



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: June 26th, 2023**

Correspondence Package No. I-23-JUN-12

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-23-JUN-12 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Province of Ontario

- a) Governments of Canada and Ontario Invest Over \$71 Million to Bring High-Speed Internet Access to more than 22,000 Homes in 74 Communities Across Eastern Ontario
- b) Ontario Attracts Historic Number of People to Skilled Trades
- c) Ontario Breaks Ground on Long-Term Care Homes in Pembroke and Peterborough
- d) Ontario Building Resilient Economy to Attract Investments and Jobs
- e) Ontario Expanding Access to French-Language Nursing Programs
- f) Ontario Expanding Strong Mayor Powers to Build More Homes Faster
- g) Ontario Offering Free Fishing on Father's Day Weekend
- h) Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government Working to Strengthen Communities

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Release Refresh of Paramedic Services Regional Report
- b) Notice to Residents in Relation to Weeds for 2023

3. Correspondence from the Arnprior Regional Hospital

- a) [The Hospital Launches Electronic Patient Experience Survey for Timely Feedback](#)

4. Correspondence from the Renfrew County & District Health Unit

- a) [RCDHU Renfrew Area Services – Temporary Relocation](#)
- b) [Special Air Quality Statement](#)

5. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) [Watch File – June 8th, 2023](#)
- b) [Watch File – June 15th, 2023](#)

NEWS RELEASE

Governments of Canada and Ontario invest over \$71 million to bring high-speed internet access to more than 22,000 homes in 74 communities across eastern Ontario

Rural communities to benefit from increased connectivity to high-speed internet

June 15, 2023

[Infrastructure](#)

All Canadians need reliable and affordable high-speed internet, no matter where they live. That is why the governments of Canada and Ontario are taking action to bring high-speed internet access to underserved communities across Ontario.

Today, the Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development, together with the Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario's Minister of Infrastructure, and Goldie Ghamari, Member of Provincial Parliament for Carleton, announced over \$71 million in combined federal and provincial funding for Bell Canada and Cogeco to bring high-speed internet access to more than 22,000 homes in [74 rural communities across eastern Ontario](#).

The projects being announced today are part of an existing partnership between Ontario and Canada. On July 29, 2021, the governments [announced a Canada–Ontario broadband partnership](#) to support large-scale, fibre-based projects that will provide high-speed internet access to more than 280,000 homes across the province. This historic agreement was made possible by a joint federal-provincial investment totalling more than \$1.2 billion.

Today's announcement builds on the Government of Canada's progress toward ensuring that 98 per cent of Canadians have access to high-speed internet by 2026, and 100 per cent by 2030. The announcement also brings the Government of Ontario closer to achieving its goal of bringing reliable high-speed internet access to every community by the end of 2025.

Quick Facts

- [Canada's Connectivity Strategy](#) aims to provide all Canadians with access to internet speeds of at least 50 megabits per second (Mbps) download / 10 Mbps upload.

- The [Universal Broadband Fund](#) is a \$3.225 billion investment by the Government of Canada designed to help provide high-speed internet access to 98 per cent of Canadians by 2026 and achieve the national target of 100 per cent access by 2030.
- Today, 93.5 per cent of Canadian households have access to high-speed internet, compared to just 79 per cent in 2014.
- The Ontario government is investing nearly \$4 billion to bring access to reliable high-speed internet to every community across the province by the end of 2025. This is the largest single investment in high-speed internet in any province, by any government in Canadian history.
- As of June 2023, Ontario has finalized agreements totalling more than \$2.3 billion for nearly 200 high-speed internet and cellular projects across the province.
- Ontario launched a new [interactive online map](#) that shows where provincially funded high-speed internet projects are planned, are currently under way or have been recently completed in communities across the province. Ontarians can use the map to search by address, community or municipality, learn about projects happening in their area, and find out where high-speed internet service is currently available.
- In 2021, Ontario passed the [Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act, 2021](#) to help speed up construction of high-speed internet projects. To build upon this legislation, the Ontario government passed the [Getting Ontario Connected Act, 2022](#), which further reduces barriers, duplication and delays.

Quotes

"We all know that internet is no longer a luxury—it's a necessity. That's why our government made a historic commitment to connect 98 per cent of Canadians to high-speed internet by 2026. Today's announcement in Osgoode marks a significant milestone for internet connectivity in rural Ontario. This investment will provide reliable and affordable high-speed internet access through Bell and Cogeco to more than 22,000 underserved homes in 74 small communities across Carleton and eastern Ontario."

**- The Honourable Gudie Hutchings
Minister of Rural Economic Development**

"The Ontario government is ensuring that every community across the province has access to reliable high-speed internet by the end of 2025. By working together with our federal partners, we are increasing access to high-speed internet for communities province-wide, including right here in Osgoode. We are ensuring that no one will be left behind."

**- The Honourable Kinga Surma
Ontario's Minister of Infrastructure**

"We are proud to partner with the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario to expand our all-fibre broadband network to even more communities across eastern Ontario. Our fast and reliable internet connections help people in rural and remote communities stay connected while at home and at work. Through our own fully funded investments and through partnerships like this, Bell continues to deliver on our purpose of advancing how Canadians connect with each other and the world."

**- Bruce Furlong
SVP Network, Bell Canada**

"We are extremely proud to make our first expansion into the townships of Frontenac Islands and South Frontenac. Thanks to this partnership with the governments of Canada and Ontario, more residents and businesses in these municipalities, as well as the City of Kingston, will have access to our fibre-powered network. It's investments like this that contribute to our shared goal of reducing the digital divide, ensuring all Ontarians have access to high-speed internet."

**- Matt Wickham
Vice President and General Manager, Customer Experience and B2B,
Cogeco**

Additional Resources

- [Governments of Canada and Ontario invest over \\$71 million to bring high-speed internet access to more than 22,000 homes](https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1003160/governments-of-canada-and-ontario-invest-over-71-million-to-bring-high-speed-internet-access-to-more-than-22000-homes-in-74-communities-across-eastern-ontario)
- [Universal Broadband Fund](#)

- [Backgrounder: Universal Broadband Fund and Telesat low Earth orbit capacity agreement](#)
- [Canada Infrastructure Bank: Broadband](#)
- [High-Speed Access for All: Canada's Connectivity Strategy](#)
- [High-Speed Internet Access Dashboard](#)
- [National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map](#)
- [Ontario connects: making high-speed Internet accessible in every community](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Attracts Historic Number of People to Skilled Trades

Apprenticeship registrations increased by a record 24 per cent last year

June 13, 2023

[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

OTTAWA — The Ontario government has increased apprenticeship registrations by 24 per cent in the last year – from 21,971 to 27,319 – as more people decide to pursue rewarding, well-paying careers in the skilled trades. In addition, the second year of the province's [highly popular skilled trades career fairs](#) for students will be expanding to even more cities around the province.

"As we build a stronger Ontario that works for everyone, we need to ensure students and jobseekers know about the rewarding life-long careers waiting for them in the skilled trades," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "There is as much merit in being an electrician or a carpenter as there is in being an architect or a lawyer. I'm thrilled more young people are waking up to the promise of good pay, pensions, and purpose-driven work that the skilled trades offer."

To help deliver the province's ambitious infrastructure plans, including building 1.5 million homes by 2031, Ontario will need over 100,000 new skilled trades workers this decade. The historic increase in apprenticeship registrations, including a 28 per cent jump among women, follows more than \$1 billion in investment in the skilled trades over three years, along with the launch of a new agency: [Skilled Trades Ontario](#).

"We are taking action across the board by making it easier for students to have apprenticeships, skills and credentials recognized towards their Diploma," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. "This builds on Ontario's recent decision to require all students to take at least one technological education course -- opening up the horizons and opportunities of all students into good-paying STEM and skilled careers."

To reduce the stigma related to the trades and make more students, teachers and parents aware of these life-changing opportunities, Ontario's skilled trades career fairs for students will be returning for the second year in a row and in more cities. More information on the 2023 fairs, cities, and dates will be announced later this summer.

"Now is the time to build a rewarding career in the skilled trades," said Melissa Young, CEO/Registrar of Skilled Trades Ontario.

"With record investments being made in infrastructure, we urgently need skilled workers to meet demand. Skilled Trades Ontario is thrilled to be partnering with the Ministry to promote these exciting opportunities, break down barriers and empower the next generation of skilled trades professionals to succeed."

Students in grades 7 to 12 will have the chance to learn about the 144 different skilled trades through interactive exhibitions and hands-on activities while hearing directly from tradespeople and local employers about these lucrative careers. Last year, 12,800 students, parents, friends, and teachers visited events in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, London, Mississauga, and Ottawa.

Quick Facts

- 1.3 million people are working in skilled trades-related occupations in Ontario.
 - At least one in three workers in Ontario with an apprenticeship or trade certificate is aged 55 or over and nearing retirement.
 - In total, there were 91,634 apprentices active in Ontario as of April 3, 2023.
 - This year, Ontario is supporting 95 new pre-apprenticeship program projects, which are free for participants and combine classroom training with on-the-job learning.
 - The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) now has more than 72 recruiters across 800 schools so students can learn about the skilled trades at a younger age.
-

Quotes

"The Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development is a vital partner for our Training Center. The financial support provided by MLITSD allows us to keep up with the demand for highly skilled and safe journeypersons. I look forward to the day when trades like Ironworker and Rodworker are household words that parents and their kids discuss as viable career paths."

- Kent MacDonald

Vice President/Training Coordinator, Ironworkers Local 765

"This increase in apprenticeship numbers represents a collaborative effort and strong determination in Ontario's approach to invest in our workforce and empower rewarding career paths in the skilled trades while strengthening the culture surrounding them. Members of LiUNA continue to move our province forward, building, maintaining and strengthening resilient infrastructure that keep our communities, economy and future of our province strong. The growth and retention of skilled apprenticeship is a testament to the ongoing commitment of labour, industry and government working together to remove barriers, streamline pathways in the industry and advance opportunity for a skilled workforce at the forefront of building Ontario."

- Victoria Mancinelli

Director Public Relations, Marketing, Strategic Partnerships, LiUNA

"Attracting new talent to the skilled trades is the first step in securing Ontario's infrastructure needs. Our Council will continue to work collaboratively with employers and government to strengthen construction apprenticeship training from registration to completion, in order to generate the next wave of skilled Journeypersons that our economy depends on."

- Marc Arsenault

Business Manager, Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario

"Apprenticeships are the foundation on which our entire skilled trades and construction sector is built on. Without them, Ontario does not have a future. I applaud the Ontario Government's dedication to growing apprenticeship numbers getting us back on track."

- Adam Melnick

Director of Canadian Affairs, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers

Additional Resources

- [Skilled Trades Ontario Portal](#)
- [Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fairs](#)
- [Pre-Apprenticeship Training](#)
- [Skills Development Fund](#)
- [Employment Ontario: Free Employment Services and Training Programs for Job Seekers, Workers and Employers](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Breaks Ground on Long-Term Care Homes in Pembroke and Peterborough

Redeveloped homes will bring 416 much-needed long-term care beds to the province

June 13, 2023

[Long-Term Care](#)

PETERBOROUGH — Construction is underway at Marianhill Nursing Home in Pembroke and Extendicare Peterborough in Peterborough. This is part of the Ontario government's \$6.4 billion commitment to build more than 30,000 new beds by 2028 and 28,000 upgraded long-term care beds across the province.

"Congratulations to Marianhill and Extendicare Peterborough on their ground-breakings for two redeveloped long-term care homes. Our government is fixing long-term care and a key part of that plan is building modern, safe and comfortable homes for our seniors," said Paul Calandra, Minister of Long-Term Care. "Today's construction starts represent significant milestones. When these two projects are completed, 416 residents will have a new place to call home, near their family and friends."

The redevelopment of Marianhill in Pembroke will be completed in three phases. The first phase is expected to start welcoming its first new residents in winter 2025, and the final phase welcoming residents in summer 2026. Once complete, the home will provide 160 modern long-term care beds in Pembroke and offer enhanced services for residents who need dementia care, behavioural supports and palliative care.

The development project for Extendicare Peterborough includes a new 256-bed building that is expected to welcome its first residents in fall 2025.

Both homes will feature design improvements, including larger resident common areas and air conditioning in all resident rooms. Both designs are centred around 'resident home areas' to create more intimate and familiar living spaces for up to 32 residents, with dining and activity areas, lounges and bedrooms.

The ministry's [Not-For-Profit Loan Guarantee Program](#) is enabling the redevelopment of Marianhill. Securing capital development loans has been a long-standing barrier faced by the not-for-profit long-term care sector. The program helps unlock lending and reduces borrowing costs for eligible non-municipal, not-for-profit long-term care development projects – and ensures that Ontario's seniors will have access to a range of choices for their long-term care needs.

In addition to projects like Marianhill and Extendicare Peterborough, Ontario is supporting another 10 projects in Renfrew and Peterborough Counties, for a total of 1,484 beds built to modern design standards.

The government is fixing long-term care to ensure Ontario's seniors get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve, both now and in the future. The plan is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

Quick Facts

- The Ontario government is on track to build 30,000 much-needed new long-term care beds in the province by 2028, and is redeveloping older beds to modern design standards. Through a \$6.4 billion investment, Ontario has 31,705 new and 28,648 upgraded beds in the planning, construction and opening stages of the development process. This will help increase overall bed capacity, address long-term care waitlists and hallway health care, and provide our seniors with the care they deserve.
- Building more modern, safe and comfortable homes for our seniors is part of the Government of Ontario's [Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021](#).
- The province is taking innovative steps to get long-term care homes built, including modernizing its funding model, selling unused lands with the requirement that long-term care homes be built on portions of the properties, and leveraging hospital-owned land to build urgently needed homes in large urban areas.
- The Ontario government is providing a supplemental increase to the construction funding subsidy to stimulate the start of construction by August 31, 2023 for more long-term care homes across the province, including Marianhill and Extendicare Peterborough. Not-for-profit homes have the option to receive a portion of the funding as an up-front construction grant payable at the start of construction. The supplemental increase is part of the [funding for long-term care home development](#).

- As of February 2023, more than 39,000 people were on the waitlist to access a long-term care bed in Ontario. The median wait time is 130 days for applicants to be placed in long-term care.

Quotes

"Our government has a plan to fix long-term care and ensure Ontario's seniors get the quality of care they need and deserve by investing \$6.4 billion to build and upgrade long-term care beds across the province. I am pleased Marianhill is part of this investment. The redevelopment of 160 long-term care beds, which includes an additional 29 beds, will directly benefit my constituents."

- John Yakabuski
MPP for Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke

"Thanks to the Government of Ontario's generous and innovative approach to funding long-term care across the province, as we phase in this redevelopment project over the next three years, our community will see one of Pembroke's most established long-term care homes increase in size from 131 to 160 resident beds, with improved standards throughout the facility."

- Linda M. Tracey
Chief Executive Officer, Marianhill Inc.

"There has been talk about upgrading the existing Extendicare facility for decades. Our government was the first government to get it done. We are building another state-of-the-art facility in our community."

- Dave Smith
MPP for Peterborough—Kawartha

"Extendicare has a 50-year history of operating long-term care homes in Ontario. With this project, we are building for the next 50. This new home will serve 256 residents in a modern care environment that will enhance care delivery and resident quality of life. Breaking ground today is the next step in our plans to redevelop all of our older homes across the province. We are deeply grateful to the Government of Ontario for its historic support of the long-term care sector and to the City of Peterborough for its ongoing partnership."

- Dr. Michael Guerriere
President and CEO, Extendicare

Additional Resources

[2023 Ontario Budget: Building a Strong Ontario](#)

[Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)

[Plan to Stay Open: Health System Stability and Recovery](#)

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STATEMENT

Ontario Building a Resilient Economy to Attract Investments and Jobs

Manufacturing jobs increased by 20,100 in May

June 09, 2023

[Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade](#)

TORONTO — Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, issued this statement following today's monthly employment release by Statistics Canada, which showed that while employment in Ontario decreased in May 2023, the manufacturing sector saw an increase of 20,100 jobs.

"At a time when the country is still facing inflationary pressures, our government continues to build a resilient economy that can weather any storm. Our targeted and responsible approach supports people and businesses today, while laying a strong foundation for the future. We're training a world-class workforce, cutting red tape and keeping taxes low, all of which are helping to attract new investments and jobs.

We continue to grow the province's manufacturing sector and build an end-to-end electric vehicle (EV) supply chain. Over the last two-and-a-half years alone, Ontario has attracted over \$25 billion in auto and EV battery-related investments, creating thousands of good-paying jobs.

As we continue to create more opportunities in the auto and manufacturing sectors, our government is investing in programs that will ensure workers can secure good-paying jobs. We recently announced an investment of [more than \\$4.7 million](#) to help over 360 technicians and jobseekers gain the skills they need to transition and launch their careers in the automotive manufacturing sector and emerging EV field.

No matter what the future may hold, Ontario will be ready with our plan to build a strong economy and a strong Ontario."

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Access to French-Language Nursing Programs

Collège Boréal to offer a new French-language bachelor nursing program at Sudbury and Toronto campuses

June 14, 2023

[Colleges and Universities](#)

TORONTO — As part of the Ontario government's plan to train more health care professionals, the province is expanding French-language nursing education, with the launch of Collège Boréal's new stand-alone four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at its Sudbury and Toronto campuses.

The new program will give French-speaking students more opportunities to learn closer to home in their primary language and help ensure the province's Francophone communities will be connected to the care they need, when they need it.

"By allowing Collège Boréal to offer a new stand-alone degree as well as expanding the number of practical nursing spaces, our government is addressing the urgent need for more nurses in Ontario while also offering more opportunity for French-language postsecondary education," said Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities. "The new degree and additional nursing spaces provide more choice for students when it comes to their education and reduce barriers to French-language education in Sudbury and Toronto, so they can go on to have rewarding careers while offering Ontarians the care they deserve."

"By building a new pathway for nursing training through Collège Boréal's stand-alone four-year Bachelor degree, Ontario's government strengthens its commitment to establishing a resilient and growing Francophone health care workforce," said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs. "We will continue to support the government's efforts to provide better access to services and the right care to Francophones in the language of their choice."

As of 2020, Ontario's colleges and universities can offer four-year, stand-alone nursing degrees without having to be in a collaborative nursing partnership. As of June 2023, 17 stand-alone Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree programs have

been approved by the ministry.

“With the launch of College Boréal’s new four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program as well as the addition of practical nursing spaces, French-speaking Ontarians in Northern and Southern Ontario will benefit from more health care workers practising in our health system,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “This important expansion is another part of our plan to connect people to the care they need, closer to home.”

In addition to the new bachelor nursing program, the Ontario government is providing up to \$630,000 to support an additional 70 practical nursing spaces at Collège Boréal for the 2023-24 school year.

“Collège Boréal is particularly proud of this new Bachelor of Science in Nursing, which represents a logical step in expanding the range of French-language post-secondary programs in Northern and Central-Southwestern Ontario,” said Daniel Giroux, President of Collège Boréal. “Thanks to this new bachelor’s degree, our institution is in a better position than ever to help alleviate the shortage of highly qualified healthcare workers capable of meeting the significant needs of French-speaking communities in both official languages.”

This milestone is part of a broader expansion of nursing education across the province, supported by [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#). The Ontario government is investing \$80 million in 2023-24 to increase enrolment in nursing education programs in publicly assisted colleges and universities, allocating 500 practical nursing and 1,000 Bachelor of Science in Nursing spaces across the province. This is in addition to the 1,500 nursing education spaces added in 2022-2023.

Quick Facts

- The new degree programs will launch in September 2024 in Toronto and Sudbury and will each have a cohort of 16 students per year.
- The stand-alone Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program offers training for students who are planning to become registered nurses (RNs) and the practical nursing spaces offer training for students who are planning to become registered practical nurses (RPNs).
- To become a registered nurse in Ontario (and be registered with the College of Nurses of Ontario), individuals must obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

- The Ontario government's [Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#) focuses on providing people with a better health care experience by connecting them to more convenient options closer to home while growing the health care workforce for years to come.
- Since 2018, over 60,000 new nurses and nearly 8,000 new doctors have registered to work in Ontario. 2022 was a record-breaking year for new nurses in Ontario with over 12,000 new nurses registered and another 30,000 nursing students studying at an Ontario college or university.
- Applications are now open for the Ontario Learn and Stay Grant. The grant provides full, upfront funding for tuition, books and other costs for first-year postsecondary students who enrol in an eligible nursing, paramedic or medical laboratory technologist program and agree to stay in priority communities to work after graduation.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario's new pathway for nursing education](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)

Related Topics

Education and Training

Learn about Ontario's early years, education and training systems. Includes information on child care, elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges, universities, skills training and financial aid. [Learn more](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Strong Mayor Powers to Build More Homes Faster

New tools expanded to mayors in 26 fast-growing municipalities

June 16, 2023

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is expanding strong mayor powers to the mayors of 26 large and fast-growing municipalities that have committed to a housing pledge as part of the province's work to build 1.5 million homes by 2031.

The announcement was made by Steve Clark, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, during today's meeting of the Ontario Big City Mayors. Strong mayor powers for Toronto and Ottawa took effect in the Fall of 2022 and will be expanded to mayors in the 26 [additional municipalities](#) on July 1, 2023.

"Municipalities are critical partners for our government as we help communities get shovels in the ground faster and work to build more homes," said Minister Clark.

"By adopting ambitious and absolutely necessary housing pledges, these 26 municipalities have demonstrated they understand the importance of that target, and we are ensuring they have the tools they need to succeed. We welcome housing pledges from other municipalities to help reach our goal of 1.5 million homes by 2031."

Strong mayor powers offer tools to help heads of council cut red tape and speed up the delivery of key shared municipal-provincial priorities such as housing, transit and infrastructure in their municipalities. These enhanced powers will also bring increased accountability for local leaders, while checks and balances maintain the important oversight role of councillors. For example, council may override the mayor's veto of by-laws or budget amendments with a two-thirds majority vote.

Strong mayor powers and duties include:

- Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer
- Hiring certain municipal department heads, and establishing and re-organizing departments

- Creating committees of council, assigning their functions and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council
- Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process
- Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority
- Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority

"Ontario's Big City Mayors back the province's goal of building 1.5 million homes by 2031, and all of our members have accepted their housing pledge in support of that target," said Marianne Meed Ward, Chair of OBCM and Mayor of Burlington. "Different communities require different tools and approaches to address local housing needs, and strong mayor powers are one such tool that can help mayors and municipalities meet their housing targets. We're committed to continue working with the province to build the homes our residents need."

"Today's announcement by the provincial government providing strong mayor powers for Ontario's largest and fastest-growing cities comes at a time when mayors need every tool to advance work on housing pledges and meet new challenges," said Cam Guthrie, Mayor of Guelph and past chair of OBCM. "Although strong mayor powers may not be required in all contexts to reach our collective housing goals, our citizens expect results – and tools such as this can help us achieve them."

These measures will support municipalities as they work to meet their commitments and support the construction of the new homes their residents need and deserve.

Quick Facts

- Ontario has made [significant progress in tackling the housing supply crisis](#) with a [range of innovative actions](#) to increase housing supply. In 2022, housing starts in the province surpassed 96,000 – the second-highest number since 1988 and 30 per cent higher than the annual average for the past 20 years. Rental housing construction improved as well, with 2022 setting a new record of nearly 15,000 starts.
- The 26 additional municipalities that would be designated as part of the strong mayor framework are single- or lower-tier municipalities with a population over

100,000, or growing to 100,000 by 2031, that have submitted a housing pledge to the province.

- The 28 municipalities that will have strong mayor powers as of July 1, 2023, have collectively pledged to build 1,217,000 units by 2031 – more than 81 per cent of the provincial target of 1.5 million homes.
- The strong mayor by-law powers could only be used to support [prescribed provincial priorities](#): Building 1.5 million new homes by 2031 to address the housing supply crisis, and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure, such as transit and roads, to support new and existing housing development.
- Existing municipal accountability frameworks continue to apply to heads of council with strong mayor powers, including conflict of interest rules.

Additional Resources

- [Additional 26 municipalities in which mayors would be provided with strong mayor powers](#)
- [Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act](#)
- [Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants](#)
- [Ontario Announces Intent to Dissolve Peel Region](#)
- [Ontario's Housing Supply Progress](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Offering Free Fishing on Father's Day Weekend

Fish for free across Ontario June 17-18

June 15, 2023

[Natural Resources and Forestry](#)

Fishing with your family is a great way to celebrate Dad – and you can fish for free this Father's Day weekend.

"Fishing is a great family pastime," said Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. "With fishing being free this Father's Day weekend, it's a great time to get out on one of Ontario's lakes or rivers and enjoy this wonderful sport."

Right now, you can fish for many species, including yellow perch, common carp, northern pike, lake trout and walleye. Be sure to follow all limits on how many fish you can keep and some waterbodies have exceptions. More information is available in the [Fishing Regulations Summary](#).

If you are fishing for free during this period, you must follow all conservation license catch limits and carry ID issued by the provincial or federal government, showing your name and date of birth.

Quick Facts

- To celebrate Canada Day next month, you can fish for free during Family Fishing Week (July 1-9).
 - Outside of free fishing periods, most Canadians 18 and older, but under the age of 65 must have an Outdoors Card and a fishing licence to fish in Ontario.
 - Veterans and active Canadian Armed Forces members living in Ontario can enjoy free recreational fishing in the province any time of year.
 - Approximately 1.2 million licensed anglers spend \$1.75 billion each year on recreational fishing in Ontario.
-

Additional Resources

[What You Need to Know about Free Family Fishing](#)

[Fishing in Ontario](#)

[Find a new fishing spot using Fish ON-Line](#)

[Guide to eating Ontario fish](#)

Related Topics

Rural and North

Information about the province's Far North and rural communities. Get connected to business improvement organizations and learn more about funding and programs that support rural, northern and Indigenous communities. [Learn more](#)

Travel and Recreation

Learn more about hunting and fishing, provincial parks, festivals and events, and visiting Ontario. [Learn more](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government Working to Strengthen Communities

June 07, 2023

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

Ottawa, ON – The Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government held their annual meeting in Ottawa this week and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting local governments, collaborating on shared priorities, and building strong and vibrant communities.

The Ministers discussed key policy changes and innovations occurring in their respective jurisdictions to advance their shared priorities, including local governance, planning for climate change adaptation and associated local infrastructure, and increasing housing supply as well as local services to support growth.

“It was a pleasure to welcome my fellow Ministers responsible for Local Government to Ottawa,” said Steve Clark, Ontario’s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and 2022-23 Chair of the Provincial-Territorial Table of Ministers Responsible for Local Government. “This was an excellent opportunity for us to learn from each other, reflect on our experiences, and discuss best practices which will allow provinces and territories to advance key shared priorities, including increased housing supply.”

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Federal Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, attended part of the meeting at the invitation of PT ministers. The Provincial and Territorial Ministers reaffirmed their shared Principles Underlying Federal Government Initiatives Regarding Municipalities. These Principles include reinforcing the importance of predictable federal infrastructure funding. Ministers took the opportunity to remind their federal counterpart of the need for formal consultation and engagement with PTs on federal initiatives and programs that impact local governments.

“Provincial and territorial governments will continue to advocate on behalf of our local partners and work with the federal government to ensure we have the necessary resources and tools required to overcome any challenges,” said Minister

Clark.

The Provincial and Territorial Ministers also identified common priorities for the year ahead. These include climate change adaptation, addressing growth and sustainability and infrastructure funding.

The next Provincial and Territorial Ministers meeting will be held in June 2024 and chaired by the Honourable Krista Lynn Howell, Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs. "I look forward to welcoming colleagues to our province in June 2024 to discuss current and emerging priorities and our shared work to build strong, sustainable communities," said Minister Howell.

* Alberta could not take a position in any decisions because of the current transitional period following its election; however, it was represented at this meeting as an observer.

Related Topics

Environment and Energy

Learn more about how Ontario protects and restores wildlife and the environment. Includes information on conservation and the electricity system. [Learn more](#)

Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works. [Learn more](#)

Home and Community

Information for families on major life events and care options, including marriage, births and child care. Also includes planning resources for municipalities. [Learn more](#)

Media Contacts

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Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus releases refresh of Paramedic Services Regional Report

Posted on Thursday, June 15, 2023



RELEASE DATE:

May 24, 2023

EASTERN ONTARIO - The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) is proud to release the Partial Refresh of the 2019 EOWC Paramedic Services Situation Overview Report.

The EOWC set paramedic services as a priority for 2023 in response to the growing pressure faced by paramedic services throughout the region. The report includes updated data for both the EOWC as a region as well as each of the 13 member municipalities following the initial EOWC paramedic services situational overview report from 2019. The EOWC looks forward to sharing the report, key findings and recommendations with its Ontario Government partners and key stakeholders to work together to improve paramedics services, community paramedicine and the overall community healthcare across rural eastern Ontario.

The report contains an updated environmental scan, new five-year predictive forecasts, and the following priority recommendations:

1. Hospital offload delays need to be fixed
2. Community paramedicine programs require a provincial commitment to permanent and predictable funding
3. The dispatch system needs to be modernized to ensure the deployment of resources appropriate to 911 response, and to support community paramedicine
4. Community college paramedic enrolment needs to increase

"As part of the community healthcare sector, paramedic services carried communities throughout the pandemic. The EOWC likes to do our homework and this report shows exactly that. We look forward to advocating for these evidence-based recommendations and working with our provincial partners to make improvements," stated EOWC Chair Peter Emon.

"As a former nurse, I am proud to be part of finding solutions based on data and would like thank staff that were involved. This report sheds light on what needs to be done to better support our rural communities and find efficiencies in the healthcare system. I look forward to continuing to advocate for improved healthcare systems and resource allocation," said EOWC Vice-Chair Bonnie Clark.

The EOWC recognizes contributions from the Paramedic Services Chiefs, Chief Administrative Officers, and municipal staff from across the region. The EOWC would like to thank ApexPro Consulting Inc. for their services in developing both the initial report in 2019 and this 2023 refreshed report.

The refreshed report is available on the EOWC website:
www.eowc.org/2023paramedicstudy

About the EOWC

The EOWC is an incorporated non-profit organization comprised of the Heads of Council of 13 upper and single-tier municipalities across rural eastern Ontario. The Caucus supports and advocates on behalf of 103 municipalities and nearly 800,000 residents. The EOWC covers an area of almost 50,000 square kilometres from the County of Northumberland to the Québec border. The EOWC has gained support and momentum by speaking with a united voice to champion regional municipal priorities and work with government, business leaders, the media, and the public.

For more information, please contact:

EOWC General and Media Inquiries, info@eowc.org

Peter Emon, Chair, info@eowc.org.

Bonnie Clark, Vice-Chair, info@eowc.org

Meredith Staveley-Watson, Manager of Government Relations and Policy,
meredith.staveley-watson@eowc.org or 647-545-8324

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[1-800-273-0183](tel:1-800-273-0183), Fax: [613-735-2081](tel:613-735-2081) | [Staff Login](#) | [Staff Email](#)

By [GHD Digital](http://www.esolutionsgroup.ca) (<http://www.esolutionsgroup.ca>).



Notice to residents in relation to weeds for 2023

Posted on Monday, June 05, 2023



Wild parsnip is on the list of noxious weeds that must be destroyed by Renfrew County residents prior to July 7, 2023.

The main purpose of the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990 is to reduce the impact of noxious weeds on the industries of agriculture and horticulture. This Act excludes lawns, gardens and private areas for personal enjoyment and leisure.

Under the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 13, 16, 18 and 23, you are requested to destroy all noxious weeds and weed seeds on your property by July 7, 2023 and throughout the season. Sections 3, 13, 16, 18 and 23 do not apply to noxious weeds that are far enough away from any land used for agricultural or horticultural purposes, as they do not interfere with that use.

After July 7, 2023, the County of Renfrew Weed Inspector may enter upon the said lands and may cause any noxious weeds discovered to be destroyed, charging the cost against the land, as set out in the Act.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE NOXIOUS WEEDS: Common Barberry, Dodder spp., Wild Parsnip, Cypress Spurge, Smooth Bedstraw, Dog-Strangling Vine, Poison Hemlock, Leafy Spurge, European Buckthorn, Dog-Strangling Vine-Black, Poison-ivy, Bull Thistle, Wild Chervil, Jointed Goatgrass, Ragweed spp., Canada Thistle, Colt's-foot, Giant Hogweed, Tansy Ragwort, Serrated Tussock, Common Crupina, Knapweed spp., Sow-Thistle spp., Woolly Cupgrass and Kudzu.

For more information contact:

Richard Bolduc, Area Weed Inspector

County of Renfrew

9 International Drive

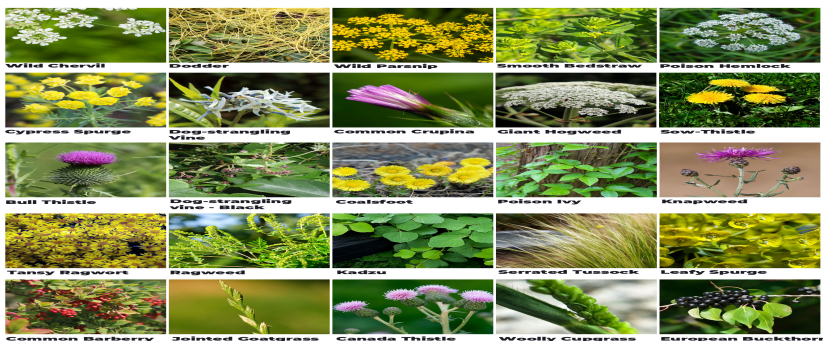
Pembroke ON

K8A 6W5

Phone: 613-732-4353

Fax: 613-735-2081

Noxious Weeds



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By GHD Digital (<http://www.esolutionsgroup.ca>).

The Hospital launches electronic Patient Experience Survey for timely feedback

June 9, 2023 – Beginning Monday, June 12, our team will ask patients one extra question when they go through the Hospital registration process. We are collecting patients' email addresses to invite them to complete an electronic Patient Experience Survey that replaces our paper-based survey.

Arnprior Regional Health (ARH) surveys patients who receive care in its Emergency Department, Day Surgery, and Inpatient Unit as an opportunity to improve the quality of care and overall patient experience.

Electronic surveys have become the standard practice across most industries, and they are becoming more prevalent in the healthcare sector to gather patient feedback in a cost-effective, timely way. Through this transition, we will no longer mail out paper surveys. Instead, our new electronic Patient Experience Survey will be sent to patients via email with an embedded link in the email that brings them directly to the survey.

The advantages of our electronic Patient Experience Survey include the following:

- Patients can receive the survey promptly while their experience is fresh, potentially increasing the response rate and The Hospital's ability to get results quicker.
- Patients can complete it anywhere, anytime.
- Emails do not get physically lost (while the current mailed surveys have a degree of risk of not making it to the patient).
- They offer the ability to customize the questions further to capture specific feedback.

"Patient surveys are an important feedback tool for our clinical teams that keep us accountable to our patients and serve as an integral part of our commitment to continuous quality improvement," said Raeline McGrath, VP, Patient Services, and Chief Nurse Executive. "The move to an electronic survey offers patients and our team many benefits, and our hope is it will support an increase in timely responses so we can enhance the patient experience."

ARH partnered with Qualtrics to administer the Patient Experience survey based on guidance from the Ontario Health Association and to remain consistent with our regional hospital partners. Qualtrics offers patients a user-friendly survey experience that is confidential, anonymous, and secure.

Learn more [here](#).



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 9:00 a.m., June 13, 2023)

RCDHU Renfrew Area Services – Temporary Relocation

Public access to the Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) Renfrew Office, at 450 O'Brien Road, will no longer be available as of June 22, 2023. As of today, the Renfrew area services are temporarily relocated as follows:

- Private water sample drop-off and pick-up: Renfrew Town Hall, 127 Raglan Street South, Renfrew.
- Tick specimen drop-off: RCDHU Pembroke office, 141 Lake Street, Pembroke.
- Parent Child Wellness Clinics: Renfrew EarlyON Centre, 115 Veteran's Memorial Boulevard, Renfrew, by appointment. To book an appointment, please contact 613-735-9774 or 1-800-267-1097 ext. 589, or familyhealth@rcdhu.com.
- Immunization services: Renfrew Public Library, 13 Railway Ave, Renfrew, by appointment. To book an appointment, please call 613-732-9436 or 1-877-773-0004.

RCDHU is preparing for the opening of the new Renfrew Service Hub at the Renfrew Town Hall building. More information will be announced in the coming weeks.

For information on accessing all RCDHU programs and services, please visit www.rcdhu.com or call 613-732-3629. Faxes can be sent to 613-735-3067.

To stay connected, visit www.rcdhu.com and continue to monitor RCDHU social media accounts.

- 30 -

Renfrew County and District Health Unit
Fax: 613-735-3067
media@rcdhu.com
www.rcdhu.com



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 1:45 p.m., June 5, 2023)

Special Air Quality Statement

A special air quality statement has been issued for Renfrew County and District by Environment Canada. Smoke plumes from local forest fires as well as forest fires in Quebec have resulted in reduced visibility and deteriorating air quality.

Renfrew County and District Health Unit reminds residents that those at greater risk of health-related problems when exposed to wildfire smoke include older adults, pregnant people, infants and young children, people who work outdoors, people involved in strenuous outdoor exercise, and people with existing illness or chronic health conditions.

The best way to protect your health is to reduce your exposure to wildfire smoke.

If your community is threatened by an approaching wildfire, be prepared to evacuate at any time if directed by an authority issuing an evacuation.

To help limit your exposure to wildfire smoke:

- At-risk populations should reduce or reschedule outdoor activities for a time when conditions are better - children and older adults should take extra precautions. The general population should consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities outdoors if experiencing symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.
- Keep windows and doors closed as long as the temperature is comfortable.
- Use recirculation settings on your HVAC system to prevent smoke from entering your home.
- Use a clean, good quality air filter in ventilation systems.
- Use an air purifier that uses HEPA filtration to remove smoke from your home.
- Visit community centres, libraries, and shopping malls, as these places often have cleaner filtered air and can provide a break from smoke.
- Drink plenty of water to help your body cope with the smoke.

Mild symptoms of smoke exposure can usually be managed without medical intervention, and include the following:

- Headaches
- A mild cough
- A runny nose
- Production of phlegm
- Eye, nose, and throat irritation

More serious symptoms include:

- Dizziness
- Chest pains
- Severe cough
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing (including asthma attacks)
- Heart palpitations (irregular heartbeat)

If you experience any of these symptoms, talk to your health care provider or seek medical attention immediately.

For additional tips on how to prevent health related illness from wildfire smoke, please visit [Wildfire smoke 101: Combined wildfire smoke and heat - Canada.ca](#). To keep up-to-date on special air quality statements visit <https://bit.ly/2UNXx28>.

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June 8, 2023

In This Issue

- MPAC Board Positions – Call for Expressions of Interest.
- Register for the AMO 2023 Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Additional accommodations available for AMO 2023.
- June 9 Deadline to Request your Delegation Meetings at AMO 2023.
- Councillor training: Fall dates.
- Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials: June workshop.
- AMO-OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness: November few spots available.
- Human Rights and Equity Training: November workshop.
- AMO Webinar: Meet the Partners!
- Canoe Vendor Spotlight: WESCO.
- Important TSSA Advisory for Ontario's Ice Rink Owners.
- Careers: Durham, Niagara, and Simcoe.

AMO Matters

AMO has issued a call for expression of interests for building the AMO 2024 list of nominees. [Applications are due June 30.](#)

Eye on Events

AMO is excited about this year's Conference hosted by the City of London at RBC Place London and DoubleTree by Hilton, August 20-23. [View the preliminary program](#) and [register](#) now for this important event.

AMO continues to work to meet your accommodation needs for the 2023 Conference. 65 additional rooms are now available at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. Make your reservation [here](#).

Delegation meetings are a unique opportunity to meet with provincial ministers and staff on matters of local interest. The request for delegations through MMAH is opened until June 9, 2023. To request a delegation meeting, click [here](#).

Secure your spot in AMO's iconic councillor training this fall. This training provides councillors in all stages of their careers information, insights, and the necessary tools to be an effective local leader. [Register today.](#)

AMO has designed its training to support members in your leadership roles. Our training offers skills to navigate the many relationships you encounter as an elected official. [Navigating Conflict Relationships for Elected Officials](#) is a top-rated course you shouldn't miss. Register for the June 27-28 training.

Building on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shared by AMO and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC), we are offering training to help build indigenous cultural competency in municipal government. [Register](#) for the

November 27 training.

Understanding your role and responsibilities as an elected official when it comes to Human Rights & Equity is critical. This training examines your legislative responsibilities and understanding what equity means and how it can be implemented. Register today to build your knowledge in these complex areas.

AMO's Digital Service partners are technology leaders who want to share their solutions to encourage the digital transformation of municipal administration/operations and help you discover process efficiencies. Come learn more about their offerings over two lunch and learn sessions on June 15 and June 22 at 12pm. Register today.

LAS

Canoe keeps growing to serve you better! We're pleased to welcome WESCO as a supplier in our Facility MRO category, offering a range of products including electrical supplies, telecom, security hardware, A/V, and energy efficiency solutions. Contact Sarah to learn more.

Municipal Wire*

The Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) shares the following TSSA Advisory for owners/operators of ice rinks. The Advisory reminds senior municipal staff and elected officials of their legal obligations under the Operating Engineers Regulation. Read all about it here.

Careers

Manager, Waste Technical Services - Regional Municipality of Durham. Supervise and implement daily activities related to waste management facilities including processing contracts, waste management facility operations, policy development and communications. Apply online by June 21.

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer - Niagara Region. Provides a high level of strategic leadership in the facilitation and delivery of a portfolio of programs and services focused on delivering and fulfilling legislative duties, government stakeholder relations and strategic communications for the Niagara Region. Apply to arthur@wmc.on.ca by July 7.

IPAC Specialist - County of Simcoe. Responsible for providing oversight and leadership to the infection, prevention and control (IPAC) program for the LTC Homes and Seniors community programs. Apply online by June 17.

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

AMO Watchfile Tel: 416.971.9856

Conferences/Events

Policy and Funding Programs

LAS Local Authority Services

MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario

ONE Investment

Media InquiriesMunicipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions

AMO's Partners



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June 15, 2023

In This Issue

- MPAC Board positions - Call for expressions of interest.
- Electrification and Energy Transition Panel - Call for feedback.
- Register for the AMO 2023 Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Councillor training: Fall dates.
- AMO-OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness: November limited availability.
- Human Rights and Equity Training: November workshop.
- AMO webinar: Meet the Partners!
- New incentives for your lighting projects!
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Generac.
- Careers: Ministry of Finance, Simcoe, and Elliot Lake.

AMO Matters

AMO has issued a call for expression of interests for building the AMO 2024 list of nominees for the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) Board of Directors. [Applications are due June 30.](#)

Provincial Matters

Organizations are invited to provide submissions to the [Electrification and Energy Transition Panel](#) via email at energypanel@ontario.ca until June 30 at 5:00 pm. Feedback will inform the Panel's report to the Minister of Energy.

Eye on Events

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LAS

Are you considering LED upgrades at your municipal facilities? They may qualify for new incentives. IESO's custom track incentives have returned offering \$0.13/kWh or \$1200/kW in some cases! Contact Christian Tham to find out how you can take advantage of these through the LAS Facility Lighting Service.

Need back-up power for your buildings? We're pleased to welcome Generac to the Electrical Energy Power Generation category. Save time and money while keeping your critical facilities operating when you need them. Contact Sarah to learn more.

Careers

Assistant Deputy Minister - Ministry of Finance. Provide advice on policy, legislation and operational initiatives that support the government's strategic objectives. Apply online by June 21.

Policy & Committee Coordinator - County of Simcoe. Develop, coordinate, and maintain a corporate policy framework (policies, procedures and work instructions). Apply online by June 30.

Planner III - County of Simcoe. Assemble and analyse information and prepare recommendations regarding planning and development applications. Apply online by June 30.

Chief Administrative Officer - City of Elliot Lake. Seeking an innovative leader with great people skills who is able to collaborate, make decisions, communicates well, able to prioritize and manage change. Apply to la@tdobbie.com by June 30.

Deputy Treasurer - City of Elliot Lake. General management of the Treasury Department, including tax collection, development of the annual corporate budget, financial reporting requirements. Apply to la@tdobbie.com by June 30.

Chief Building Official - City of Elliot Lake. Responsible for examining plans, building, and plumbing inspections, and issuing permits. Apply to la@tdobbie.com by June 30.

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