution, approved by Township of Central Frontenac Council at its Regular Meeting of Council held July, 14, 2026, regarding Support for MFOA: Making Permanent the Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

**Motion No. 2026-267**

**Moved by: Lynn Klages; seconded by: Phillip Smith**

**WHEREAS** recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

**AND WHEREAS** the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

**AND WHEREAS** increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Township of Central Frontenac supports MFOA's letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure;

**AND THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, the Honourable Rob Flack, and the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy.

Dated at Sharbot Lake, Ontario

This 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2026

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jody Legue", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "Jody Legue, Deputy Clerk" is printed.

Jody Legue, Deputy Clerk



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

[www.southhuron.ca](http://www.southhuron.ca)

---

July 31, 2026

Via email: [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Rob Flack,

**Re: Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)**

---

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

299-2026

Moved By: Ted Oke

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

**That South Huron Council supports the June 25, 2026 correspondence and proposed resolution of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario regarding making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation; and**

**That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant  
Municipality of South Huron

[sjohnson@southhuron.ca](mailto:sjohnson@southhuron.ca)

519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org);  
Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org);  
MPP Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org) and all municipalities in  
Ontario.



Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Acting Minister of Infrastructure  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

June 25, 2026

Dear Minister McCarthy,

**RE: Making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation**

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request that the Government of Ontario make permanent the five-year doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200 million/year to \$400 million/year in advance of the 2027 OCIF allocation calculations.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long-term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, governments at all levels have reoriented their priorities to address the ongoing housing crisis, with heightened attention on growth-related infrastructure and increasing housing production. Application-based or incentive-based funding programs for municipalities have placed greater emphasis on growth-related or housing-enabling capital projects (e.g., Development Charge Reduction Program, Building Communities Strong Fund – Community Stream, Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, Building Faster Fund). OCIF remains one of the few federal or provincial funding programs where the focus remains primarily on the preservation and renewal of existing infrastructure to maintain or improve municipal service levels.

With support from the Government of Ontario and MFOA, municipalities have made significant improvements to their municipal asset management plans and programs. The Government of Ontario introduced O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) in late 2017, which provided a standard framework for infrastructure planning. To support the transition to O. Reg. 588/17, MFOA has partnered with the Government of Ontario on many asset management initiatives, including guides, workshops, direct consulting support and other resources. As a result of these and significant municipal efforts, most municipalities in Ontario have an asset management inventory that identifies their infrastructure assets, including conditions, replacement costs and renewal schedules of those assets.

By leveraging municipal asset management plans in 2020, the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario estimated the state-of-good-repair backlog to be \$52.1 billion for core municipal infrastructure. That is an estimated cost of restoring such infrastructure to a 'good' condition. The report notably focused primarily on core assets and thus likely understated the full extent of the backlog. Addressing this should not be a priority that falls by the wayside due to an increased focus on growth-related capital projects by other funding programs. OCIF's flexible design provides municipalities with the opportunity to fund asset management staff, which can improve data and analysis quality, and it provides a critical means by which municipalities address the infrastructure funding challenges identified in their asset management plans.

In 2021, the Government of Ontario doubled OCIF for a five-year period. Minister Surma, in announcing that initiative, commented that the Government of Ontario was "providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities as they repair, upgrade and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier and more reliable for all." And Minister Bethlenfalvy said that "by nearly doubling our investment in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, our government is supporting public safety, job creation and economic growth." In the current climate of geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and the resulting economic shocks and instability, the need to provide municipalities predictability and to preserve and enhance the economic activity and benefits provided by well-supported and well-maintained municipal infrastructure is as imperative as it was in 2021.

We have also heard from our members on this matter. Municipalities outside of high-growth regions have expressed concern about the diminishing level of grant funding opportunities for municipalities trying to preserve the economic value of their existing infrastructure. Additionally, while growing municipalities have made significant efforts to emplace new, housing-enabling infrastructure, which has been rewarded through the Building Faster Fund, many of their state-of-good-repair capital plans remain underfunded. To maximize the economic potential of federal and provincial investment in infrastructure, all orders of government must work together to preserve service levels and the public value of existing infrastructure, and permanently doubling OCIF to \$400 million/year will especially help small and rural municipalities preserve that economic foundation throughout Ontario.

By adopting a Team Ontario approach during recent and ongoing economic challenges, we have seen how significant progress can be made when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge ([donna@mfoa.on.ca](mailto:donna@mfoa.on.ca)).

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Found, Ph.D., PLE  
President and Chair

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
cc. Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance



## The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

**Resolution No. CC- 128 - 2026**

**Date:** July 23, 2026

Moved by

Jeff Shaver

Seconded by

Michael Cameron

**WHEREAS** recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015; and

**WHEREAS** municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026; and

**WHEREAS** the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs; and

**WHEREAS** increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality; and

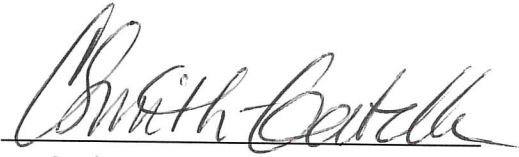
**WHEREAS** municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity; and

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Finance Officers’ Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Counties of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville supports MFOA’s letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario (MFOA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and Ontario municipalities.

Carried ✓ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Deferred \_\_\_\_\_

  
Corinna Smith-Gatcke, Warden



P.O. Box 129, 110 Main Street, Sundridge, Ontario, P0A 1Z0

Telephone (705) 384-5316  
Fax (705) 384-7874  
Email: [admin@sundridge.ca](mailto:admin@sundridge.ca)

Village of Sundridge Council Resolution  
July 15, 2026  
Item (9.5)

Township of Machar Resolution 86-26 – Opposing Changes to FIPPA

**Resolution #2026-177**  
**Moved By: Sharon Smith**  
**Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell**

**THAT** Council receives the Township of Machar Resolution 86-26 – Opposing Changes to FIPPA,

**AND THAT** The Village of Sundridge supports the Township of Machar in their opposition to Changes to FIPPA,

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities.

| Recorded Vote         | For | Against | Abstain |
|-----------------------|-----|---------|---------|
| Preston, Luke(absent) |     |         |         |
| Smith, Sharon         | x   |         |         |
| Whitmell, Vicki       | x   |         |         |
| Williamson, Fraser    | x   |         |         |
| Jackson, Shawn        | x   |         |         |
| CARRIED               |     |         |         |

July 14, 2026

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

VIA EMAIL: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Sir:

Re: Declaration of Intimate Partner Violence as an Epidemic

Please be advised that the Town of New Tecumseth Council passed the following resolution at their meeting of July 13, 2026:

Whereas intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious and pervasive public health and safety issue affecting individuals, pregnant women, families, and communities across Ontario and Canada;

And Whereas Statistics Canada reports that approximately 44% of Canadian women have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime, while 33% of Canadian women have experienced sexual assault;

And Whereas Indigenous women, pregnant women and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals experience disproportionately high rates of violence, with 61% of Indigenous women and 67% of 2SLGBTQIA+ women having experienced intimate partner violence;

And Whereas according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), 66% of female homicide victims in Canada were killed by an intimate partner;

And Whereas rural communities face an even greater impact, with victims experiencing a 75% higher risk of intimate partner violence;

And Whereas on September 22, 2015, the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County brought national attention to the devastating consequences of intimate partner violence;

And Whereas the 2022 Renfrew County Joint Inquest into these femicides resulted in 86 recommendations, with Recommendation #1 calling upon the Province of Ontario to formally declare intimate partner violence an epidemic;

And Whereas despite the findings and recommendations of the Coroner's Inquest, the Province of Ontario has not formally declared intimate partner violence an epidemic;

And Whereas police-reported intimate partner violence cases in Ontario increased from 4,450 incidents in 2022 to 5,988 incidents in 2024, representing an 18% increase according to the Ontario Provincial Police Data, Statistics & Analysis Unit;

And Whereas North Simcoe Victim Services reported a 64% increase in intimate partner violence calls between 2023 and 2025, rising from 255 calls to 417 calls;

And Whereas 2025 combined statistics from Violence Against Women agencies serving Orillia, Barrie, Alliston, Collingwood, and Midland recorded:

- 12,870 crisis calls;
- 335 women requiring in-shelter stays;
- 167 children requiring in-shelter stays;
- 1,039 referrals due to agencies reaching capacity limits;

And Whereas the Government of Canada formally recognized intimate partner violence as an epidemic in 2023, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario also declared intimate partner violence an epidemic in 2023;

And Whereas more than 115 municipalities across Ontario, representing over 70% of Ontario's population, have passed motions declaring intimate partner violence an epidemic;

And Whereas declaring intimate partner violence an epidemic:

- demonstrates leadership and commitment to addressing the crisis;
- raises public awareness;
- reduces stigma experienced by victims and survivors;
- helps individuals know support services are available;
- strengthens eligibility for provincial funding opportunities for community agencies;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of New Tecumseth formally declare intimate partner violence an epidemic;

And Further That Council call upon the Province of Ontario to formally recognize intimate partner violence as an epidemic across Ontario;

And Further That the Province be urged to implement the recommendations of the Renfrew County Joint Inquest, including Recommendation #1;

And Further That copies of this resolution be circulated to:

- The Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;
- The Solicitor General of Ontario;
- The Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity;
- The Brian Saunderson, Member of Provincial Parliament;
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The County of Simcoe;
- All municipalities within Simcoe County and Ontario;
- Local violence against women and victim support agencies within Simcoe County

Yours truly,



Pamela Slowleigh  
Manager, Legislative Services / Deputy Clerk

Cc: Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario, [Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca)  
Honourable Charmaine A. Williams, The Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, [charmaine.williams@pc.ola.org](mailto:charmaine.williams@pc.ola.org)  
MPP Brian Saunderson (Simcoe–Grey), [brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org](mailto:brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org)  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)  
The County of Simcoe, [clerks@simcoe.ca](mailto:clerks@simcoe.ca)  
Local violence against women & victim support agencies within Simcoe County:  
Victim Services of Simcoe County, [ed@VictimServicesSimcoe.ca](mailto:ed@VictimServicesSimcoe.ca),  
[info@VictimServicesSimcoe.ca](mailto:info@VictimServicesSimcoe.ca)  
My Sister's Place, [pitmsp@mysistersplace.ca](mailto:pitmsp@mysistersplace.ca)  
Women and Children's Shelter of Barrie, [info@barrieshelter.com](mailto:info@barrieshelter.com)  
Regional Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centre for Simcoe County and Muskoka, [sadvtc@osmh.on.ca](mailto:sadvtc@osmh.on.ca)  
Elizabeth Fry Society Simcoe Muskoka, [meaghanc@elizabethfrysociety.com](mailto:meaghanc@elizabethfrysociety.com)  
North Simcoe Victim Services, [exdir@ns-vs.com](mailto:exdir@ns-vs.com)  
Huronian Transition Homes, [admin@rosewood.on.ca](mailto:admin@rosewood.on.ca)  
Biminaawzogin Regional Aboriginal Women's Circle (BRAWC),  
[admin@brawc.com](mailto:admin@brawc.com)  
All municipalities within Simcoe County and Ontario



MUNICIPALITY OF  
SHUNIAH

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 265-26

Date: Jul 21, 2026

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

THAT Council for the Municipality of Shuniah receives and supports the Resolution from the Town of Whitby regarding a Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to FONOM, NOMA, AMO, TBDML, local MPPs and MPs, the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Leader of the Official Opposition, and all Ontario municipalities.

☒ Carried

☐ Defeated

☐ Amended

☐ Deferred

Wendy Landry  
Signature

Municipality of Shuniah, 420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 1X8

Town of Whitby  
575 Rossland Road East,  
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8  
905.430.4300  
whitby.ca



June 25, 2026

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas  
Supervisor, Legislative Services  
[clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - [lorne.coe@pc.ola.org](mailto:lorne.coe@pc.ola.org)  
Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - [jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca)  
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)  
Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - [rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - [laurie.scott@pc.ola.org](mailto:laurie.scott@pc.ola.org)  
Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario - [amopresident@amo.on.ca](mailto:amopresident@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities



MUNICIPALITY OF

North Perth

[www.northperth.ca](http://www.northperth.ca)

A Community of Character

330 Wallace Ave. N., Listowel, ON N4W 1L3

Phone: 519-291-2950

Toll Free: 888-714-1993

August 10, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Support for the Town of Whitby – Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions**

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of North Perth passed the following resolution at its meeting on July 6, 2026:

**THAT:** The Council of the Municipality of North Perth supports Consent Agenda Item 7.4 from the Town of Whitby regarding the Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions and that a copy of the support resolution be sent to all relevant parties, including MPP Matthew Rae, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Perth County Lower Tiers, County of Perth and all Ontario Municipalities.

A copy of the Town of Whitby's resolution is attached for reference.

Please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Regards,

Lindsay Cline  
Clerk/Legislative Services Supervisor

Encl.: Town of Whitby Resolution

CC: Town of Whitby  
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Matthew Rae, MPP Perth-Wellington  
County of Perth  
Town of St. Marys  
Township of Perth East  
Township of Perth South  
Municipality of West Perth  
All Ontario Municipalities

Town of Whitby  
575 Rossland Road East,  
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8  
905.430.4300  
whitby.ca



June 25, 2026

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas  
Supervisor, Legislative Services  
[clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - [lorne.coe@pc.ola.org](mailto:lorne.coe@pc.ola.org)  
Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - [jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca)  
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)  
Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - [rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - [laurie.scott@pc.ola.org](mailto:laurie.scott@pc.ola.org)  
Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario - [amopresident@amo.on.ca](mailto:amopresident@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities

August 13, 2026

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

**Re: Town of Ingersoll Resolution - Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions**

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on August 10, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution # 2026-230**

**Moved by Councillor Eus; seconded by Councillor Bowman**

**THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll receive the correspondence from the Town of the Blue Mountains regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

**AND THAT** Council support the resolution regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

**AND THAT** the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries, and the provincial government.

**CARRIED**

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

*Julie Clayton*

Julie Clayton  
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All municipalities in Ontario



**The Town of The Blue Mountains  
Council Meeting**

**Title:** Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2026  
**Time:** 6:16 PM

---

**Moved by:** Councillor Hope  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Porter

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the June 25, 2026, correspondence from Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby, and supports the June 22, 2026 Town of Whitby Council resolution regarding a Review of Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council directs staff to circulate this resolution of support to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities (AMO) and all Ontario Municipalities for consideration and support

**YES: 6**

**NO: 0**

**ABSENT: 1**

**The motion is Carried**

**YES: 6**

|                        |                   |                 |                    |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Deputy Mayor Bordignon | Councillor Ardiel | Councillor Hope | Councillor Maxwell |
| Councillor McKinlay    | Councillor Porter |                 |                    |

**NO: 0**

**ABSENT: 1**

Mayor Matrosovs

Town of Whitby  
575 Rossland Road East,  
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8  
905.430.4300  
whitby.ca



June 25, 2026

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

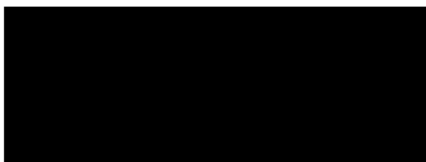
Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas  
Supervisor, Legislative Services  
[clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing -  
[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - [lorne.coe@pc.ola.org](mailto:lorne.coe@pc.ola.org)  
Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - [jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca)  
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)  
Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - [rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - [laurie.scott@pc.ola.org](mailto:laurie.scott@pc.ola.org)  
Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario -  
[amopresident@amo.on.ca](mailto:amopresident@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand**

PO Box 70, 10836 County Road 2, Grafton, ON K0K 2G0

905-349-2822 / 1-888-685-1464 | [info@ahwp.ca](mailto:info@ahwp.ca) | [www.ahwp.ca](http://www.ahwp.ca)

July 30, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
[mark.carney@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mark.carney@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Right Honourable Mark Carney,

**Re: Beacons of Light British Home Children & Child Migrants**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Alnwick Haldimand passed the following resolution at their July 28, 2026, Municipal Planning/Regular Council Meeting:

*RES:20260728-38*

*That the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand participate in the “Beacons of Light for British Home Children and Child Migrants Tribute”; and*

*That Council request the Province of Ontario continue to support initiatives that recognize, educate and preserve the history; and*

*That Council of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand respectfully urge the Government of Canada to issue a formal public apology to the British Home Children and Child Migrants and their families for Canada’s role in the British Child Migration Scheme; and*





**The Corporation of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand**

PO Box 70, 10836 County Road 2, Grafton, ON K0K 2G0

905-349-2822 / 1-888-685-1464 | [info@ahwtp.ca](mailto:info@ahwtp.ca) | [www.ahwtp.ca](http://www.ahwtp.ca)

*That this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister responsible for Canadian Heritage, the local Member of Parliament, the Premier of Ontario, the local members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, FCM, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.*

Regards,

*Cassidy Sweet*

Cassidy Sweet

Deputy Clerk

Township of Alnwick/Haldimand

Encl.

Cc Honourable Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Official Opposition

Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture

Philip Lawrence, Northumberland – Peterborough South

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

David Piccini, MPP Northumberland – Peterborough South

AMO

FCM

All Ontario municipalities





# British Home Children Advocacy & Research Association

CEO Ms. Lori Oschefski  
59 Blair Crescent : Barrie, Ontario : L4M 5Y4  
[info@britishhomechildren.com](mailto:info@britishhomechildren.com)

## Press Release

### Regarding: Beacons of Light British Home Children & Child Migrants Sesquicentennial International Tribute

From 1869 right up to 1948, over 100,000 children of all ages were emigrated right across Canada, from the United Kingdom, to be used as indentured farm workers and domestics. Believed by Canadians to be orphans, only two percent truly were. These children, known as the British Home Children (“BHC”) and Child Migrants, were sent to Canada by over 50 organizations including the well-known and still working charities: Barnardo’s, The Salvation Army, Quarrier’s and Fairbridge, to name a few. BHC are an integral part of the fabric of our nation - often, rightfully, called Canada’s Nation Builders. Their vast contributions to our country should never be forgotten. Descendants of BHC, number in the millions in Canada alone!

The British Home Children Advocacy and Research Association (“BHCARA”) is a Canadian based not for profit organization dedicated to the story of Canada’s British Home Children (BHC). Founded in 2012 by Barrie, Ontario’s Lori Oschefski, the BHCARA now reaches thousands of people through their Facebook group of over 6,700 members and their mailing list of over 4,000 subscribers. Our website now has over 1 million hits and we have a high media presence. The mandate of the organization is to promote the story of the British Home Children, to advocate for those who no longer have a voice and to provide free research help to those seeking their family histories; often providing closure from painful pasts.

On November 8, 1869 the very first party of BHC arrived in Canada, making 2019 the 150th anniversary of this arrival. The date of September 28th has been chosen for a special international tribute as this date is commemorated nationally as British Home Child Day in Canada; a unanimous passage of MP Guy Lauzon’s private member’s motion M-133 in the House of Commons, Feb. 7, 2018. This initiative for this tribute started when BHCARA member Kim Crowder approached MS. Oschefski for support in the illumination of the High Level Bridge in her city of Edmonton, Alberta. Since then, many members have become involved reaching out in their communities for support. BHCARA member Tracy Smithers contacted Her Majesty the Queen and received a prompt letter of support back from her!

The BHCARA is asking communities to participate in the “**Beacons of Light for British Home Children and Child Migrants Tribute**” by illuminating memorials, monuments, buildings, City Halls or other areas with the colours of the BHCARA; red, white and blue. Cities and towns are also participating by proclaiming this day as “British Home Child Day” in their community. Some cities are sharing this message on their digital billboards.

The tribute is a symbolic gesture showing these children, in their sesquicentennial year, are not forgotten. Many Canadian and UK cities have agreed to participate with over sixty-five supporters to date, including the iconic Niagara Falls, Toronto’s CN Tower, The Northern Lights Display in Vancouver and St. Andrews House - Head Quarters of the Scottish Government in Edinburgh, Scotland. The Town of Midland and Orillia are participating by proclaiming September 28th as BHC Day in their cities. A full listing of our supporters can be viewed at [www.britishhomechildren.com](http://www.britishhomechildren.com).

The BHC are a critical part of our nation’s fabric, this country was built on the backs of these children. We would appreciate your support in sharing the news of this important and extraordinary tribute to Canada’s Nation Builders. A history of the British Home Children follows.

Very best regards  
Lori Oschefski  
CEO BHCARA  
[info@britishhomechildren.com](mailto:info@britishhomechildren.com)  
705-716-1332



## **The History of The British Home Children**

### **By Roberta Horrox**

The British Child Migration Scheme officially started in Canada, in 1869, when Maria Rye arrived with sixty-eight children from England. In Canada, the children from this scheme became known as British Home Children. Maria Rye's idea grew to over fifty organizations sending over 100,000 to Canada between 1869 and 1948. These children ranged from a few months to 18 years of age; being sent to Canada to work as indentured labourers and servants. The child migration scheme was supported by both British and Canadian governments which paid organizations for each child sent, additional bonus fees were paid for sending more children; however, no bonus was paid for children from workhouses. This scheme was viewed as a win-win situation, as Britain reduced the cost of caring for many poor destitute children; while Canada gained cheap labour for a country that was just starting to expand. While many believe the children were orphans this was not the case, as only 2% were true orphans; the majority were from single parent families, most often due to a parent dying or from families that were poor and destitute. Many factors led to Britain having so many poor, destitute people. These children through no fault of their own were caught up in this tragedy. As child migration to Canada came to a halt, it increased to Australia with approximately 7,000 children being sent there. Child migration to Australia ended in 1970s. The major difference was that children sent to Australia were most often institutionalized. New Zealand took in 549 child migrants, with fewer children being sent to Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Cape of Good Hope Colony in South Africa.

In Canada, while some of the children were treated well, most were seen as nothing more than cheap labour, some suffered abuse; some cases of horrific abuse resulted in death. Whether these children were treated well or abused one thing in common is the feeling of loss; loss of family, friends, country and culture. Some were sent to homes that didn't speak English. Often told by sending agencies that they were unwanted, uncared for, or that their parents had died, while their parent(s) were told they were adopted by good British families. If siblings arrived in Canada together they were more often than not separated once they got here. Although checks were suppose to take place on a regular basis, things fell short due to vast number of children, lack of enforcement, shortage of inspectors, the immense distance, and difficulty traveling to remote places in order to perform the checks on the children. When inspectors did visit, the children didn't necessary get to speak to, or even see, the inspector; and if they did it often occurred with the master present. Therefore the children would hide the truth for fear of being reprimanded or further abuse.

Many British Home Children were stigmatized by members of the communities they came to live in, often being told they were street rats, guttersnipes and a multitude of other derogatory terms. If a British Home Child lived in a community and something bad happened, usually a British Home Child was blamed. They had no one to turn too, no one to stick up for them, they suffered in silence. As a survival mechanism they shut down, blocking memories; they became silent of their trauma, silent of any abuse; silent and ashamed of their past, and their lives as British Home Children. Most carried this stigmatism throughout their lives, refusing to tell even their immediate family where they had come from. Some children had their names changed or spelling of names became corrupted, while some where too young to know their correct names, birthday dates, or the names of their parents. These children were not given the necessary documents to prove who they were; this became an issue when they became older wanted to travel, or needed proof of identity such as applying for pension. The children were promised an education, the vast majority did not receive the education promised. Silently and unwittingly aspects of their traumatic experiences were often passed down to their children. For instance, as a corruption of their BHC experience, when they became older with families of their own they were unable to show love or affection for their own children. During WWI nearly every eligible British Home Boy voluntarily signed up for the Canadian Expedition Force; 1,000 Home Boys paid the ultimate sacrifice. The most common date of death was April 9, 1917, the first day of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

In Nov 2009, then Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, issued an apology for their role in the Child Migration Scheme; then in Feb 2010, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown issued an apology for Britain's role. In Canada, Canadian Parliament declared 2010 Year of the British Home Child. On Feb 16, 2017 the Canadian House of Commons issued an apology and on Feb 7, 2018 MP Guy Lauzon's private member's motion M-133 was unanimous passed making Sept 28th, National British Home Child Day in Canada. To date our prime minister has not issued an official apology on behalf of the government.



On January 31, 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom issued a press release entitled “Ex-Gratia Payment Scheme for former British Child Migrants” to compensate former child migrants that were still alive on March 1, 2018, “in recognition of the fundamentally flawed nature of the historic child migration policy”. In a background Statement, the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse Interim (UK) report stated, “The Government has long acknowledged and accepted, assessment at the time of the national apology in 2010 and went further, calling it a ‘shameful episode of history’ and this failure in the first duty of a nation, which is to protect its children”. For the Child Migrants sent to Canada this payment is much too late, as so few are still living.

BHC organizations in Canada, and Child Migrant organizations in Australia and the UK that have been formed to give voices to all British Child Migrants. These organizations were formed to help educate the public on The British Child Migration Scheme, as well as help descendants search and reconnect with lost family members. Of note, “The Guest Children” who were children sent to Canada by their parents for protection during the war are not part of the British Child Migration Scheme. The two are entirely different, but often misconstrued.

With this year being the 150th anniversary of British Home Children in Canada; work continues to give these children their voices.

The following website is excellent resource: British Home Child Advocacy and Research (BHCARA) - CEO Lori Oschefski website <https://www.britishhomechildren.com> BHCARA also has a facebook group



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

[www.southhuron.ca](http://www.southhuron.ca)

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July 31, 2026

Via email: [edermott-simpson@pentanguishene.ca](mailto:edermott-simpson@pentanguishene.ca)

Town of Penetanguishene  
10 Robert St W  
PO Box 5009  
Penetanguishene ON L9M 2G2

**Re: Heads and Beds Payment-in-lieu of Taxes Program – Municipal Collaboration Opportunity**

---

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

301-2026

Moved By: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

**That South Huron Council support the June 24, 2026 Correspondence of the Town of Penetanguishene resolution regarding Heads and Beds in-lieu of taxes; and**

**That staff participate in the joint discussion; and**

**That this supporting resolution be circulated to all Ontario Municipalities.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant  
Municipality of South Huron  
[sjohnson@southhuron.ca](mailto:sjohnson@southhuron.ca)  
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:  
all municipalities in Ontario



June 24, 2026

To: Ontario municipalities affected by the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes Program

**RE: Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes Program – Municipal Collaboration Opportunity**

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On behalf of the Town of Penetanguishene, I am writing to share the enclosed Council resolution regarding the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and to invite your municipality to participate in a collective discussion on this matter.

The Heads and Beds PILT program, originally established in 1970 and last updated in 1987, to \$75 per head/bed for provincially owned institutional facilities. As you may be aware, this rate has remained unchanged for nearly four decades and has not kept pace with inflation, municipal service responsibilities, or other Provincial PILT programs.

As a result, municipalities hosting these facilities continue to experience growing financial pressures, as the funding received does not reflect the true cost of providing essential municipal services.

The Town of Penetanguishene has made continuous efforts over several years to seek a fair and reasonable resolution to this matter, including multiple delegations with the Ministry of Finance. Despite these efforts, the current system remains, in our view, both outdated and inequitable.

We recognize that Penetanguishene is not alone in facing these challenges. Other municipalities across Ontario may be experiencing similar financial impacts as a result of this outdated program. As part of our ongoing advocacy efforts, we are reaching out to municipalities that receive Heads and Beds PILT funding to gauge interest in participating in a collective discussion. The intent is to determine whether there is a shared municipal interest in pursuing a collaborative advocacy approach with the Provincial Government to seek a complete review of the program and a fair and equitable solution.

If your municipality is interested in taking part in a joint discussion, or if you wish to share your experience on this issue, we welcome the opportunity to connect. Please confirm your municipalities interest by emailing our Executive Assistant, Emily Dermott-Simpson at [edermott-simpson@penetanguishene.ca](mailto:edermott-simpson@penetanguishene.ca).

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your leadership and look forward to hearing from you.





Sincerely,

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE**

Doug Rawson, Mayor  
Town of Penetanguishene



COUNCIL RESOLUTION FORM

**Date:** May 5, 2026 **Disposition:** CARRIED

**Moved by:** Deputy Mayor D. La Rose **Item No.:** 10 vi.  
**Seconded by:** Councillor G. Vadeboncoeur

**Description:** Resolution – Heads and Beds In-Lieu of Taxes

RESOLUTION:

**WHEREAS** the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program was established in 1970 at a fixed rate of \$25 per full-time university student, increased to \$50 in 1973 when hospitals and provincial correctional facilities were included, and last increased in 1987 to \$75 per head/bed; and

**WHEREAS** the fixed rate has remained unchanged for nearly four decades and has not kept pace with inflation, which would place the rate at approximately \$180 today; and

**WHEREAS** the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes has also not kept pace with provincially mandated municipal service responsibilities or other Provincial payment-in-lieu programs that are based on property assessment and municipal tax rates; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Penetanguishene has formally requested regulatory amendments through multiple delegations with the Ministry of Finance, seeking a fair and reasonable resolution to the current situation, which the Town considers to be unfair and unreasonable; and

**WHEREAS** the Town is of the opinion that a complete and thorough review of the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program is necessary to ensure municipalities and

|                             |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| Recorded Vote Requested by: |     |     |
| .....                       |     |     |
|                             | Yea | Nay |
| S. Marchand                 |     |     |
| B. Waters                   |     |     |
| G. Vadeboncoeur             |     |     |
| D. La Rose                  |     |     |
| B. Desroches                |     |     |
| D. Leroux                   |     |     |
| D. Rawson                   |     |     |

  
MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:  
.....  
Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated  
he/her/their seat(s) abstained from  
discussion and did not vote.



local taxpayers are treated fairly and equitably in relation to the costs associated with provincially owned facilities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene direct staff to circulate this resolution to affected municipalities across the Province of Ontario to gauge interest in participating in a collective lobbying initiative regarding the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the purpose of this outreach is to determine whether there is shared municipal interest in pursuing collaborative advocacy with the Provincial Government to seek a fair and equitable approach to the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program.

|                             |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| Recorded Vote Requested by: |     |     |
| .....                       |     |     |
|                             | Yea | Nay |
| S. Marchand                 |     |     |
| B. Waters                   |     |     |
| G. Vadeboncoeur             |     |     |
| D. La Rose                  |     |     |
| B. Desroches                |     |     |
| D. Leroux                   |     |     |
| D. Rawson                   |     |     |

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:  
  
.....  
Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated  
he/her/their seat(s) abstained from  
discussion and did not vote.



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

August 5, 2026

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

**RE: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens**

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Halton Hills.

**Resolution No: 2026-08-05-06**

**Moved by: Councillor Banks**

**Seconded by: Councillor Keller**

**"Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Halton Hills resolution regarding Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and MP, the County of Renfrew, AMO, ROMA, FCM, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Landscape Ontario, the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, and all municipalities in Ontario."

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

*Tammy Thompson*  
Tammy Thompson

Deputy Clerk

Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2  
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205  
haltonhills.ca

June 5, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Via Email

**Re: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens**

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday June 1, 2026, adopted Resolution No. 2026-0107 regarding Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2026-0107.

Respectfully,

Melissa Lawr, AMP, Dipl.M.A.  
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Ontario Minister of Natural Resources  
Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
Halton area MPs and MPPs  
Region of Halton  
HRFA  
OFA  
Conservation Halton  
Credit Valley Conservation  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
AMO  
ROMA  
FCM  
Ontario Invasive Plant Council  
Landscape Ontario  
Canadian Nursery Landscape Association  
All Ontario municipalities



THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

**Resolution No.:** 2026-0107

**Title:** Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

**Date:** June 1, 2026

**Moved by:** Councillor J. Brass

**Seconded by:** Councillor C. Garneau

**Item No. 12.3**

WHEREAS invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species, seeds and nursery stock can cause significant damage to municipal infrastructure, roadsides, stormwater systems, parks, trails, natural heritage areas, agricultural lands, woodlots, shorelines, private property and local biodiversity;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipalities and conservation authorities are estimated to spend approximately \$50.8 million annually managing invasive species, and the average annual cost per Ontario municipality has been estimated at \$218,148, with approximately 80% of expenditures directed toward control and management rather than prevention; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS these costs are ultimately borne by local taxpayers, conservation authorities, property owners, farmers, volunteers and community groups who are often left to manage invasive species after they have already been introduced, sold, planted, escaped cultivation and spread;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through the Invasive Species Act, 2015, which allows species to be listed as prohibited or restricted, and which can make it illegal to import, possess, transport, propagate, buy, sell, lease or trade listed invasive species; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS the concern is not with plants that are already clearly prohibited or restricted, but with invasive species and seeds and nursery stock that may

continue to be sold or distributed before modernized provincial rules, public guidance and retail practices have fully caught up with current science and local experience;

AND WHEREAS garden centres, nurseries, landscape suppliers, seed distributors, online retailers, landscapers and residents all have an important role to play in preventing the spread of invasive plants before they become a costly municipal and environmental problem;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead program promotes native and non-invasive alternatives for healthy, diverse and wildlife-friendly gardens, and its updated Southern Ontario guide includes additional invasive plants and alternatives to help residents, gardeners and landscapers make better choices; (Ontario Invasive Plant Council)

AND WHEREAS recent local reporting in Halton Hills has highlighted the importance of choosing native alternatives to invasive garden plants, including through Grow Native Halton and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead resources;

AND WHEREAS the continued sale and distribution of invasive ornamental plants undermine the work of municipalities, conservation authorities, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, local volunteers and residents who are investing time and taxpayer dollars to remove and manage these same species;

AND WHEREAS prevention at the point of sale is more cost-effective, more practical and more respectful of taxpayers than asking municipalities and property owners to pay for removal after invasive species have spread across property lines and municipal boundaries;

AND WHEREAS invasive plants do not recognize municipal boundaries, and effective prevention requires coordinated action by the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, municipalities, conservation authorities, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, the nursery and landscape sector, retailers, landowners and residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Halton Hills respectfully request that the Province of Ontario, in consultation with municipalities, AMO, ROMA, conservation authorities, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, the nursery and landscape sector, garden centres and other relevant stakeholders, undertake a review and modernization of Ontario's invasive plant regulatory framework;

AND FURTHER THAT this review include consideration of expanding and regularly updating the list of prohibited and restricted invasive plant species, including invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species,

seeds and nursery stock that pose a risk to Ontario's natural heritage, agriculture, municipal infrastructure, parks, trails, roadsides, stormwater systems and private property;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to prohibit the sale, distribution, propagation and trade of listed invasive plant species through garden centres, nurseries, landscaping suppliers, online retailers, seed distributors and other commercial pathways;

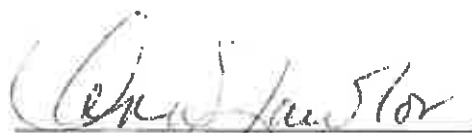
AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to develop clear labelling, public education and retailer guidance requirements so that residents, gardeners, landscapers and retailers can easily identify invasive species and choose native or non-invasive alternatives;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to work with the nursery, garden centre and landscape sectors on a practical transition plan that supports compliance, protects small businesses, promotes native and non-invasive alternatives, and prevents invasive plants from continuing to enter communities through ordinary consumer purchases;

AND FURTHER THAT the Government of Canada be requested to review and strengthen, where appropriate, federal import, border, labelling and online sales rules related to invasive plants, seeds and nursery stock entering Canada, so that provincial prevention efforts are not undermined by interprovincial or international trade;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada be requested to support municipalities, conservation authorities and community partners with stronger prevention tools, updated science-based lists, public education materials and funding programs that prioritize prevention over costly long-term control and removal;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Halton-area MPs and MPPs, the Region of Halton, HRFA, OFA, Conservation Halton, Credit Valley Conservation, Grand River Conservation Authority, AMO, ROMA, FCM, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Landscape Ontario, the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.



Mayor Ann Lawlor



**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

July 8, 2026

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
College Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026**

Hon. Rob Flack,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Springwater.

**Resolution No: 2026-07-08-13**  
**Moved by: Councillor Keller**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Banks**

**“Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Township of Springwater’s resolution regarding Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026 as attached.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, County of Renfrew, and all municipalities in Ontario.”

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



[www.springwater.ca](http://www.springwater.ca)

**2231 Nursery Road  
Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 1A8 Canada**

May 7, 2026

Sent via email: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
College Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026**

Please be advised that at its Regular meeting on May 6, 2026, Council of the Township of Springwater passed the following resolution:

**Resolution C203-2026**

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Cabral  
Seconded by: Councillor Moore

Whereas Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, proposes significant changes to the governance structure of upper-tier regional municipalities, including the County of Simcoe; and,

Whereas the proposed legislation would authorize the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to appoint the Warden of the County of Simcoe, rather than maintaining the longstanding practice of selection by County Council; and,

Whereas the County of Simcoe is comprised of 16 member municipalities, each represented at County Council, forming a governance model rooted in local representation and accountability to residents; and,

Whereas residents expect that those exercising authority over local decision-making are accountable to the communities they serve, and not appointed by or primarily aligned with the provincial government; and,

Whereas Bill 100 proposes a reduction in County Council composition and introduces the potential for provincially regulated weighted voting, creating uncertainty regarding equitable representation among member municipalities; and,

Phone: 705-728-4784  
Ext. 2304

Clerk's Department

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[www.springwater.ca](http://www.springwater.ca)

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Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 1A8 Canada**

**Whereas the Province has indicated its intention to extend "Strong Chair" powers to the Warden of the County of Simcoe, thereby concentrating decision-making authority in a single office; and,**

**Whereas such concentration of authority may alter the balance of municipal governance and reduce the role of council-based decision-making; and,**

**Whereas the introduction of Strong Chair powers at the upper-tier level may give rise to governance challenges where alignment between the Head of Council, Council, and the communities they serve is not maintained; and,**

**Whereas municipal professional associations have cautioned that such a governance model may place senior municipal staff in a difficult position that may undermine their neutrality and professionalism, and there continues uncertainty and concern among residents regarding the concentration of authority in a single office and the reduced role of councils; and,**

**Whereas the Township of Springwater has previously expressed opposition to the expansion of "Strong Mayor" powers and has consistently supported transparent, accountable, and locally driven governance structures that respect the role of elected councils and reflect the interests of residents.**

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:**

**The Council of the Township of Springwater opposes Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, in its current form; and,**

**That Council opposes the appointment of the Warden of the County of Simcoe by the Province, and affirms that the Warden should continue to be selected through a process that ensures accountability to the residents of Simcoe County; and,**

**That Council opposes the extension of "Strong Chair" powers to the Warden of the County of Simcoe, given the significant shift in governance authority and its potential impacts on local democracy, council function, and municipal administration; and,**

**That Council expresses concern regarding the potential introduction of provincially regulated weighted voting rules, and the absence of a clearly defined framework ensuring fair and equitable representation for all member municipalities; and,**

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That the Government of Ontario be requested to amend Bill 100 to preserve local democratic authority, maintain council-based governance structures, and ensure that upper-tier municipal leadership remains accountable to local councils and communities; and,

That the Government of Ontario be further requested to undertake meaningful consultation with affected municipalities, including the County of Simcoe and its 16 member municipalities, prior to advancing any legislative or regulatory changes impacting municipal governance; and,

That this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the County of Simcoe, and all Ontario municipalities, for their consideration; and,

That this resolution also be shared with local media outlets to reflect community concerns and to clearly communicate the Township of Springwater's position to its residents.

**Carried**

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Renée Ainsworth'.

**Renée Ainsworth**

**Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Corporate Services**

[renee.ainsworth@springwater.ca](mailto:renee.ainsworth@springwater.ca)

cc. Simcoe County Council, [clerks@simcoe.ca](mailto:clerks@simcoe.ca)  
Association of Ontario Municipalities [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)  
Members of Provincial Parliament  
All Ontario Municipalities

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Clerk's Department

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**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

August 5, 2026

**RE: Support for Sustainable Funding for Public Health Units**

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County.

**Resolution No: 2026-08-05-04**  
**Moved by: Councillor Quade**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Banks**

**"Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Prince Edward County's resolution regarding Sustainable Funding for Public Health Units.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, and all municipalities in Ontario."

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



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May 29, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 26, 2026 the following resolution seeking support for sustainable funding for Public Health Units was carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-244**

**DATE: May 26, 2026**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Nleman**

**WHEREAS** Ontario public health units and agencies provide a vital service to Ontarians that keeps people healthy, out of hospitals and out of the acute care system;

**WHEREAS** rural-urban equity in Ontario's public healthcare delivery is essential for a thriving provincial economy that keeps people at work and contributing;

**WHEREAS** Ontario's public health units & agencies sector has received a mere 1% in its annual budget increase from Queen's Park since 2018, a sum significantly below inflation and real-world cost increases;

**WHEREAS** public health faces steadily increasing demands, such as a 231% increase in respiratory outbreaks supported in Ontario's long-term care homes, hospitals, and retirement homes since 2018, as well as a 637% increase in Infection Prevention & Control complaints follow-ups;

**WHEREAS** according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), municipalities across Ontario spend close to \$4 billion on health despite receiving less than \$2 billion in provincial grants, and Canada's Constitution Act 1867 clearly asserts provincial responsibility for health;

**WHEREAS** Ontario consistently ranks at the bottom for provincial health spending per capita, at \$876 below the average of other provinces using 2022-2023 data;

**WHEREAS** 60% of Ontario's hospitals are overwhelmed and in dire operating deficits, yet the Canadian Public Health Association asserts that investment in Ontario public health's preventative and health promotion initiatives delivers a 4:1 return on investment, for example, for every dollar spent on upstream public health vaccine immunization of children, \$16 in downstream hospital and primary health care costs are saved;



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**WHEREAS** municipalities are being asked to shoulder an escalating percentage of public health unit costs while also asked to solve complex social determinates of health such as rural homelessness and food Insecurity but with limited revenue tools;

**WHEREAS** the province and federal governments continue to collect significant revenue from local/municipal property transactions through the Land Transfer Tax and Goods & Services Tax;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward requests:

1. **THAT** the Provincial Government redistribute a portion of the Land Transfer Tax to municipalities to address public health funding gaps and the rising % share of municipal contributions to public health units;
2. **THAT** when the province announces its new Ontario Public Health Standards, It also commits to minimum annual funding increases tied to Ontario's consumer price inflation, currently holding at 2.4%;
3. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Bay of Quinte Member of Parliament, Chris Malette, and Member of Provincial Parliament, Tyler Allsop; and
4. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Yours truly,

Catalina Blumenberg, CLERK

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Nieman

August 13, 2026

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

**Re: Town of Ingersoll Resolution - Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax**

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on August 10, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution # 2026-229**

**Moved by Councillor Eus; seconded by Councillor Haliru**

**THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll receive the correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax;

**AND THAT** Council support the resolution regarding Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax;

**AND THAT** the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries and the provincial government.

**CARRIED**

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

*Julie Clayton*

Julie Clayton  
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All municipalities in Ontario



**Date:** 10 June 2026 20

**Moved By:** Councillor Mike Vasey

**Seconded By:** Councillor John van Klaveren

*That Council Support correspondence item 'h' from Prince Edward County regarding Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax.*

✓                                          

Carried Defeated Deferred

|                   | Yay                      | Nay                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gary L. Atkinson  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Netty McEwen      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Alex Boughen      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kristen Rodrigues | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John van Klaveren | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mike Vasey        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bob Woolvett      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



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May 18, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 12, 2026 the following resolution regarding exploring the feasibility of a Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax was carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-207**

**DATE: May 12, 2026**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Braney**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Engelsdorfer**

**WHEREAS** the vitality of Prince Edward County's main streets is essential to the economic, social, and cultural health of our community;

**WHEREAS** there are numerous long-term vacant commercial storefronts, which detracts from the character of the community, reduces pedestrian traffic, discourages business investment, and negatively impacts the viability of surrounding small businesses;

**WHEREAS** the current Municipal Act, 2001 does not provide municipalities with the explicit legal authority to implement a "Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax," although other jurisdictions are actively advocating for such tools to address similar challenges;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward:

1. **THAT** staff be directed to report back to Council on the feasibility of implementing a Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax, including an analysis of the necessary provincial legislative changes required, recommendations for stakeholder consultation, and to concurrently explore potential enforceable mechanisms available under current legislation;
2. **THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward hereby requests that the Government of Ontario amend the Municipal Act, 2001 to grant Ontario municipalities the permissive authority to implement a "Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax" or similar levy to encourage the productive use of long-term vacant retail properties;
3. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Premier of Ontario, and the Member of Provincial Parliament representing the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward for their immediate consideration; and



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4. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

**CARRIED**

Yours truly,

Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Braney, Councillor Engelsdorfer



August 13, 2026

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

**Re: Town of Ingersoll Resolution - Extending the Deadline for Notice of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties**

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on August 10, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution # 2026-228**

**Moved by Councillor Eus; seconded by Councillor Haliru**

**THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll receive the correspondence from the Municipality of Kincardine regarding Extending the Deadline for Notice of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties;

**AND THAT** Council support the resolution to extend the deadline for notice of intention to designate listed heritage properties;

**AND THAT** the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries and the provincial government.

**CARRIED**

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

*Julie Clayton*

Julie Clayton  
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All municipalities in Ontario



## Council Meeting

**Motion #** 06/24/26 - 15  
**Title:** Extend Deadline for Notice of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 24, 2026

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**Moved by:** Beth Blackwell  
**Seconded by:** Jennifer Prenger

Whereas amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

Whereas the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine currently has 155 properties listed on the Municipal Heritage Register; and

Whereas municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas many municipalities do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine Heritage Kincardine Committee, at its meeting of June 16, 2026 recommended that Council advocate to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline; now therefore be it Resolved that:

1. The Council of the Municipality of Kincardine endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Kincardine Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers; and
2. The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and
3. This resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

**'Carried'**

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Clerk