



**Town of Arnprior**  
**Regular Meeting of Council: November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Correspondence Package No. I-23-NOV-19**

**Recommendation:**

That the Correspondence Package No. I-23-NOV-19 be received as information and filed accordingly.

**General Information Items:**

**1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario**

- a) Ontario Strengthening Protections for Homeowners'
- b) Ontario Continuing to Reduce Red Tape to Help People and Businesses Thrive
- c) Ontario Increasing Income Eligibility Thresholds for Ontario Electricity Support Program
- d) Ontario Helping Families and Small Businesses Keep Electricity Costs Down
- e) Ontario Continues to Support Municipalities through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund
- f) Ontario Strengthening Protections for Consumers
- g) Ontario Winding Back Changes to Official Plans
- h) Ontario Strengthens Emergency Preparedness to Keep People and Communities Safe
- i) Free Flu Shot and New COVID-19 Vaccines Available for All Ontarians Six Months of Age and Older
- j) Ontario Extending Gas and Fuel Tax Cuts to June 30, 2024
- k) Ontario Providing Financial Stability to Employers
- l) Ontario Helping to Build More Rental Housing
- m) Building a Strong Ontario Together
- n) Ontario Creating Conditions for Job Growth

- o) Ontario Expanding Role of Registered Nurses to Prescribe and Administer More Medications
- p) Ontario to Require Employers to Disclose Salary Ranges and AI Use in Hiring
- q) Ontario Honouring Veterans with Free Year-Round Weekday Access to Provincial Parks

**2. Correspondence from the Ontario Minister of Finance**

- a) 2024 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) Allocations

**3. Correspondence from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)**

- a) Canada's housing challenge is also an infrastructure challenge

**4. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

- a) Watch File – October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**5. Correspondence from Arnprior Regional Health**

- a) The Men's Shed Will Pursue Independent Status

**6. Correspondence from Watson and Associates Economists Ltd.**

- a) Assessment of Bill 134 - Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act

**7. Correspondence from the Fire Underwriters Survey**

- a) Petition in support of Bill C-310

**8. Correspondence from the Terry Fox Run Organizer**

- a) Thank You Card

## Ontario Strengthening Protections for Homeowners

Province launching consultations on ways to further protect property owners from harmful business practices

October 17, 2023

[Public and Business Service Delivery](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is seeking public input on ways to address and reduce the harmful and inappropriate use of Notices of Security Interest (NOSIs) against unsuspecting consumers.

A NOSI is a notice that can be registered on the land registry system by a business when it finances or leases certain equipment on a property such as an HVAC unit. In some cases, homeowners are not aware a NOSI has been registered on their title and businesses have charged them exorbitant fees to discharge the NOSI.

“Our government will not stand by and allow bad actors to take advantage of hardworking Ontarians for their own financial gain,” said Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery. “We are consulting with businesses and consumers on ways to better protect homeowners and their property. Their input will help us develop a comprehensive approach to address Notices of Security Interest that will protect vulnerable consumers and seniors. This could include strengthening various laws to shield homeowners against wrongdoing.”

The Ontario government is also considering ways to clarify rules and obligations for businesses to discharge a NOSI, while providing enhanced powers to Consumer Protection Ontario to help homeowners when a business fails to do so.

“The current rules do not adequately protect homeowners from harmful and inappropriate business practices,” said Minister McCarthy. “We are committed to finding solutions to this important issue that would keep consumers from losing money to unscrupulous actors while building a safer and stronger economy.”

[The consultation, which runs from October 17 to December 1, 2023](#), will explore topics such as the requirement to notify a homeowner when a NOSI is registered, the types of goods or fixtures for which a company can register a NOSI, and restrictions on the duration of a NOSI.

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## Quick Facts

- A NOSI registration is a common business practice that is often inaccurately referred to as a lien.
  - The [Consumer Protection Act, 2002](#), sets out rules for consumer contracts in Ontario to which NOSIs may be tied. The Act governs most personal and household consumer transactions.
  - The [Personal Property Security Act](#) allows for NOSIs to be registered. It includes remedies in cases when a consumer has fulfilled their obligations related to the NOSI (or if obligations related to the NOSI are forgiven) but a business has not discharged the NOSI.
  - Ontario's [land registry system](#) can be used to search NOSIs on the title of your property.
  - Learn your rights and [how to protect yourself](#) before, during or after you make a purchase.
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# Ontario Continuing to Reduce Red Tape to Help People and Businesses Thrive

Common sense changes designed to improve services and save time and money

October 19, 2023

[Red Tape Reduction](#)

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TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government introduced the *Less Red Tape, More Common Sense Act, 2023* which, if passed, would help improve services for people and reduce costs for businesses. This bill is a key part of the province's Fall 2023 Red Tape Reduction package which also includes several regulatory and policy changes to make it easier to interact with government, resulting in as many as 100,000 hours in time savings for people and businesses each year.

"We are reducing red tape by implementing common sense changes that help create the conditions for people and businesses to thrive," said Parm Gill, Minister of Red Tape Reduction. "Our Fall 2023 Red Tape Reduction package builds on more than \$939 million in gross annual compliance cost savings we've achieved to date, strengthening Ontario's position as a key player in the North American and global economy."

With the proposed legislation, Ontario is making meaningful changes to help open doors to new economic opportunities and reduce unnecessary burdens for individuals and businesses, not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, universities and colleges, school boards and hospitals.

The *Less Red Tape, More Common Sense Act* contains 32 new burden-reduction initiatives, including:

- Improving government forms to reduce the paperwork demands on physicians, which will free up time for physicians to put back into their practices.
- Streamlining the submission requirements for generic drugs to improve access to more treatment options for patients.
- Creating more pathways into the skilled trades and attracting more apprentices to in-demand trades, preparing Ontario's workforce for rewarding life-long careers.

- Enhancing consumer protection by ensuring consumers have the information they need to make informed decisions when buying and selling vehicles.
- Amending the *Ontario Heritage Act* to make it easier and faster for faith groups to alter their places of worship to meet their unique needs.
- Amending the *St. Lawrence Parks Commission Act* to save time and costs related to routine easements over St. Lawrence Parks Commission land.

As the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction continues its work, people and businesses are encouraged to visit the Red Tape Portal at [Ontario.ca/redtape](https://ontario.ca/redtape) and submit their ideas on ways the province can continue to make it easier to access services and do business in Ontario.

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### Quick Facts

- This is the 12th Red Tape Reduction package and the 11th Red Tape Reduction bill introduced by the Ontario government since 2018.
- To date, Ontario has taken over 500 actions to reduce regulatory burdens — all without compromising health, safety, or the environment.
- To share an idea to reduce red tape in Ontario, visit [Ontario.ca/redtape](https://ontario.ca/redtape).

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### Quotes

"Reducing and streamlining forms can help ease the significant amount of non-clinical work physicians perform each day. We recommended a review of unnecessary and cumbersome forms in our Prescription for Ontario: Doctors' Solutions for Immediate Action. We have been pleased with the collaboration between the OMA and the government on this and we look forward to continued momentum to address administrative burden. Our members are spending up to 20 hours of their work week completing administrative work and we hope these efforts will free up time to provide patient care and improve the quality of life for Ontario's doctors."

- Dr. Andrew Park  
Ontario Medical Association President

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### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Continues to Cut Red Tape to Improve Services and Save Businesses Time and Money](#)
- [Fall 2023 Red Tape Reduction Package](#)
- [Learn how Ontario is cutting red tape](#)

- [2023 Burden Reduction Report](#)

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## Related Topics

### Business and Economy

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

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# Ontario Continues to Cut Red Tape to Improve Services and Save Businesses Time and Money

October 19, 2023

[Red Tape Reduction](#)

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The *Less Red Tape, More Common Sense Act, 2023* would, if passed, build on the Ontario government's continued efforts to reduce regulatory burden by implementing common sense changes that help create the conditions for people and businesses to thrive.

Since 2018, these red tape reduction efforts have saved businesses, not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, universities and colleges, school boards and hospitals over \$939 million in gross annual regulatory compliance costs.

The Fall 2023 Red Tape Reduction Package includes 32 new measures that will improve services for people and reduce costs for businesses, while making it easier to work with government. When fully implemented, these measures are estimated to save people and business up to 100,000 hours of time each year.

## Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

**Amending the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act*:** Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act* that would reduce confusion, provide greater clarity, and reduce red tape for agricultural and horticultural societies, and agricultural associations.

**Amending the *Nutrient Management Act*:** Ontario is proposing to update a regulation under the *Nutrient Management Act, 2002* that would correct a reference to a company that no longer provides verification services for incinerators so that producers can obtain verification from the right companies to ensure incinerators meet performance standards.

**Updating the *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act*:** Ontario is proposing to revoke un-proclaimed sections in the *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Act* that, would reduce confusion and provide clarity for stakeholders.

## Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG)



## **Removal of Public Guardian and Trustee Donation Reporting**

**Requirements:** Ontario is proposing an amendment to the *Charities Accounting Act* that would remove the obligation for charities (i.e., non-profit charitable corporations, unincorporated organizations, and trusts) to provide notice to the Ontario Public Guardian and Trustee when they are established.

**Amending the *Professional Engineers Act*:** Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Professional Engineers Act* that would support the modernization of Professional Engineers Ontario's operations, including electronic delivery of notices and documents, mandatory reporting of regulatory information and the process for consideration of Registrar investigation reports, along with housekeeping amendments to streamline and clarify regulatory processes.

## **Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)**

**Streamlining Alterations to Religious Buildings:** Ontario is proposing legislative and regulatory amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* that would ensure that any proposed alterations to religious buildings designated by municipalities as heritage properties, where those buildings continue to be used for religious practice, will be able to obtain approval to renovate or repair their places of worship quickly and with less red tape.

## **Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU)**

**Optimizing Research Funding Programs Processes:** Ontario is proposing to streamline and improve processes to make it easier for colleges, universities, hospitals and research institutions to apply for and manage research funding projects that will provide social and economic benefits for Ontarians.

**Extending College and University Boards Chair Terms:** Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology Act, 2002*, and some individual university acts that would allow college and university board of governors to extend the term of the board chair for a period of two years beyond the relevant legislated limit, making it easier for institutions to retain the expertise and experience of their board chairs and maintain continuity of leadership.

## **Ministry of Education (EDU)**

**Reducing Process Burden on School Boards:** Ontario is working to accelerate improvements to education data applications by streamlining existing processes to reduce reporting burden on school and school board staff.

## **Ministry of Energy (ENERGY)**

**Removing Barriers to Net Metering Arrangements:** Ontario is proposing amendments to O. Reg. 679/21: Community Net Metering Projects that would assist in the implementation of the authorized demonstration project by removing the bill credit allocation limit. Ontario is also proposing amendments to O. Reg. 389/10: General that would provide greater certainty for both third-party generators and customers by clarifying contract cancellation provisions for third-party ownership net metering arrangements.

### **Streamlining Exemption Requests for Energy Consumption and Water**

**Use:** Ontario is proposing to amend Ontario Regulation 506/18: Reporting of Energy Consumption and Water Use, made under the *Electricity Act, 1998*, that would streamline the exemption process for eligible building owners by removing the requirement to submit supporting documentation when submitting a notice for either an ongoing exemption or an exemption from reporting in a calendar year.

### **Reviewing the regulatory framework for Independent Electricity System**

**Operators' Board of Directors:** Ontario is proposing amendments to streamline the existing regulatory requirements concerning Independent Electricity System Operators (IESO) Board of Directors appointments that would consolidate the rules governing those appointments that are currently dispersed across two separate regulations into a single regulation.

### **Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)**

**Optimizing Management of Excess Soil:** Ontario is proposing amendments to O. Reg 406/19: On-Site and Excess Soil Management (the Excess Soil Regulation) that would make it easier and less costly for businesses to reuse excess soil locally, as part of a circular economy and to prevent usable soil from being disposed of in landfill. These changes would support Ontario's plans to build more housing and highways faster, while ensuring strong protection of human health and the environment.

### **Ministry of Finance (MOF)**

### **Streamlining the Minimum Consultation Period for the Ontario Securities**

**Commission and Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario:** Ontario is proposing to amend the *Securities Act*, the *Commodity Futures Act* and the *Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario Act, 2016*. The amendments would allow the Ontario Securities Commission and Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario to reduce the minimum public consultation period from 90 days to 60 days on proposed new rules if they are simple and straightforward. Both agencies would retain the ability to hold longer consultations for more complex rules.

**Reducing Burden for Credit Unions:** Ontario is proposing to amend the *Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act, 2020* and one regulation to reduce burdens on the credit union sector. The amendments would make it easier for credit unions to issue shares to purchase other credit unions, prepare investor offering statements and take deposits from brokers who manage money on behalf of clients.

**Ministry of Health (MOH) and Ministry of Red Tape Reduction (MRTR)**

**Reducing Paperwork Demands on Physicians:** Ontario is streamlining and reducing the paperwork demands on physicians, something physicians have identified as a contributing factor in burn out. Across government and in collaboration with the Ontario Medical Association, the government is reviewing key forms to streamline and simplify them, minimize any duplication, and identify opportunities for digital solutions. Improving government forms will free up as much as 95,000 hours each year for physicians to put back into their practices.

**Ministry of Health (MOH)**

**Streamlining Submission Requirements for Generic Drugs:** Ontario is proposing to make regulatory amendments under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* and *Drug Interchangeability and Dispensing Fee Act* that would remove barriers for drug manufacturers seeking to have their drugs publicly funded or designated as interchangeable in Ontario. These changes would better align with existing Health Canada requirements for approving the sale of well-established drugs that have been sold in Canada for sufficient time, and in sufficient quantity, to establish their safety and effectiveness. This would result in access to more treatment options for patients.

**Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD)**

**Streamlining Skilled Trades Ontario Data and Information Sharing:** Ontario is proposing a new regulation under the *Building Opportunities in the Skilled Trades Act, 2021* that would enable Skilled Trades Ontario to collect and share the data with the ministry as needed. This data would include personal information on registering apprentices and exam administration.

**Improving the Certification Management System:** Ontario is proposing to make ministry information and resources easily available to the public and to act as a one-stop shop for training providers, workers, and employers. It will provide employers with access to employee training verification, minimizing turnaround and lost production time when processing enquiries and addressing inspection orders.

**Streamlining Joint Health and Safety Committee Training Standards:** The government has launched a five-year review to ensure the Certification Training Standards remains relevant and practical. Specific actions include eliminating learning outcomes duplicated in existing training requirements and exploring opportunities to reduce barriers experienced by businesses and learners.

### Ministry of Mines (MINES)

**Prescribing Requirements for the Recovery of Minerals:** Ontario is currently consulting on proposed regulations to support amendments to the *Mining Act* that make it easier for mining companies to recover minerals from mine tailings and waste at mine sites. This will unlock new economic opportunities and create an opportunity to further remediate mine sites, including those that are closed and/or abandoned.

**Consulting on Assessment Work Changes:** Ontario is soliciting feedback on proposed regulatory and other changes to make improvements to the assessment work regime. Improvements would ensure the province remains competitive and attractive for investment and reduce burden for claimholders. Proposed changes could include, among other things, expanding ways businesses can obtain assessment work credit, reviewing ministry requirements, and making technological improvements to the Mining Lands Administration System.

**Consulting on Improving Exploration Permits:** Ontario is soliciting feedback on proposed regulatory and other changes to make improvements to the exploration permit regime. Improvements would ensure the province remains competitive and attractive for investment, and incentivize exploration for new mineral development opportunities to support stronger supply chains in Ontario. Proposed changes could include, among other things, streamlining business processes and reducing administrative burden for claimholders applying for exploration permits.

### Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)

**Modernizing the Niagara Escarpment Program:** Ontario is proposing to make legislative amendments to the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act* that respond directly to recommendations made by the Auditor General. These changes, such as replacing outdated requirements to publish notices in newspapers with a modern requirement to post on a Government of Ontario website, would better serve client and community needs. These changes would also enable Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) to streamline the processing of simple permit and approval processes such as building an accessibility ramp on an

existing property, enabling them to dedicate more resources to complex applications while maintaining and enhancing all protection policies of the Escarpment.

#### **Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery (MPBSD)**

**Amending the *Motor Vehicle Dealers Act, 2002*:** Ontario is proposing legislative amendments to the *Motor Vehicle Dealers Act, 2002* (MVDA) that would reduce burden for motor vehicle dealers and salespersons and enhance consumer protection by removing outdated transitional provisions that relate to the transition from the previous version of the MVDA and which are no longer required, and increasing the minimum fine for acting as a motor vehicle dealer or salesperson without being registered from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Ontario is planning to consult on additional potential legislative and regulatory amendments to the MVDA that may further reduce burden for registered motor vehicle dealers and enhance consumer protection.

**Reducing Burden for Share Capital Social Clubs:** Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Corporations Act* that would make it easier for social clubs to continue their operations under the *Business Corporations Act*, the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*, or the *Co-operative Corporations Act* prior to the deadline of October 19, 2026. This will ultimately reduce their risk of dissolution so they can continue to operate and serve their members and communities.

#### **Ministry of Red Tape Reduction (MRTR)**

**Updating the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020*:** Ontario is proposing to update the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020* (MOPBA), as well as implement regulatory amendments to O.Reg 556/20: EXEMPTIONS that would keep MOPBA's legislation current and revoke exemptions to the Act that are no longer required.

#### **Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA)**

**Making it Easier to Work with Government for the Retirement Homes Sector:** Ontario is proposing a legislative amendment to the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* (RHA) that, responds to the requests of the retirement home community to provide faster, more relevant information. The proposed amendment provides a one window approach for retirement home residents and their families/caregivers, operators and staff, and other stakeholders to provide input on proposed regulations under the RHA.

#### **Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS)**

**Streamlining Approvals of St. Lawrence Parks' Easements:** Ontario is proposing changes to the *St. Lawrence Parks Commission Act* that would make it easier and faster to grant routine easements. These proposed amendments will reduce the administrative burden and delays that the St. Lawrence Parks Commission (SLPC) is currently experiencing in their day-to-day business operations. They will also reduce delays that local businesses, municipalities and residents experience when conducting authorized activities on SLPC lands.

**Board Governance Requirements Progress Report:** Ontario improved how agencies and entities operated internally and, consequently, how they deliver services and work with businesses in Ontario. These changes incorporate governance best practices, modernize governance frameworks and clarify the rules for public appointees, making it easier and more attractive to serve on their boards.

### Ministry of Transportation (MTO)

**Streamlining Corridor Development Permits:** Ontario is proposing the designation of transit corridor lands for the Hamilton Light Rail Transit to streamline corridor development permits and the expropriation process to get shovels in the ground sooner.

### **Highway Corridor Management System Land Development Review**

**Module:** Ontario is working to develop a new Land Development Review module as part of the Highway Corridor Management System. When complete, developers and municipalities will be able to submit, track and receive all MTO approvals for development applications online. This will provide greater transparency and accountability in the development review process and timelines, saving time and money for both businesses and government.

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### **Additional Resources**

- [Ontario Continuing to Reduce Red Tape to Help People and Businesses Thrive](#)

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### **Related Topics**

#### **Business and Economy**

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

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# Ontario Increasing Income Eligibility Thresholds for Ontario Electricity Support Program

October 19, 2023

[Energy](#).

The Ontario government is investing an additional \$50 million in the [Ontario Electricity Support Program](#) (OESP), and is increasing the income eligibility thresholds for the program by up to 35 per cent in order to provide thousands of additional low-income families access to the program’s on-bill credits and help make electricity more affordable. The updated OESP income thresholds will come into effect on March 1, 2024.

## OESP Monthly Credit Amounts by Household Income Level (After Tax)

The current income thresholds, effective until February 29, 2024, are as follows:

Household Size (Number of people living in household)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
\$28,000 or less	\$45	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75	\$75
\$28,001 – \$39,000		\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75
\$39,001 – \$48,000			\$35	\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57
\$48,001 – \$52,000					\$35	\$40	\$45

The new income thresholds, effective March 1, 2024, are as follows:

Household Size (Number of people living in household)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
\$38,000 or less	\$45	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75	\$75
\$38,001 – \$54,000		\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75
\$54,001 – \$65,000			\$35	\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57
\$65,001 – \$71,000					\$35	\$40	\$45

### OESP Monthly Credit Amounts by Household Income Level (After Tax) – Energy Intensive

The current income thresholds, effective until February 29, 2024, are as follows:

Household Size (Number of people living in household)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
\$28,000 or less	\$68	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113	\$113
\$28,001 - \$39,000		\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113
\$39,001 - \$48,000			\$52	\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83
\$48,001 - \$52,000					\$52	\$60	\$68

The new income thresholds, effective March 1, 2024, are as follows:

Household Size (Number of people living in household)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
\$38,000 or less	\$68	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113	\$113
\$38,001 - \$54,000		\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113
\$54,001 - \$65,000			\$52	\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83
\$65,001 - \$71,000					\$52	\$60	\$68

Customers eligible for the higher energy intensive on-bill credits include those using electric heating, those using certain medical devices that use a lot of electricity, and customers who are Indigenous or living with Indigenous family members.

The government remains committed to providing immediate bill relief to electricity consumers in Ontario and ensuring support is available to families when they need it. There are a number of additional programs in place to help income-eligible consumers with their energy costs.

The [Energy Affordability Program](#) provides eligible participating households with personalized, free electricity-saving measures that can help them reduce their electricity bills. Customers can also access the [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program](#) and receive up to \$600 in emergency assistance if they are behind on their electricity or natural gas bill and face having their service disconnected.

For on-reserve First Nation residential customers, the government has been providing immediate relief on delivery charges since 2017 through the First Nations Delivery Credit (FNDC) Program, in addition to numerous [retrofit and efficiency programs](#) available to First Nation customers.

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#### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Helping Families and Small Businesses Keep Electricity Costs Down](#)
  - For more information on the OESP and program eligibility, visit the Ontario Energy Board's OESP [website](#).
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## Ontario Helping Families and Small Businesses Keep Electricity Costs Down

Increased Ontario Electricity Rebate and Ontario Electricity Support Program will help families and businesses save money

October 19, 2023

[Energy](#)

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**TORONTO** – The Ontario government is keeping electricity costs down for families and small businesses by increasing the on-bill Ontario Electricity Rebate (OER) from 11.7 per cent to 19.3 per cent, reducing a typical household's electricity bill by a total of 26 dollars a month – or \$312 a year. Further, Ontario is supporting thousands of additional low-income families with an additional \$50 million investment in the [Ontario Electricity Support Program](#) (OESP).

"Our government is once again acting to ensure families and small businesses have access to affordable, reliable and clean electricity by providing immediate bill relief when they need it," said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. "By increasing our investment in the Ontario Electricity Support Program, we are also providing additional targeted support to those who need it most."

Every October, the government adjusts the OER to protect electricity customers from the normal year-to-year variability in electricity costs. Increasing the OER from 11.7 per cent to 19.3 per cent will ensure electricity bills remain affordable and predictable.

The government's increased investment in the low-income targeted OESP, will support a significant expansion to the program, increasing the income eligibility thresholds for the program by up to 35 per cent. For example, a four-person household, which is eligible for an additional \$40 each month in financial support, will see the maximum income eligibility threshold increase from \$48,000 to \$65,000 per year after-tax – an increase of \$17,000.

"This significant investment is yet another example of our government's commitment to making life more affordable for the people of Ontario, including individuals receiving social assistance," said Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services. "In addition to raising income support by nearly

12% over 12 months for people with disabilities through the Ontario Disability Support Program, we continue to help alleviate the cost of essentials for low-income families with programs like the OESP.”

The updated OER percentage will take effect November 1, 2023. The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) which administers the OESP will introduce the increased income thresholds for that program on March 1, 2024.

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#### Quick Facts

- The OER was introduced by the government in 2019 to provide families, small businesses and farms with affordable and predictable electricity costs.
  - Households eligible for the OESP can receive credits of \$35 to \$75 through the program depending on household size. Higher monthly credits of between \$52 to \$113 are available to Indigenous customers or customers living with Indigenous family members, customers using electric heating, and customers using certain electricity-intensive medical devices.
  - The OESP is currently providing energy relief for 212,000 low-income customers across the province.
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#### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Increasing Income Eligibility Thresholds for Ontario Electricity Support Program](#)

#### [Manage energy costs for your home](#)

Learn about programs and credits to reduce your energy bills.

#### [Manage energy costs for your business](#)

For large to small businesses, manage your energy costs through one of these programs.

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## Ontario Continues to Support Municipalities through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund

Province providing \$500 million to support northern, rural and small municipalities

October 20, 2023

[Finance](#)

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TORONTO — Ontario is continuing to support northern, rural and small municipalities through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), which will once again provide funding of \$500 million for 2024. The funding, which is unconditional, will be distributed to 390 municipalities across the province to help local priorities and specific community needs.

“Maintaining a close relationship with our municipal partners is critical as we build a strong Ontario together,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “Our government recognizes the unique challenges northern, rural and small communities face. This is why the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, along with other programs, are critical in building stronger and resilient communities across the province.”

The OMPF is one part of Ontario’s overall support to municipalities, which continues to increase. The government has doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and, since 2021, has introduced new supports such as the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) and the Building Faster Fund, a \$1.2 billion program that supports community growth throughout the province, including in small, rural and northern communities. Ontario also recently announced that it will restore provincial annual base funding for public health units in 2024.

“As municipalities begin annual budget planning this fall, ongoing economic uncertainty threatens their ability to make informed decisions for the long-term,” said AMO President Colin Best. “Stable and predictable funding like the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund remains critical to municipal governments who remain key partners in helping to build a strong Ontario.”

Announcing municipal allocations in the fall provides municipalities with predictability ahead of their annual budget planning cycle.

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#### Quick Facts

- The OMPF is providing \$500 million to 390 of Ontario's 444 municipalities in 2024. The funding is unconditional and can be used to support the local priorities and specific needs of each community.
  - Ontario increased its annual investment in the [Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund](#) (OCIF) by \$1 billion over five years, starting in 2022. OCIF provides investment to help 425 small, rural and northern communities renew and rehabilitate roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure.
  - The Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program is providing up to \$15 million annually over five years to northern municipalities to support infrastructure projects.
  - Starting January 1, 2024, the Province will restore annual base funding (\$47 million) for public health units to the level previously provided under the 2020 cost-share ratio.
  - The Building Faster Fund will [provide up to \\$1.2 billion](#) over three years for municipalities that meet or exceed the housing targets they have pledged to achieve by 2031.
- 

#### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund](#)
- 

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## Ontario Strengthening Protections for Consumers

New legislation proposing measures to eliminate unfair business practices and new enforcement powers to hold bad actors accountable

October 23, 2023

[Public and Business Service Delivery](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is introducing legislation today that, if passed, would strengthen protections for Ontarians from unfair business practices such as price gouging, and make it easier for businesses to comply with consumer protection rules.

“Our government will not stand by and allow bad actors to take advantage of hardworking Ontarians through unfair business practices,” said Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery. “People deserve to shop with confidence when spending their hard-earned money on goods and services at home, online and in their communities.”

“By updating rules that protect them when they are shopping or entering contracts with businesses, we can better adapt to today’s evolving marketplace and build a smarter, safer, and stronger economy.”

Consumer protection laws have not been comprehensively reviewed and updated since the [Consumer Protection Act, 2002](#), came into force in 2005. Since then, Ontario’s marketplace has transformed significantly with an increase in online shopping and the use of apps.

The *Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act, 2023*, builds on existing protections to strengthen consumer rights by:

- Prohibiting unfair business practices such as taking advantage of a consumer’s inability to understand language in a contract.
- Limiting when businesses can make one-sided contract amendments, renewals, and extensions without express consumer consent.
- Prohibiting businesses from creating unnecessary barriers when consumers are trying to cancel a subscription or membership-based contract.

- Providing fairer exit options to consumers and their families who find themselves locked indefinitely into a timeshare contract as well as homeowners tied to long-term leases for home comfort appliances like HVAC systems.
- Providing stronger enforcement powers to better enable the ministry to hold bad actors accountable including doubling maximum fines to further deter offences and egregious business behaviour.

The new *Consumer Protection Act, 2023*, would make it easier for businesses to comply with consumer protection rules in our increasingly digital-first marketplace. This includes a single set of core rules written in clear, simple language that would apply to most consumer contracts, whether for online or in-person purchases.

To prevent the harms that could be caused by identity theft, the proposed legislation would also make changes to the [Consumer Reporting Act](#) that would give Ontarians greater access to their credit information and greater ability to limit how their credit information is shared with third parties.

The government is also [seeking public input](#) on ways to address and reduce the harmful and inappropriate use of [Notices of Security Interest](#) (NOSIs) against unsuspecting consumers. A NOSI is a notice that can be registered on the land registry system by a business when it finances or leases certain equipment on a property such as an HVAC unit. In some cases, homeowners are not aware a NOSI has been registered on their title and businesses have charged them exorbitant fees to discharge the NOSI.

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#### Quick Facts

- The proposed *Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act, 2023*, introduces a new Consumer Protection Act that would amend the [Consumer Protection Act, 2002](#) which governs most personal and household consumer transactions.
  - The new Act reflects extensive consultation with the public and stakeholders over a three-year period and will make the marketplace easier to navigate for businesses and consumers alike.
-

## Quotes

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we are ensuring all Ontarians, including our seniors, are receiving the consumer protections they deserve. The new Consumer Protection Act will help empower our seniors to live in our communities as long as they want."

**- Raymond Cho**  
**Minister for Seniors and Accessibility**

"The Ontario Real Estate Association is a strong proponent of measures to improve consumer protection so people have peace of mind when acquiring home services or products. Ontario realtors commend the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery for updating protections on contract disclosure or leases to better safeguard consumers in the modern marketplace and enhancing the ability of businesses to meet their obligations. We look forward to seeing the positive effect this will have for future homebuyers across the province."

**- Tim Hudak**  
**CEO, Ontario Real Estate Association**

"Updating consumer protections to match the complexities of our modern marketplace is of the utmost importance for all Ontarians. We commend the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Government of Ontario for taking an important and targeted next step to protect homeowners against fraudulent Notice of Security Interest (NOSI) schemes. Enercare continues to support efforts to target bad actors engaged in harmful tactics, while enhancing consumer protection and confidence. We look forward to continue working with the ministry throughout the regulatory consultation phase."

**- Nick Perreten**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer, Enercare**

"The Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE) welcomes the new Consumer Protection Act that will strengthen and reinforce consumer rights and provide new effective remedies to seniors victimized by scams and frauds involving exploitative consumer transactions such as misleading contract terms. We look forward to working with the government on future regulations."

- **Graham Webb**  
**Executive Director, Advocacy Centre for the Elderly**

"TransUnion is pleased to see the government taking action to update consumer credit reporting. Through an extensive consultation process, the Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act, 2023, will provide people with modern and enhanced tools for managing their credit information. We're excited for changes that continue to empower consumers and help companies like TransUnion better serve Ontarians."

- **Clarke Cross**  
**Director of Government Relations, TransUnion Canada**

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### **Additional Resources**

- Read more about [the proposed legislation](#)
- [Consumer Protection Ontario | ontario.ca](#)
- Learn your rights and [how to protect yourself](#) before, during or after you make a purchase.

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# Ontario Introduces Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act

October 23, 2023

[Public and Business Service Delivery](#).

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The proposed *Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act, 2023*, would introduce a new Consumer Protection Act and amend the [Consumer Reporting Act](#). If passed, it would strengthen protections and make life easier for consumers and businesses.

With our increasingly online world, consumer habits and business practices have evolved. Stronger consumer protections and better compliance by businesses would help strengthen confidence in the marketplace while supporting Ontario's continued economic growth.

The proposed new legislation includes the following initiatives to enhance consumer protection:

## Tackling Unfair Business Practices

The proposed new legislation would clarify and strengthen prohibitions against unconscionable conduct by explicitly prohibiting specific unfair business practices such as price gouging or taking advantage of a consumer's inability to understand language in a contract. It would also update the list of examples of prohibited false, deceptive or misleading representations to expressly forbid practices that businesses may use, such as false claims of government oversight and false prize offers. Consumers would also have the right to rescind a contract for one year after entering that contract if an unfair practice has taken place or one year after an unfair practice takes place – whichever is later.

## Addressing Predatory Practices by Some Suppliers Leasing Equipment to Homeowners

Many homeowners in Ontario lease or rent water heaters, furnaces, and other home comfort equipment on a long-term basis. Some suppliers make it very difficult and costly for consumers to exit these contracts. The proposed new legislation would establish specific rules for a new category of long-term leases for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and other home comfort

appliances, called “purchase-cost-plus leases”. It would establish a 10-day cooling-off period and would set limits on termination costs for purchase-cost-plus leases if a consumer wishes to end a contract early.

### **Providing An Exit for Timeshares**

Consumers can find themselves and their families locked indefinitely into timeshare arrangements. The proposed new legislation would provide consumers with the right to exit a timeshare contract, if they so choose, after 25 years have passed. This would apply to new and existing timeshare contracts. It also would provide a similar exit option for others (e.g., the owner’s heirs) upon a timeshare owner’s death and would limit the costs that a consumer may be charged for exercising an exit option, with details to be determined in regulations.

### **Helping Consumers with Discharging Certain Notices of Security Interest**

A Notice of Security Interest (NOSI) is a registration on the land registry system that gives notice to third parties that a lender or lessor has an interest in a fixture on the land – such as a water heater or furnace that is installed in the home. A business may register a NOSI on title at any time after entering into a contract with the consumer/debtor to protect its interest in the goods should the homeowner default on payment or if the homeowner decides to sell or needs to refinance the property. A NOSI does not give the business any claim against the land itself – or the right to any proceeds from the sale of the land – and is often incorrectly referred to as a lien. When a NOSI is in place, some bad actors use the NOSI as leverage when consumers try to sell or refinance their home. Consumers may have to pay excessive amounts to clear the NOSI from their title or may even need to spend their time and hard-earned money in court to have it discharged.

The [Personal Property Security Act](#) (PPSA) allows for NOSIs to be registered on title to land. The PPSA also includes remedies in cases when a consumer has fulfilled their obligations related to the NOSI (or if obligations related to the NOSI are forgiven) but a business has not discharged the NOSI. The proposed new legislation would clarify a business’ obligation to discharge a NOSI under specific circumstances. It also would allow some consumers to receive assistance from the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery in enforcing a business’ obligations to discharge a NOSI.

### **Clarifying Rules for Gift Cards**

The proposed new legislation would make it even clearer that gift cards and other forms of prepaid purchase cards cannot expire, regardless of whether the gift card is electronic or physical and regardless of how it is purchased (e.g., in a store, online or via an app).

### **Protecting Consumers' Right to Take Action in Court**

Sometimes businesses may include contract terms that suggest consumers can only pursue a claim against the business in a court in another jurisdiction outside Ontario, such as the country where the business is headquartered. However, people have the legal right to pursue claims in Ontario courts. The proposed new legislation would clarify that businesses cannot include terms in a contract that mislead consumers about their right to have disputes adjudicated in an Ontario court.

### **Larger Fines for Illegal Business Activity**

Currently, the maximum fines when an individual or corporation has been convicted of an offence under the [Consumer Protection Act](#) are \$50,000 and \$250,000, respectively. The proposed new legislation would double the maximum fines (\$100,000 for individuals and \$500,000 for corporations) to further deter offences and egregious business behaviour.

### **Deterring Businesses from Refusing to Provide Statutory Refunds**

When a consumer is entitled to a refund under the existing [Consumer Protection Act](#), the business must issue that refund within 15 days of the consumer giving notice. The legislation also gives the consumer the right to sue when businesses do not provide refunds as required. When a consumer takes legal action to obtain a refund that a business has failed to provide, the proposed new legislation would give consumers the right to recover three times the original refund amount.

### **Addressing Automatic Contract or Service Renewals**

To better protect consumers from unilateral contract changes and/or unwanted automatic renewals or extensions, the proposed new legislation would limit when businesses can make unilateral contract amendments, renewals, and extensions without express consumer consent. Regulations could also require that automatic renewals or extensions of contracts, where permitted, must include an ongoing right for the consumer to cancel. This would provide consumers who enter into long-term and ongoing contracts, with more certainty that their consent is needed to make changes, including to prices.

## Right to Review

Some businesses try to control negative consumer comments and bill people whose comments they consider to be damaging or disparaging. The proposed new legislation, if passed and once implemented, would support the free exchange of information in the marketplace by prohibiting businesses from including terms in a contract that try to deter consumers from publishing reviews or that bill consumers in response to the contents of reviews. Consumers could share their experiences with a business without fear of repercussions.

During the regulation-making phase, the following proposals would be consulted upon with the public and stakeholders:

### **Making It Easier to Cancel Subscriptions and Membership Agreements**

Some businesses make the process of exiting a subscription or membership-based contract (e.g., a gym membership or online service) challenging, time-consuming, and inconvenient for consumers. To protect consumers against this frustrating business practice, the ministry would develop regulations that would, once approved and implemented, prohibit businesses from creating unnecessary barriers when consumers are trying to cancel a contract, particularly a subscription or membership-based contract.

### **Greater Consumer Access to Credit Information**

The proposed amendments to the [Consumer Reporting Act](#) would enable consumers to receive free electronic access to their consumer reports and credit scores once per month.

### **Additional Tools for Consumers**

To prevent the harms that could be caused by identity theft, the proposed amendments would allow consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports for certain purposes, which would prevent creditors or lenders from accessing those reports. Consumers would also have a statutory right to place an explanatory statement on their consumer file to contextualize their information, such as the circumstances of a loan.

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### **Additional Resources**

[Ontario Strengthening Protections for Consumers](#)

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## Ontario Winding Back Changes to Official Plans

October 23, 2023

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

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TORONTO — Today, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, released the following statement:

“Since becoming Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, I have made it a priority to review past decisions, including minister’s zoning orders and official plans, to ensure that they support our goal of building at least 1.5 million homes in a manner that maintains and reinforces public trust.

In reviewing how decisions were made regarding official plans, it is now clear that they failed to meet this test. In response, as soon as I am able, I will be introducing legislation that would reverse the official plan decisions for Barrie, Belleville, Guelph, Hamilton, Ottawa and the City of Peterborough, the Regional Municipalities of Halton, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo and York, as well as Wellington County. This legislation would wind back provincial changes to official plans and official plan amendments, except in circumstances where construction has begun or where doing so would contravene existing provincial legislation and regulation. This includes winding back changes to urban boundaries.

To ensure that the reset plans match our shared ambitions to build more homes, especially now that municipalities have made their housing pledges, we will be asking impacted municipalities to submit changes and updates to those plans to ministry staff within 45 days of today, including information on projects that are already underway.

In recognition of the costs incurred by municipalities arising out of this decision, the province will work with impacted municipalities to assist with related planning and staffing costs.”

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### Related Topics

#### 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](#)

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## Ontario Strengthens Emergency Preparedness to Keep People and Communities Safe

New grant will help communities purchase critical emergency equipment and supplies

October 27, 2023

[Treasury Board Secretariat](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$5 million to ensure communities across the province have the resources and equipment they need to prepare for natural disasters and emergencies. The government is now accepting applications for the new [Community Emergency Preparedness Grant](#) to help communities and organizations purchase critical supplies, equipment and deliver training and services to improve local emergency preparation and response.

“We are making our province stronger and more resilient by helping communities prepare for emergencies,” said Caroline Mulroney, President of the Treasury Board, Minister responsible for Emergency Management Ontario and Minister of Francophone Affairs. “These prudent and targeted investments are another step this government is taking to ensure communities have the resources they need to keep people safe when the next flood, wildland fire or severe storm impacts our province.”

Funding will ensure communities can respond to any type of emergency and will be tailored to their unique needs. It can be put towards purchasing equipment such as sand bagging machines and generators or investing in emergency management training and awareness.

The Community Emergency Preparedness Grant is part of the \$110 million the government earmarked over the next three years to strengthen emergency preparedness in Ontario. The investment builds on the [Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan](#)’s vision to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations communities, and organizations to prepare for emergencies.

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### Quick Facts

- [Apply now](#). Applications close November 30, 2023.

- Applicants must have a Transfer Payment Ontario account.
- Eligible applicants must be located in Ontario and include:
  - Non-governmental organizations that have a mandate in emergency preparedness
  - Local services boards
  - First Nation communities; Indigenous organizations, including Tribal Councils; and other Indigenous service organizations that support emergency management programming in First Nation communities
  - Small- and medium-sized municipalities (those with populations under 100,000 as per Statistics Canada data from 2021)

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### Additional Resources

- [Community Emergency Preparedness Grant](#)
- [Learn how to apply for funding for your organization with Transfer Payment Ontario](#)
- [Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan](#)
- [Emergency Management Ontario](#)

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### 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](#)

#### Health and Wellness

Get help navigating Ontario's health care system and connecting with the programs or services you're looking for. [Learn more](#)

#### Law and Safety

Ontario's laws and related information about our legal system, emergency services, the Ontario Provincial Police and victim services. [Learn more](#)

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## Free Flu Shot and New COVID-19 Vaccines Available for All Ontarians Six Months of Age and Older

Ontarians strongly encouraged to get their COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot

October 29, 2023

[Health](#)

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TORONTO — Starting tomorrow, October 30, Ontarians will be able to receive their free flu shot and the new, most recent COVID-19 vaccine at [local pharmacies](#), public health units and primary health care providers across the province. Staying up to date on vaccinations continues to be the best way for people to stay safe and healthy this respiratory illness season and avoid unnecessary visits to the hospital.

“Getting your COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot is the best way to keep yourself, your loved ones and your community healthy,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “Our government is ensuring you have access to the tools you need this fall respiratory season by making COVID-19 vaccines and flu shots available in convenient locations close to home, at no cost to Ontarians.”

It is safe and convenient to receive both a COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot at the same time, reducing the need for multiple visits. The new COVID-19 vaccines now available are specifically designed to target the XBB variant and were approved by Health Canada earlier this fall.

All Ontarians six months and older can receive their next COVID-19 dose if it has been a recommended six months since their last dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection. Ontarians are encouraged to speak with a health care professional to help determine their appropriate vaccination schedule.

"With the expected co-circulation of influenza, COVID-19 and RSV over the fall and winter, I encourage Ontarians to get their COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot as soon as they can," said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health. "Especially those who are elderly, immunocompromised, or have medical conditions that make you particularly susceptible to harm from respiratory illnesses."

To reduce the risk of spreading illness, individuals are advised to wash their hands often, cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, clean surfaces and shared items regularly and stay at home when sick.

Through [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), the Ontario government is ensuring communities across the province have the tools they need to stay to stay safe and healthy this fall and winter while ensuring hospital beds are available for those who need them most.

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#### Quick Facts

- Once available, you can book a COVID-19 vaccine through [participating pharmacies](#), through [public health units](#) or via [our website](#) or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900 (TTY: 1-866-797-0007 toll free) from Monday to Friday (excluding holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time.
  - During the colder months, we see increased transmission of respiratory illnesses, including the flu, COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). [Learn more about RSV](#) and how to keep yourself and your loved ones safe, particularly older seniors and young infants.
  - Ontario has introduced its first publicly funded RSV vaccine program for older high-risk adults. Through this program, the Ministry of Health covers the full cost of the vaccine for adults aged 60 and older living in long-term care homes, Elder Care Lodges and retirement homes licensed to provide dementia care services.
  - Ontario continues to provide convenient access to antivirals, such as Paxlovid, through physicians, nurse practitioners and pharmacists, with virtual care options available through [Health811](#).
  - Individuals can access rapid antigen tests through their local public health unit. Health care providers across the province can now order rapid antigen tests to share with patients free of charge. Using the [PCR testing](#) locator, [eligible individuals](#) can also access COVID-19 testing at pharmacies and assessment centres.
  - Visit [Health811 online](#) or call 811 (TTY: [1-866-797-0007](#) toll free) for health advice and information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
-

## Quotes

"As one of the most accessible points for care for most Ontarians, pharmacy professionals are proud to play a critical role in vaccinating Ontarians against the flu. With almost 5,000 community pharmacies across the province, with many open early and late, we encourage every Ontarian who wants a flu shot to get one. Contact your local pharmacy and book your flu shot today."

**- Justin Bates**  
**CEO, Ontario Pharmacists Association**

"With the flu season upon us, and elevated risk of multiple respiratory viruses, vaccination remains a critical measure to protect ourselves and loved ones from illness. Neighbourhood Pharmacies is proud to work alongside the government and our health system partners to continue to make immunization services accessible to Ontarians. Pharmacies are a convenient destination for all vaccinations, with extended hours and close to 5,000 locations in virtually every community across Ontario."

**- Sandra Hanna**  
**CEO, Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada**

"At Rexall, we're committed and ready to continue being a cornerstone of accessible healthcare for Ontarians during this current respiratory illness season. Joining forces with community pharmacies, the Ministry of Health, healthcare providers, and public health units is key to ensuring that every person in the province can access their flu and updated COVID-19 vaccines. We're proud to play an integral role in keeping our communities safe and healthy."

**- Nicolas Caprio**  
**President, Rexall Pharmacy Group**



"Independent pharmacies play a critical role during flu season as among the most accessible healthcare providers in the community, particularly in rural Ontario. Guardian, I.D.A., Remedy's Rx and The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy pharmacists are well poised to ensure patients have access to the care, medication, and vaccines they need across the province. The health and safety of the community is a top focus for independent owner/pharmacists who are administering flu and COVID-19 vaccinations to help our communities stay healthy during flu season conveniently and safely."

**- Smita Patil**

**VP Professional Affairs, McKesson Canada**

"Pharmacists are increasingly the first point of contact for patients when it comes to their healthcare needs and as a result, we're acutely aware of the negative impacts that Covid and the flu can have on our communities. In partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Health, we're pleased to offer patients the option of both vaccines in one appointment, making it easier and more convenient to get the protection they need and doing what we can to keep our communities healthy and productive this fall."

**- Jeff Leger**

**Pharmacist and President, Shoppers Drug Mart**

"Ontario's doctors are committed to ensuring the health and safety of everyone across the province this respiratory illness season. We encourage Ontarians to get your seasonal flu shot and COVID boosters, wash your hands often, wear masks when appropriate and stay home if you are sick. As part of our Prescription for Ontario: Doctors' 5-Point Plan for Better Health Care, we have to ensure everyone in the province has access to a family doctor and a team of health-care professionals who can discuss important health issues like vaccinations with them."

**- Dr. Andrew Park**

**President, Ontario Medical Association**

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#### **Additional Resources**

- To learn more about the flu shot, visit [Ontario.ca/flu](https://ontario.ca/flu).



- To learn more about respiratory syncytial virus, visit [Ontario.ca/rsv](https://ontario.ca/rsv).
- To learn more about COVID-19, visit [Ontario.ca/COVID-19](https://ontario.ca/COVID-19).
- Learn about eligibility for [COVID-19 antiviral treatment](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)

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## Related Topics

### Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works.

[Learn more](#)

### Health and Wellness

Get help navigating Ontario's health care system and connecting with the programs or services you're looking for. [Learn more](#)

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## Ontario Extending Gas and Fuel Tax Cuts to June 30, 2024

The province continues to put more money back in people's pockets

October 31, 2023

[Office of the Premier](#)

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**TORONTO** — To help Ontario families and businesses keep costs down, the Ontario government will be proposing legislation through its upcoming 2023 Fall Economic Statement that would, if passed, extend the gasoline and fuel tax rate cuts to June 30, 2024, saving households \$260 on average since the tax cuts were first introduced.

"We know that every dollar helps, and this gas tax cut is another way we're keeping costs down for Ontario families and businesses," said Premier Doug Ford. "As we continue to deal with lingering inflation, our government is continuing to provide people and businesses relief at the pumps for another six months."

Since July 1, 2022, Ontario has lowered the gasoline tax by 5.7 cents per litre and the fuel tax by 5.3 cents per litre. The government is proposing to extend the rate cuts so the tax rate on gasoline and fuel (diesel) would continue to remain at 9 cents per litre until June 30, 2024.

"With the Bank of Canada's high interest rates, and as inflation continues to put pressure on household budgets across Ontario, our government is helping to keep costs down for the people of Ontario," said Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy. "On Thursday, I will provide an update on our plan that will continue with our government's targeted, responsible approach so we have the flexibility needed to get through this economic uncertainty while laying a strong fiscal foundation for future generations."

The proposed extension to the gasoline and fuel tax rate cuts builds on the government's other measures to help put more money back into people's pockets, including:

- Generating \$1.1 billion per year in savings, for a total of \$3.3 billion since March 2020, to Ontario vehicle owners by refunding licence plate renewal fees and

stickers.

- Eliminating local transit fares on most local transit agencies in the Greater Golden Horseshoe for riders connecting to and from GO Transit, making it more affordable and convenient for families and workers to commute.
- Increasing the general minimum wage by 6.8 per cent to \$16.55 per hour as of October 1, 2023.
- Providing an estimated \$115 million through the Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit this year to over 200,000 low-to moderate-income seniors with eligible medical expenses.

The government continues to call on the federal government to, at the very least, pause increases to the carbon tax.

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### Quick Facts

- The government will provide an update on the plan for Building a Strong Ontario through the 2023 Fall Economic Statement, which will be released on November 2, 2023.
- The price paid at the pump is made up of the cost of crude oil, wholesale margins, retail margins, federal excise tax, the federal carbon tax, Ontario gasoline/fuel tax and HST.
- Beginning March 14, 2022, the province eliminated double fares across most local transit systems, making it easier and more convenient to take transit across the GTHA. By eliminating double fares across different transit systems, the government is saving commuters up to \$1,600 a year.

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### Quotes

"The announcement to extend fuel tax relief for the trucking industry is a measure that all Ontarians should applaud. Virtually every item or product Ontarians have at home or at their places of business was moved by truck. Fuel is typically the second leading cost behind labour for the trucking industry. Keeping fuel costs down, helps fight inflation. The Ontario Trucking Association applauds the Government of Ontario for its leadership and investment in helping fight inflation."

- Stephen Laskowski  
President and CEO, Ontario Trucking Association

"The best thing governments can do to help make life more affordable for taxpayers is to cut taxes. The Ontario government's gas tax cut has saved the typical Ontario family hundreds of dollars over the past 18 months and this announcement will ensure that this critical relief continues into 2024. This gas tax cut extension is great news for Ontario taxpayers."

- Jay Goldberg

Ontario Director of Canadian Taxpayers Federation

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## Additional Resources

- [Ontario To Cut Gas and Fuel Taxes For Additional Year](#)
- [Ontario Cutting Gas and Fuel Taxes For Six Months To Provide Relief For Businesses and Families](#)
- [Gas and fuel tax rate decrease](#)
- [Gasoline Tax](#)
- [Fuel Tax](#)

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## Related Topics

### Government

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

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## Ontario Providing Financial Stability to Employers

WSIB premium rates to remain steady next year so businesses can focus on creating good-paying jobs

October 31, 2023

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

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**TORONTO** — The Ontario government announced today that the average premium rate businesses pay to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) will remain steady in 2024. At a time when businesses are combatting rising costs of inflation, the stability will keep rates at a decades-long low, helping create new jobs and allowing for bigger paycheques for workers.

“Under the leadership of Premier Ford, the WSIB has cut the average premium rate for safe employers in half, allowing more businesses to reinvest in the economy and their workers,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “While keeping rates at a historic 20-year low, our government will continue to bring generational change to the WSIB to deliver better services for the injured workers and businesses who rely on it.”

In the last year, the WSIB provided a [6.5 per cent cost of living increase](#) to people receiving income replacement benefits and is also extending incentives for smaller businesses enrolled in its Health and Safety Excellence program through to December 31, 2024. Small businesses can now benefit from double rebates for every topic completed in the program, plus an additional \$1,000 towards implementing a health and safety program.

“We were able to hold the line on premium rates in 2024 and will continue to improve our services and results,” said Jeff Lang, President and CEO of the WSIB. “We are also continuing with incentives to small businesses to reduce injuries from happening in the first place.”

Last month, Ontario announced the [relocation of the WSIB head office to London](#) and the selection of the new location at 300 Tartan Drive. The move is expected to bring a \$100 million boost to the London area and comes as the agency renews its focus on increasing support for injured workers and improving services to businesses.

Today's announcement is one more step the government has taken to modernize the WSIB in addition to exploring raising compensation for injured workers while returning up to \$1.5 billion to safe employers. The WSIB is also [expanding online services and extending phone hours](#) to make it easier to access help anytime, anywhere.

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### Quick Facts

- The average premium rate will stay at \$1.30 per \$100 of insurable payroll.
  - The WSIB has reduced premiums by \$8.5 billion since 2018.
  - The WSIB, which is completely funded by employer premiums, provides wage-loss benefits, medical coverage and support to help people get back to work after a work-related injury or illness.
  - Ontario businesses can access their individual 2024 premium rate statements on the WSIB's website starting October 31, 2023.
  - The Board is one of the largest public insurance organizations in North America, covering over five million people in more than 300,000 workplaces across Ontario.
  - The WSIB is an arm's length agency of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development.
- 

### Additional Resources

- [Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997](#)
  - [The WSIB Operational Review Report](#)
- 

### Related Topics

#### Business and Economy

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

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#### Jobs and Employment

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## Ontario Helping to Build More Rental Housing

Province removing the full provincial portion of HST on qualifying new purpose-built rental housing

November 01, 2023

[Finance](#)

---

TORONTO — The Ontario government is taking steps to remove the full eight per cent provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) on qualifying new purpose-built rental housing in order to get more rental homes built across the province.

“There has never been a greater need to get rental housing built across the province. This is why our government is taking steps to tackle the housing crisis so that all Ontarians can have an affordable place to live,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “Tomorrow, I will provide an update on our plan that will continue with our government’s targeted, responsible approach so we have the flexibility needed to build Ontario and address the uncertainty of today while laying a strong fiscal foundation for future generations.”

The removal of the provincial portion of the HST would apply to new purpose-built rental housing such as apartment buildings, student housing and senior residences built specifically for long-term rental accommodation, that meet the criteria. The enhanced rebate would apply to qualifying projects that begin construction between September 14, 2023 and December 31, 2030, and complete construction by December 31, 2035.

Since fall 2022, Ontario has called on the federal government to remove the HST for certain purpose-built rental housing. Ontario welcomes the federal government’s decision to listen to Ontario. Together, the provincial and federal actions would remove the full 13 per cent HST on qualifying new purpose-built rental housing in Ontario, helping to get more housing built. Ontario will continue working closely with the federal government to implement this new measure.

“Our government will continue to take action and work together with our partners at all levels of government to help increase the supply of affordable homes across this province,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “This

is a significant step that builds on the comprehensive measures in our government's Housing Supply Action Plans to get shovels in the ground faster and help more Ontarians find a home that meets their needs and budget."

As part of its ongoing work to build at least 1.5 million homes by 2031, the government is also working on the development of a comprehensive modular home strategy. This strategy includes exploring the use of a Request for Qualification process that will transparently identify and pre-qualify companies that contribute to modular housing construction on the scale Ontario needs. The government is also working to leverage surplus provincial lands and partnering with municipalities to leverage surplus municipal lands in order to help reduce the cost of building attainable homes, including modular homes.

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### Quick Facts

- Currently, the Ontario HST New Residential Rental Property Rebate is equal to 75 per cent of the provincial portion of the HST paid, up to a maximum rebate of \$24,000. The enhanced rebate would be equal to 100 per cent of the provincial portion of the HST, with no maximum rebate amount.
- In the example of a two-bedroom rental unit valued at \$500,000, the enhanced Ontario HST New Residential Rental Property Rebate would deliver \$40,000 in provincial tax relief. When combined with the enhanced federal GST New Residential Rental Property Rebate, this would amount to \$65,000 in tax relief.
- To qualify for the enhanced HST New Residential Rental Property Rebate, new residential units must be in buildings with at least four private apartment units or 10 private rooms or suites, and have at least 90 per cent of residential units designated for long-term rental.
- Eliminating or reducing tax disincentives to housing growth is a recommendation in the [Housing Affordability Task Force report](#).

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### Quotes

"In a province as prosperous and dynamic as Ontario, owning a home should not be beyond the reach of hard-working families. Our government is committed to exploring innovative solutions that can fast-track the construction of attainable housing. Innovative options like modular housing will propel Ontario's housing sector into a new era of affordability."

- Rob Flack  
Associate Minister of Housing

"Every city and town in the province, including Ottawa, is looking for ways to increase the supply of new homes — especially new rental homes. Today's announcement of removing the provincial portion of the HST on purpose-built rental will make many rental construction projects, which have always been expensive and face tough economic circumstances, viable. That means more opportunity, choice and affordability in homes for residents across the province."

**- Jason Burggraaf**

**Executive Director, Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association**

"Ontario needs more purpose-built rental housing. Too often, high project costs mean that rental projects just don't work financially. Today's announcement will help put more shovels in the ground so we can build more rental homes, faster. Our members are thrilled with this announcement."

**- Tony Irwin**

**President & CEO, Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario,  
Interim-President, Canadian Federation of Apartment Associations**

"The OHBA, and our 4,000 members across Ontario, applaud the Ontario government for taking this leadership and eliminating the HST on purpose-built rentals. This measure will change the cost equation for a lot of projects and make even more student, seniors and long-term, purpose-built rental projects economically feasible. In short, this will get more desperately needed housing built."

**- Dave Depencier**

**President, Ontario Home Builders' Association**

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#### **Additional Resources**

[Housing supply action plans](#)

[Housing Affordability Task Force report](#)

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## Building a Strong Ontario Together

Ontario's 2023 Fall Economic Statement supports growth across the province

November 02, 2023

[Finance](#)

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TORONTO — Today, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy released the 2023 *Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building a Strong Ontario Together*. This update continues the government's responsible, targeted approach, providing the flexibility needed to help address ongoing economic uncertainty and build critical infrastructure in growing communities while laying a strong fiscal foundation for future generations.

Ontario is seeing significant growth, with nearly 500,000 more people coming to the province last year and more than 170,000 net new jobs created in the first nine months of 2023 alone.

"Our population is growing, jobs are being created and more and more companies are choosing Ontario as a place to do business," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "While this is good news, this cannot be taken for granted at a time of geopolitical and economic uncertainty. The choice for the road ahead is clear. We must continue with our government's targeted approach — it has the flexibility we need while still investing to build the critical infrastructure to support growing communities across Ontario."

With *Building a Strong Ontario Together*, the government is introducing new tools to help build critical infrastructure faster and smarter, continuing to attract investments and more jobs, and providing better services for people.

Highlights include:

- Launching the Ontario Infrastructure Bank, a new arms-length, board-governed agency to enable public-sector pension plans and other trusted institutional investors to participate in large-scale infrastructure projects across the province. At the outset, projects will be focused on long-term care homes, affordable housing and infrastructure in the municipal, community, energy and transportation sectors.

- Helping to build more rental homes by taking steps to remove the full eight per cent provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) on qualifying new purpose-built rental housing. This will encourage builders to build more rental units, and is another step in the government's plan to help people in Ontario find and afford a place to live.
- Providing an additional \$100 million to the Invest Ontario Fund, for a total of \$500 million, which will enable Invest Ontario, the government's investment attraction agency, to help attract more leading companies to the province, further support businesses already here and create good-paying jobs in communities across the province.
- Proposing to enhance the Ontario Focused Flow-Through Share Tax Credit eligibility to help stimulate critical mineral exploration and improve access to capital for small exploration companies. If approved, the change would start with the 2023 tax year and add \$12 million per year in tax credit support to Ontario's critical minerals mining industry.
- Extending the current gas and fuel tax rate cuts through to June 30, 2024 — a proposed change that, along with the rate cuts already in place, would save households \$260 on average since the cuts were first implemented in July 2022.
- Expanding access to breast cancer screening for women ages 40 to 49, by allowing them to self-refer for a mammogram through the Ontario Breast Screening Program. Beginning in fall 2024, these measures will increase access for more than 305,000 additional individuals.

"The road ahead is not going to be easy, but we have seen what the people of Ontario can accomplish together," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "Together, we can face the uncertainty of today and build a strong Ontario."

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### Quick Facts

- The government is now projecting a \$5.6 billion deficit in 2023–24 based on updated economic and revenue information and higher contingencies to mitigate near-term risks.
- Over the medium term, the government is taking a responsible approach to eliminating Ontario's deficit by 2025–26. A deficit of \$5.3 billion is forecast in 2024–25, followed by a surplus of \$0.5 billion in 2025–26.

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### Additional Resources

- [2023 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building a Strong Ontario Together](#)
- [Read the Backgrounder: Economic and Fiscal Overview](#)



- [Read the \*Backgrounder: Launching the Ontario Infrastructure Bank\*](#)
- [Read highlights of \*Building a Strong Ontario Together\*](#)
- [Read the \*2023 Ontario Budget: Building a Strong Ontario\*](#)
- The [Ontario Infrastructure Bank](#)

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## STATEMENT

# Ontario Creating Conditions for Job Growth

Fall Economic Statement includes an additional \$100 million to attract new jobs to the province

November 03, 2023

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

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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 October 2023, almost 160,000 jobs have been created this year. Nationwide, 40 per cent of new employment occurred in Ontario in the last 12 months.

"During a time of global economic uncertainty, Ontario has a plan to foster resiliency and stability by supporting growth in key sectors, reshoring manufacturing jobs and helping Ontario businesses access new markets.

Yesterday, our government provided an update on Ontario's economic and fiscal outlook in the 2023 Fall Economic Statement. [Building a Strong Ontario Together](#) laid out how we are taking a responsible and targeted approach to building a strong and resilient Ontario for current and future generations. This approach has given our government the flexibility it needs to address the impacts of a slowing global economy, while continuing to make targeted investments to support our growing communities. These investments include an additional \$100 million to the Invest Ontario Fund to help attract more leading companies to the province, further support businesses already here and create good-paying jobs.

To help Ontario's businesses expand their global reach, we recently [announced plans to open a new Ontario Trade and Investment Office in Singapore](#). The office will be the province's first in the ASEAN region, a bloc of 10 states with a population of over 600 million and \$4 trillion in GDP.

Closer to home, our government continues to support manufacturers across the province in expanding and creating good-paying jobs through our Regional Development Program. In October, we [welcomed a \\$40 million investment by TNR Industrial Doors Inc.](#) that will be used to build a new advanced manufacturing facility in Oro-Medonte. This past month, we also [welcomed a \\$2.8 billion](#)

[investment from Umicore Rechargeable Battery Materials Canada Inc.](#) to build a new manufacturing plant in Loyalist Township. Over the last three years, Ontario has attracted more than \$27 billion in automotive and EV battery investments.

With ongoing uncertainty impacting families across the province, the people of Ontario can have confidence that our government is making responsible decisions to support families and businesses today, while continuing to build a strong fiscal foundation for future generations.”

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Information about Ontario’s economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

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## Ontario Expanding Role of Registered Nurses to Prescribe and Administer More Medications

Expanding scope of practice will connect Ontarians to faster and easier access to care

November 06, 2023

[Health](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is making it easier and more convenient for people to connect to care by expanding the role of registered nurses to prescribe medications, after meeting specific requirements, for certain conditions such as contraception, immunizations, smoking cessation, and topical wound care in a variety of settings close to home, including long-term care homes and retirement homes.

“Our government continues to take action to ensure Ontarians have faster and easier access to the care they need, when they need it,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “By making changes to allow qualified registered nurses to provide more care and administer the medications they prescribe, people will have more convenient access to safe care close to home, while helping to further reduce wait times at our community clinics and hospitals.”

Starting in January 2024, registration is expected to open for registered nurses interested in completing the additional education requirements to work more independently in their community settings. As more registered nurses complete the training, more people will have faster access to birth control, drugs for smoking cessation, and travel medications to treat and prevent malaria and traveller’s diarrhea. People will also be able to receive topical wound care and conveniently get their vaccinations such as the flu shot and COVID-19 vaccines prescribed from a registered nurse. Supporting Ontario’s highly trained registered nurses to connect people to the care they need will also give doctors and nurse practitioners more time to treat those with more complex needs.

“We are collaborating with health system partners and creating the standards that promote safe nursing practice,” said Silvie Crawford, Executive Director and CEO of the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). “This includes ensuring changes in nurses’

scope of practice, including RN prescribing, are implemented safely for all Ontarians.”

The educational training programs that will be offered at certain colleges and universities are being developed and require approval from the Council of the College of Nurses of Ontario. This will ensure registered nurses can acquire the knowledge, skill and judgement needed to conveniently prescribe and administer more medications.

As part of [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), the Ontario government is making it easier for regulated health care professionals to work to the full extent of their training and expertise to provide patients with a more connected, convenient health care experience.

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#### Quick Facts

- Pharmacists have been able to prescribe for [common ailments](#) since January 1, 2023.
  - The Ministry of Health recently invested \$4.7 million to create education programs for emergency department nurses. More information can be found at the [ED Nursing Education, Retention and Workforce Program](#) web page.
  - Last year, the Ontario government invested over \$14 million to remove financial barriers to support nearly 600 nurses to upskill their training to work in critical care areas of the hospital.
  - The province continues to work with the College of Nurses of Ontario to break down barriers for internationally educated nurses. The [Supervised Practice Experience Partnership](#) provides internationally educated nurses the opportunity to demonstrate their current nursing knowledge, skill and language proficiency while working to meet the requirements to enter practice as a nurse. This program has funded more than 3,100 internationally educated nurses since it launched in January 2022.
  - Since 2018, Ontario has registered 63,000 new nurses.
  - Last year, over 15,000 new nurses registered to work in the province, a record number of new nurses registered to work in the province, with another 30,000 nursing students currently studying at one of Ontario’s colleges and universities.
-

Quotes

"RNAO welcomes with open arms RN-prescribing legislative authority. We urge government to expand its scope and move expeditiously to integrate the educational requirement into the four year baccalaureate entry to practice."

- Dr. Doris Grinspun, RN, BScN, MSN, PhD, LLD(hon), Dr(hc), DHC, DHC,  
FAAN, FCAN, O.ONT.  
CEO Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO)

Additional Resources

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

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## Ontario to Require Employers to Disclose Salary Ranges and AI Use in Hiring

Province also examining banning the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in sexual harassment cases

November 06, 2023

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

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**PETERBOROUGH** — The Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that, if passed, would require employers to include expected salary ranges in job postings, giving workers more information to make informed decisions in their career search. In addition, the legislation would make Ontario the first jurisdiction in Canada to require businesses to disclose if artificial intelligence (AI) is used during their hiring process.

“At a time when many companies are posting record profits, it is only fair they communicate transparently about how they pay workers,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “And as the use of artificial intelligence in Ontario skyrockets, our government will continue to take action to ensure workers aren’t excluded from the job market because of technological biases and that their privacy rights are protected.”

Women in Ontario earn an average of \$0.87 for every dollar earned by men – a number that is worse for racialized and Indigenous women. Including salary ranges with job postings can help close the gender pay gap while allowing companies to find qualified candidates more quickly and improve retention, helping tackle the nearly 250,000-person labour shortage.

AI tools and algorithms are being adopted by Ontario businesses at a rapid rate and generate high volumes of personal data about job applicants and employees. Increasingly, they may also make employment decisions that affect people’s lives. In response to growing concerns about the ethical, legal and privacy implications of AI, Ontario is proposing to require employers to inform job seekers when it is used to inform decisions in the hiring process.



Unfortunately, seven in 10 workers have reported experiencing a form of harassment or violence in the workplace – rates that increase for women and gender-diverse workers. To help end workplace misconduct and hold abusers to account, the government will also be conducting consultations and detailed analysis on ending the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) in the settlement of cases of workplace sexual harassment, misconduct or violence.

“The consultations will identify legislative options to restrict the use of NDAs while protecting the rights of victims and survivors,” said Minister Piccini. “It’s past time we end a practice that allows businesses to shelter the behaviour of some of the worst members of our communities.”

These changes are part of a larger package that, if passed, would expand on the ground-breaking actions introduced in the [Working for Workers Acts, 2021, 2022](#) and [2023](#), which will be unveiled in the coming days to protect workers, help them earn bigger paycheques, and help newcomers contribute to building Ontario.

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#### Quick Facts

- Thirty-seven per cent of online job postings in Ontario (2022) included salary information.
  - In February 2023, Statistics Canada reported that close to seven per cent of all businesses in Ontario were planning to adopt AI over the next 12 months.
  - The Ministry of the Attorney General, the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities recently restricted the use of NDAs in post-secondary institutions.
  - In addition, the government is proposing changes to clarify vacation pay provisions to ensure employees are aware that their written agreement is required if vacation pay is paid in any way other than a lump sum before their vacation.
  - The government is also proposing changes to the *Digital Platform Workers’ Rights Act, 2022* (DPWRA) that would create a regulatory authority to provide greater flexibility on how pay based on minimum wage must be determined. These changes would allow for greater alignment with the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* (ESA).
-



## Quotes

"As a charity that provides employment training programs to diverse job seekers, we recognize that increasing transparency and privacy in the workplace will benefit all job seekers. Including salary information in job postings can improve the hiring process by attracting more relevant candidates, streamlining recruitment, and enhancing trust and transparency. And as AI becomes more prevalent in the recruitment process, it is crucial to consider potential challenges and ethical concerns when using AI in applicant screening. These include issues related to data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the potential for excluding highly qualified candidates who might not fit a specific mold or profile. As the Ministry continues its work in making job searches more transparent and equitable for the people of Ontario, this announcement is a positive step forward."

- David Allen,  
President & CEO, YMCA of Central East Ontario

"The John Howard Society offices across Ontario specialize in assisting jobseekers facing multiple barriers in finding employment. A transparent recruitment process is crucial to ensuring that applicants are well-informed and have the tools they need to make decisions about their careers, which is why we welcome the Ontario government's initiative to introduce legislation that requires employers to provide more comprehensive details in job postings, enhancing applicants' access to information surrounding the hiring process."

- Christin Cullen,  
Chief Executive Officer, John Howard Society of Ontario

"YES annually empowers thousands of youth with employment opportunities, and Minister Piccini's initiative is set to break down biases, enhance transparency and equality for women and marginalized job seekers. The Ontario government is committed to creating better work conditions, making the province even greater."

- Timothy Lang,  
President & CEO, YES - Youth Employment Services

"Our research indicates that pay transparency is a key decent work practice that supports the recruitment and retention of top talent. Ontario's nonprofit sector employs 844,000 workers, 77 per cent of whom are women, and we know that equitable compensation practices such as pay transparency can help reduce the gender wage gap and address systemic barriers that women, especially equity-deserving women, face in compensation. When salary ranges are disclosed on postings, job seekers have an easier time identifying whether the position and its compensation are the right fit, while also supporting effective and streamlined recruitment processes for employers. We applaud the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for taking this important step forward to embed decent work practices in legislation."

- Cathy Taylor,  
Executive Director, Ontario Nonprofit Network

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### Additional Resources

- [\*Working for Workers Act, 2023\*](#)
- [\*Working for Workers Act, 2022\*](#)
- [\*Working for Workers Act, 2021\*](#)
- [\*Guide to the Employment Standards Act, 2000\*](#)

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### Related Topics

#### Jobs and Employment

We've got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers.

[Learn more](#)

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# Ontario Honouring Veterans with Free Year-Round Weekday Access to Provincial Parks

November 06, 2023

[Environment, Conservation and Parks](#)

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The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin, issued the following statement in recognition of Remembrance Week:

“As we approach Remembrance Day, we remember the courage and dedication of the Canadian men and women who fought valiantly over the years and continue to defend our freedom, rights and democracy. In recognition of their service, Ontario is proud to offer all veterans and active members of the Canadian Armed Forces free weekday day-use access to provincial parks throughout the entire year. It is a small way to show our gratitude to those who fought to defend our country.

Veterans and active service members can present their valid Canadian Armed Forces identification card and proof of Ontario residency at the entrance of any provincial park. Our dedicated park staff are ready to welcome you to an incredible array of natural spaces to explore and enjoy, with many still open to the public throughout the fall and winter months.

I extend my deepest appreciation to our veterans and the Canadian Armed Forces for their dedication and service to our country. May this Remembrance Week be a time of reflection, appreciation, and unity of how fortunate we are to live in a province like Ontario and a country like Canada.”

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## Additional Resources

- [Find services and support for military families](#)
  - [Learn more about the benefits of spending time in nature](#)
  - [Find out which provincial parks are currently open](#)
  - [Use the Ontario Parks locator tool to find a provincial park near you](#)
- 

## 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](#)

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**Minister of Finance | Ministre des Finances**  
**PETER BETHLENFALVY**

October 20, 2023

Dear Head of Council:

I am writing to provide details on the 2024 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF).

During this heightened period of economic uncertainty, municipalities need predictability during their annual budget planning. To help provide that predictability, Ontario is announcing the 2024 OMPF allocations now and maintaining the overall structure of the \$500 million program.

The program will continue to be responsive to changing circumstances of individual municipalities through annual data updates and related adjustments. As in prior years, transitional assistance will ensure that in 2024 municipalities in northern Ontario receive at least 90 per cent of their 2023 OMPF allocation while municipalities in southern Ontario receive at least 85 per cent.

Maintaining a close relationship with our municipal partners remains critical as we continue to work together to build a Strong Ontario. That is why our government has continued to increase support for municipalities through the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and the introduction of the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS). We also recently introduced the Building Faster Fund, which will provide up to \$1.2 billion over three years for municipalities that meet or exceed their housing targets, with a portion allocated to small, rural and northern communities to address their unique needs. Our government also announced that we will restore provincial annual base funding for public health units starting in 2024.

The Ministry of Finance's Provincial-Local Finance Division will be providing your municipal treasurers and clerk-treasurers with further details on your 2024 OMPF allocation. Supporting materials are also available on the ministry's web site at [ontario.ca/document/2024-ontario-municipal-partnership-fund](https://ontario.ca/document/2024-ontario-municipal-partnership-fund).

.../cont'd

I look forward to our continued collaboration as we move forward with building a strong future for our province.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Peter Bethlenfalvy  
Minister of Finance

c. c. The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

## 2024 Allocation Notice

### Town of Arnprior

4702

County of Renfrew

The Town of Arnprior will receive \$1,359,500 through the OMPF in 2024, which is equivalent to \$291 per household.

<b>A Total 2024 OMPF</b>	<b>\$1,359,500</b>
--------------------------	--------------------

1. Assessment Equalization Grant Component	\$512,000
2. Northern Communities Grant Component	-
3. Rural Communities Grant Component	\$300,900
4. Northern and Rural Fiscal Circumstances Grant Component	\$220,000
5. Transitional Assistance	\$326,600

### B Key OMPF Data Inputs

1. Households	4,671
2. Total Weighted Assessment per Household	\$265,576
3. Rural and Small Community Measure (RSCM)	49.4%
4. Farm Area Measure (FAM)	n/a
5. Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index (MFCI)	5.9
6. 2024 Guaranteed Level of Support	92.25%
7. 2023 OMPF	\$1,473,700

Note: See line item descriptions on the following page.



## 2024 Allocation Notice

### Town of Arnprior

4702

County of Renfrew

#### 2024 OMPF Allocation Notice - Line Item Descriptions

<b>A</b>	Sum of 2024 OMPF grant components and Transitional Assistance, which are described in the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide. This document can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/document/2024-ontario-municipal-partnership-fund/technical-guide">https://www.ontario.ca/document/2024-ontario-municipal-partnership-fund/technical-guide</a> .
<b>A5</b>	If applicable, reflects the amount of transitional support provided to assist the municipality in adjusting to year-over-year funding changes. See the enclosed Transitional Assistance Calculation Insert for further details.
<b>B1</b>	Based on the 2023 returned roll from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), including applicable updates.
<b>B2</b>	Refers to the total assessment for a municipality weighted by the tax ratio for each class of property (including payments in lieu of property taxes retained by the municipality) divided by the total number of households.
<b>B3</b>	Represents the proportion of a municipality's population residing in rural areas and/or small communities. For additional information, see the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide, Appendix A.
<b>B4</b>	Represents the percentage of a municipality's land area comprised of farm land. Additional details regarding the calculation of the Farm Area Measure are provided in the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide, Appendix B.
<b>B5</b>	Measures a municipality's fiscal circumstances relative to other northern and rural municipalities in the province, and ranges from 0 to 10. A lower MFCI corresponds to relatively positive fiscal circumstances, whereas a higher MFCI corresponds to more challenging fiscal circumstances. For additional information, see the enclosed MFCI Insert, and the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide, Appendix D.
<b>B6</b>	Represents the guaranteed level of support the municipality will receive through the 2024 OMPF. For additional information, see the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide.
<b>B7</b>	Line A of 2023 OMPF Allocation Notice.

*Note: Grant components and Transitional Assistance are rounded up to multiples of \$100.*

**2024 Transitional Assistance Calculation Insert****Town of Arnprior**

4702

County of Renfrew

<b>A 2024 OMPF Transitional Assistance (Line B2 - Line B1, if positive)</b>	<b>\$326,600</b>
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<b>B Supporting Details</b>
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<b>1. Sum of 2024 OMPF Grant Components (excluding Transitional Assistance)</b>	<b>\$1,032,900</b>
<b>2. 2024 Guaranteed Support (Line B2a x Line B2b)</b>	<b>\$1,359,500</b>
a. 2023 OMPF	\$1,473,700
b. 2024 Guaranteed Level of Support (Line C)	92.25%

<b>C 2024 Guaranteed Level of Support (Line C1 + Line C2)</b>	<b>92.25%</b>
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1. 2024 OMPF Minimum Guarantee	85.00%
2. Enhancement Based on Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index	7.25%

*Note: See line item descriptions on the following page.*

2024 Transitional Assistance Calculation Insert

Town of Arnprior

4702

County of Renfrew

2024 Transitional Assistance Calculation Insert - Line Item Descriptions	
A	Represents the total Transitional Assistance funding the municipality will receive through the 2024 OMPF.
B1	Sum of the following 2024 OMPF grant components: Assessment Equalization, Northern Communities, Rural Communities, and Northern and Rural Fiscal Circumstances Grant Components.
B2	Guaranteed amount of funding through the 2024 OMPF.
B2a	Line A of 2023 OMPF Allocation Notice.
B2b	Represents the guaranteed level of support the municipality will receive through the 2024 OMPF. For additional information, see the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide.
C1	Reflects the minimum level of support for southern municipalities through the 2024 OMPF.
C2	Reflects the enhancement to the minimum level of support based on the municipality's Northern and Rural MFCI.

*Note: Grant components and Transitional Assistance are rounded up to multiples of \$100.*

2024 Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index

Town of Arnprior4702

County of Renfrew

A Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index (MFCI)	5.9
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The Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index (MFCI) measures a municipality's fiscal circumstances relative to other northern and rural municipalities in the province on a scale of 0 to 10. A lower MFCI corresponds to relatively positive fiscal circumstances, whereas a higher MFCI corresponds to more challenging fiscal circumstances.

The Northern and Rural MFCI is determined based on six indicators that are classified as either primary or secondary, to reflect their relative importance in determining a municipality's fiscal circumstances.

The table below provides a comparison of the indicator values for the Town to the median for northern and rural municipalities.

B Northern and Rural MFCI - Indicators

Primary Indicators	Town of Arnprior	Northern and Rural Median
1. Weighted Assessment per Household	\$265,576	\$290,000
2. Median Household Income	\$75,500	\$82,000
Secondary Indicators		
3. Average Annual Change in Assessment (New Construction)	3.0%	1.2%
4. Employment Rate	50.0%	53.0%
5. Ratio of Working Age to Dependent Population	133.1%	152.0%
6. Per cent of Population Above Low-Income Threshold	85.9%	88.0%

Note: An indicator value that is higher than the median corresponds to relatively positive fiscal circumstances, while a value below the median corresponds to more challenging fiscal circumstances.

Additional details regarding the calculation of the Northern and Rural MFCI are provided in the 2024 OMPF Technical Guide, as well as in the customized 2024 Northern and Rural MFCI Workbook.

Note: See line item descriptions on the following page.

## 2024 Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index

**Town of Arnprior**

4702

County of Renfrew

**2024 Northern and Rural Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index - Line Item Descriptions**

<b>A</b>	The municipality's 2024 Northern and Rural MFCI. Additional details are provided in the municipality's customized 2024 Northern and Rural MFCI Workbook.
<b>B1</b>	Refers to the total assessment for a municipality weighted by the tax ratio for each class of property (including payments in lieu of property taxes retained by the municipality) divided by the total number of households.
<b>B2</b>	Statistics Canada's measure of median income for all private households in 2020.
<b>B3</b>	Measures the five-year (2018 - 2023) average annual change in a municipality's assessment, for example, as a result of new construction or business property closures, excluding the impact of reassessment.
<b>B4</b>	Statistics Canada's measure of number of employed persons, divided by persons aged 15 and over.
<b>B5</b>	Statistics Canada's measure of working age population (aged 15 to 64), divided by youth (aged 14 and under) and senior population (aged 65 and over).
<b>B6</b>	Statistics Canada's measure of the population in private households above the low-income threshold for Ontario compared to the total population in private households.



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INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGE**

# Canada's housing challenge is also an infrastructure challenge



November 2, 2023

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*The president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and mayor of Gore Scott Pearce, and the Chair of FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus and mayor of Halifax Mike Savage, issued the following today ahead of the federal government's anticipated Fall Economic Statement.*

“With Canada having recently surpassed a population of 40 million people, every corner of our country is turning attention to the opportunities and challenges that come with a growing nation. Growth demands action, and nowhere is this felt more urgently than in municipalities, where Canadians expect excellent public services and a high quality of life.

“That is why FCM is leading the national call for a new municipal growth framework: a new revenue tool or a set of revenue tools that

are tied to Canada's growth and potentially redefines how we work across government. As our nation grows, the need for municipalities to confidently meet that growth is clearer than ever, and they need the resources to do it. Increasingly, municipalities are on the frontlines of challenges related to homelessness and mental health, climate change and more.

"No challenge is more pressing than that of housing. And new housing depends on essential—but often invisible—municipal infrastructure. When Canadians move into a new home, they are not just expecting four walls and a roof. They expect sinks with running water, rooms that light up at the flick of a switch, a predictable system that hauls away garbage to a safe disposal site, local emergency services at the ready, and libraries, parks, and municipal programs that turn housing units into communities. These are not optional. Municipal infrastructure is the foundation for new home construction. And it requires immense public investment—resources that many municipalities and cities currently do not have at the scale required to meet Canada's housing targets.

"All orders of government need to work together to solve Canada's housing crisis. That starts with a recognition of—and commitment to solve—the very real but often unseen challenge of ensuring Canada's public infrastructure can support the housing growth Canadians expect. The federal government has signaled that new details about their next generation of infrastructure funding are coming soon. Those details, and the upcoming Fall Economic Statement, must commit to infrastructure funding that not only meets the scope of our current challenges, but also recognizes the immense work and investment ahead if we are to meet the CMHC home building targets of 5.8 million homes by 2030—roughly doubling the annual rate of housing construction.

"Over the last year, municipalities and the federal government have been partnering through the Housing Accelerator Fund to increase the



pace of housing development and increase density. Municipal leaders are committed to playing their part to increase housing supply. HAF funding is supporting municipalities to modernize land-use regulations and improve planning and approval processes, as well as upgrade or expand infrastructure to unlock new housing supply. The success of HAF shows that different orders of government can work together to address the housing crisis. Now we need to scale up efforts to match the level of growth that Canada is experiencing.

“FCM is calling for significant new federal investment in municipal infrastructure to enable municipalities to approve and service more housing construction more quickly. FCM’s recommendations include: doubling the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) to \$4.4 billion and increasing the annual index to 3.5%; \$1 billion per year for 10 years for a new federal water and wastewater infrastructure program; and an investment of \$500 million annually in municipal community, culture, and recreational infrastructure. As municipalities seek to protect communities from the effects of a changing climate, FCM is also calling for an immediate top-up to the DMAF program totaling \$2 billion, with an additional \$1 billion earmarked each year for the next decade.

“To ensure uninterrupted federal funding for public transit, FCM is calling for the Permanent Public Transit Fund to be established in legislation in 2024, with new funding available for planning and design costs and a mechanism to approve projects for capital funding. The fund must also provide no less than \$3 billion per year for a full range of eligible capital expenses, indexed at 3.5% per year starting in 2026.

“Canada is growing. Communities are growing. Municipalities are working every day to deliver the quality of life Canadians deserve. With other orders of government as partners, we meet Canada’s needs today, and in the future.”

*The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) unites over 2,000 local governments at the national level, representing more than 90 per*

cent of Canadians in every province and territory.

**For more information:** FCM Media Relations, (613) 907-6395, [media@fcm.ca](mailto:media@fcm.ca)

Big City Mayors' Caucus

Infrastructure

Municipal finance



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October 26, 2023

## In This Issue

- AMO 2024 Youth Fellowship applications now welcome!
- ROMA Conference: *Close to Home* - Early bird registration closes October 27.
- ROMA 2024 Conference January 21-23: Exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities.
- New AMO training - Understanding Competing Human Rights, December 12.
- Land Use Planning Deeper Dive: Strengthen your planning skills with AMO training.
- Indigenous Community Awareness Training - Save the date.
- 4S Webinar: Double WSIB rebates for Municipal Health & Safety Programs.
- LAS electricity procurement - 2024 hedge price.
- Get a free quote for your 2024 Road & Sidewalk Study.
- Bright idea if you're thinking of lighting upgrades.
- Canoe Fall webinars continue.
- SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars.
- A conversation of what it takes to be an effective CAO.
- Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects.
- Careers.

## AMO Matters

Encourage postsecondary students in your orbit who are interested in local government, policy development, good governance, and healthy democracy to apply to be one of three [2024 AMO Youth Fellows](#). Fellows are mentored, participate in AMO Board and Taskforce meetings, and engage in AMO's Healthy Democracy Project. [Applications](#) are due **on or before November 13 at 10 p.m.**

## Eye on Events

The 2024 ROMA Conference, themed *Closer to Home*, will provide rural municipal leaders the opportunity to address policy issues, funding concerns, and to meet directly with Provincial Ministers on local issues. Register by **October 27** to access early bird rates. For full registration and hotel information, [click here](#).

Don't be disappointed! Book your trade show booth today to ensure your participation in the 2024 ROMA Conference. Limited spaces available. Download the [exhibitor package](#) or [sponsorship package](#) today.

AMO and Hicks Morley have developed training to support municipal elected officials and council in understanding their obligations related to human rights and understanding how to manage seemingly competing human rights. You can register for this important training [here](#).

This training is for councillors with a good foundation in land use training and are ready to dive into strategic decision making. Engage in case studies and real life examples that are analyzed and understood through instructor lead instruction and group discussion. Register for the November 7 [Advanced](#) land use training.

OFIFC has developed a training to help build indigenous cultural competency in municipal government. Through a self-paced learning module and live virtual component, this training will provide knowledge and tools to utilize in moving improved and stronger relations forward in Ontario. Watch [here](#) for registration announcements.

AMO's Health and Safety Program Management partner, [4S Consulting](#), is hosting a webinar on November 14 at 8:30am ET on the double rebate offering from WSIB for municipal health and safety programs. [Register and learn](#) more on how to create sustainable health and safety programs.

## **LAS**

LAS is pleased to [announce it has secured a fixed hedge price](#) for the 12-month term from January 1 to December 31, 2024, for the 145 participants in the program.

The [LAS Road & Sidewalk Assessment](#) uses high-quality objective data to help you spend maintenance dollars wisely. Contact [Tanner](#) to get a free, no obligation quote for a survey of your community's roads and sidewalks.

Are you looking to upgrade your interior lighting, sports fields, or other outdoor lights next year? Our turn-key [Facility Lighting Service](#) has you covered. Contact [Christian Tham](#) to get a free proposal for your 2024 budget.

Our fall webinar series showcasing [Canoe Procurement Group](#) opportunities continues. Join us for educational webinars covering a range of topics from Electric Vehicles and charging systems to drone technology. [Check out our Events page](#) for all the registration details.

SaveOnEnergy is offering free training webinars for municipal energy/facility managers and directors. Learn how to integrate energy management principles, identify savings, and reduce cost in your municipal facilities. [Register](#) today.

## **Municipal Wire\***

The Ontario Municipal Administrators Association (OMAA) is offering an online seminar series on the [CAO Profile](#) and what it takes to be an effective CAO. The series will feature the workbook and many practical tips on what's required to succeed. [Register now](#).

[Fleming College](#) is seeking municipal environmental land-use planning and management projects to be implemented by students in the [Environmental Land Management](#) program. Contact [Emily Markovic](#) to discuss partnership opportunities.

## **Careers**

[Senior Program Advisor - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#). Please [apply online](#), only, by quoting Job ID 204474. Closing date: November 14.

[Team Lead - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#). Please [apply online](#), only, by quoting Job ID 204478. Closing date: November 14.

[Research and Policy Associate - City of Toronto](#). Support the development, coordination and implementation of programs, strategies and policies. Closing date: November 8.

[Municipal Clerk - Haldimand County](#). Execute the statutory duties as identified in the

Municipal Act and other provincial legislation. Closing date: November 8.

Asset Management Technician - City of Cambridge. Coordinate, review, and enter asset information provided from various internal/external sources into business system data repositories. Closing date: November 9.

Director Strategy & Engagement - City of Thunder Bay. Responsible for the strategic management, direction, efficient and effective operation of the Strategic Initiatives & Engagement Division. Closing date: November 14.

Manager of Facilities and Parks - Township of Rideau Lakes. Oversee all operations within the Municipal Properties department. Closing date: November 10.

Chief Administrative Officer - Municipality of Brighton. Responsible for providing administrative leadership to the Municipality. Closing date: November 10.

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#### 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 Inquiries

Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions

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#### AMO's Partners



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## The Men's Shed Will Pursue Independent Status

**October 20, 2023** – As of November 1, 2023, the Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed (The Shed) will be pursuing independent status.

The Shed opened its doors in February 2019 as a program under the Arnprior McNab/Braeside Seniors Active Living Center, managed by Arnprior Regional Health (ARH). The partnership between ARH and the Shed has been fruitful, but the members are looking to expand their services to the community and pursue opportunities beyond what the financial and regulatory requirements of a healthcare organization allow.

"We are grateful for all the support we have received from ARH. We wouldn't have got this far without them," says Gary McBurney, co-host of the Shed. "There is a lot we want to do to expand our reach, things like how-to workshops and courses. Becoming an independent entity gives us more freedom to do that."

### ARH will continue to support the Shed through the transition.

"We value the Men's Shed's commitment to the community," says Cathy Jordan, Chair of the ARH Board of Directors. "We are excited to see what they can accomplish, and we will continue to support them through this new phase."

The change in status won't affect the member experience, but it will allow the guys more flexibility to shape the organization and expand.

"We are proud of what we have accomplished so far," says Gary. "We have built accessible picnic tables, bird houses, lending libraries, planter boxes for the Grove Home, toys for families affected by wildfires in Nova Scotia. We have over 30 members and that number is growing."

The Shed will be returning to the location at 328 Neiman Dr. on November 1<sup>st</sup> and can be reached at [mensshedamb@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedamb@gmail.com) or on their [Facebook page](#).

### Media contact:

Taylor Holmes

*Communications and Community Engagement Lead*

[tholmes@arnpriorhealth.ca](mailto:tholmes@arnpriorhealth.ca)

[What's New @ ARH](#)[Media releases](#)[Publications](#)

## Thank a Staff Member

Send a special thank you message to one of our departments, staff members, physician's or volunteers.

[Send A Message](#)

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Share any concerns or an experience you had while accessing our services, we welcome your feedback.

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### CONTACT US

Arnprior Regional Health  
350 John Street North  
Arnprior, ON, Canada K7S 2P6  
Tel: 613-623-3166

October 23, 2023

To Our Municipal Clients:

Re: Assessment of Bill 134, *Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, 2023*

On behalf of our many municipal clients, we are writing to inform you of the Ontario Legislature's proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act* (D.C.A.) and the *Planning Act*, under Bill 134 (*Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act*). These proposed changes are with respect to the definition of an "affordable residential unit" for the purpose of exempting such developments from the payment of development charges (D.C.), community benefits charges (C.B.C.) and parkland dedication. The following comments will be included in our formal response to the Province, which we also intend to present to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy (Standing Committee) on November 15/16, 2023.

## 1. Introduction

The exemptions for affordable residential units were included in the *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23), enacted by the Province on November 28, 2022. Under this legislation, affordable residential units were defined within subsection 4.1 of the D.C.A. and exemptions for D.C., C.B.C. and parkland dedication were provided in respect of this definition. While the legislation was enacted in November 2022, the ability for municipalities to implement the exemptions required the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to publish an "Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin." This bulletin would inform average market rent and purchase price to be used in determining which developments qualify as affordable residential units. At the time of writing, this bulletin had not been published by the Minister.

The proposed legislation was posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario on September 28, 2023 (ERO 019-7669). The 30-day comment period closes on October 28, 2023. Bill 134 has received Second Reading in the legislature (October 4, 2023) and has been ordered referred to the Standing Committee.

## 2. Proposed Amendments to the D.C.A.

The definition proposed under Bill 134 modifies the affordable residential unit definition by:

- introducing an income-based test for affordable rent and purchase price; and
- increasing the threshold for the market test of affordable rent and purchase price.





The proposed amendment would provide the exemption based on the lesser of the two measures. Moreover, the rules in subsection 4.1 of the D.C.A. are unchanged with respect to:

- the tenant and purchaser transacting the affordable unit being at arm's length;
- the intent of maintaining the affordable residential unit definition for a 25-year period, requiring an agreement with the municipality (which may be registered on title); and
- exemptions for attainable residential units and associated rules (requiring further regulations).

The following table provides a comparison of the current definitions within the D.C.A. and those being proposed in Bill 134 (underlining added for emphasis).

Item	D.C.A. Definition	Bill 134 Definition
Affordable residential unit rented (subsection 4.1 (2), para. 1)	The rent is no greater than <u>80 per cent of the average market rent</u> , as determined in accordance with subsection (5).	The rent is no greater than <u>the lesser of</u> , i. the <u>income-based affordable rent</u> for the residential unit set out in the Affordable Residential Units bulletin, as identified by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in accordance with subsection (5), and ii. the <u>average market rent</u> identified for the residential unit set out in the Affordable Residential Units bulletin.
Average market rent/rent based on income (subsection 4.1 (5)) for the purposes of subsection 4.1 (2), para. 1	the <u>average market rent for the year in which the residential unit is occupied by a tenant</u> , as identified in the bulletin entitled the "Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin."	The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing shall, (a) determine the <u>income of a household</u> that, in the Minister's opinion, is <u>at the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile of gross annual incomes for renter households in the applicable local municipality</u> ; and (b) identify the <u>rent</u> that, in the Minister's opinion, is <u>equal to 30 per cent of the income of the household</u> referred to in clause (a).



Item	D.C.A. Definition	Bill 134 Definition
Affordable residential unit ownership (subsection 4.1 (3), para. 1)	The price of the residential unit is no greater than <u>80 per cent of the average purchase price</u> , as determined in accordance with subsection (6).	The price of the residential unit is no greater than <u>the lesser of</u> , i. the <u>income-based affordable purchase price</u> for the residential unit set out in the Affordable Residential Units bulletin, as identified by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in accordance with subsection (6), and ii. <u>90 per cent of the average purchase price</u> identified for the residential unit set out in the Affordable Residential Units bulletin.
Average market purchase price/purchase price based on income (subsection 4.1 (6)) for the purposes of subsection 4.1 (3), para. 1	the <u>average purchase price for the year in which the residential unit is sold</u> , as identified in the bulletin entitled the “Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin,” as it is amended from time to time, that is published by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on a website of the Government of Ontario.	the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing shall, (a) determine the <u>income of a household</u> that, in the Minister’s opinion, is at the <u>60<sup>th</sup> percentile of gross annual incomes for households in the applicable local municipality</u> ; and (b) identify the <u>purchase price</u> that, in the Minister’s opinion, <u>would result in annual accommodation costs equal to 30 per cent of the income of the household</u> referred to in clause (a)

### 3. Illustration of the Proposed Amendment

The proposed definition of an affordable residential unit is generally consistent with the 2020 Provincial Policy Statement (P.P.S.) and considers both income-based and market-price approaches to derive an affordable housing definition for both rental and ownership housing units. This is in contrast to the current D.C.A. definition implemented through Bill 23, which is solely based on the market-price approach.



The following provides an illustrative example of the two approaches and how the application of the affordable residential unit definitions would differ for rental and ownership housing. This example uses 2022 data for the Kingston regional market area. Note, this example is meant to be illustrative and uses data from the P.P.S. Housing Tables. The source of data to be used by the Province for the Affordable Residential Units bulletin, and the level of data disaggregation (by geography and unit type) has not yet been specified.

We have also provided, in an appendix, the P.P.S. Housing Tables for 2022 that may be of assistance to you in undertaking a similar analysis. The information in the appendix includes household income data for all households and renter households, as well as average resale house prices and rents.

### 3.1 Rental Housing Example

Applying the proposed affordable residential unit definition under Bill 134 for the Kingston regional market area:

- The average annual household income for renter households in the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2022 was \$68,900.
- 30% of this annual household income is \$20,670 or \$1,720 per month.
- The average market rent is \$1,390 per month.
- 80% of the average market rent is \$1,120 per month.
- Under the proposed definition, affordable residential units with a rental rate of \$1,390 per month or less would be exempt from D.C.s. This rental threshold is 25% (or \$278/month) higher than the current D.C.A. definition, which would establish this rental threshold at \$1,112 per month.

#### Proposed Bill 134 D.C.A. Definition (October 2023)

##### Lesser of a) or b) of the following

a) the income-based affordable rent based on 60 <sup>th</sup> percentile average household income \$68,900.	\$1,720 (1)
b) average market rent identified for the residential unit.	\$1,390 (2)
<b>Affordable Rental Unit (max. rent)</b>	<b>\$1,390</b>

#### Current D.C.A. Definition (More Homes Built Faster Act)

Where rent is no more than 80% of the average market rent	\$1,112 (2)
<b>Affordable Rental Unit (max. rent)</b>	<b>\$1,112</b>

Notes:

(1) Provincial Policy Statement Housing Table - Table 3: Renter Household Incomes and Affordable Rents, 2022

(2) Provincial Policy Statement Housing Table - Table 4. Average Rent by Bedroom Count



## 3.2 Ownership Housing Example

Applying the proposed affordable residential unit definition under Bill 134 for the Kingston regional market area:

- The average annual household income for all households in the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2022 was \$108,300.
- Annual accommodation costs equal to 30% of this annual household income ( $\$108,300 \times 0.3 / 12 = \$2,708$ ) represent the carrying cost per month derived from typical monthly mortgage costs, property taxes, and mortgage insurance costs.<sup>[1]</sup> This calculation equates to a purchase price of \$372,500.
- 90% of the average purchase price is \$523,500 (based on an average resale house price of \$581,700).
- 80% of the average purchase price is \$465,360.
- Under the proposed definition, affordable residential units purchased at \$372,500 or less would be exempt from D.C.s. This purchase price threshold is approximately 20% (or \$92,860) lower than under the current D.C.A. definition, which would establish the purchase price at \$465,360.

### Proposed Bill 134 D.C.A. Definition (October 2023) Lesser of a) or b) of the following

a) the income-based affordable purchase price based on 60 <sup>th</sup> income percentile household income of \$108,300.	\$372,500 (1)
b) 90% of the average purchase price.	\$523,500 (2)
<b>Affordable Ownership Unit (max. purchase price)</b>	<b>\$372,500</b>

Notes:

(1) Provincial Policy Statement Housing Table - Table 1: All Households Incomes and Affordable House Prices, 2022

(2) Provincial Policy Statement Housing Table - Table 2: Average Resale House Price and 10% Below Average Resale Price, 2022

### Current D.C.A. Definition (More Homes Built Faster Act)

Where the price of the unit is no more than 80% of the average purchase price.	\$465,360 (2)
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<b>Affordable Ownership Unit (max. purchase price)</b>	<b>\$465,360</b>
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## 4. Comments on the Proposed Amendment

In comparison to the current D.C.A. definition of affordable residential units, the following observations are provided:

<sup>[1]</sup> Mortgage payments based on a 25-year mortgage at 4.79% interest rate and 5% down payment. Estimated monthly property taxes = 0.125% of house value. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation mortgage loan insurance premium = 4.0% of loan amount. It is not yet clear if/to what extent these align with “accommodation costs” to be considered for the purposes of the income-based test proposed in Bill 134.



- The refined definition of affordable residential units presented in Bill 134 aligns with the income-based approach utilized in the 2020 P.P.S. This, in contrast to the current market-based approach, better aligns with how a number of municipalities define affordable developments in their housing strategies. However, as provided in our comments on Bill 23, while it is an admirable goal to create additional affordable housing units, further D.C., C.B.C., and parkland exemptions will continue to provide further financial burdens on municipalities to fund these exemptions.
- Based on the P.P.S. Housing Tables provided in the appendix:
  - The rent at which a residential unit would be considered affordable is higher under the Bill 134 proposal, compared to the current D.C.A. definition. This would imply that more rental units would receive the exemption relative to the wording provided in Bill 23, providing a greater incentive for affordable rental units.
  - Based on the information contained in this data source, the income test appears to be irrelevant for rental units, as market rent is consistently lower than the affordable rent (based on 60<sup>th</sup> percentile average household income) across all regional market areas.
  - Conversely, the affordability threshold for ownership housing units, exhibited in this data source, would generally appear to be lower when applying the income-based approach. As a result, Bill 134 is anticipated to incentivize purpose-built rental units over ownership housing.
  - Moreover, this would appear to provide exemptions for ownership affordable residential units that are more aligned with household income than market value.
  - It should also be noted that, based on the provincial average in the data tables, average market purchase prices are approximately double the affordable purchase prices. Based on this observation, only very small residential units, such as studio-type condominium units, may be priced at a point where they would qualify for the affordable residential units exemption. This would mean that establishing affordability using averages across all unit types may not help address the problem of “missing middle”<sup>[1]</sup> housing, which would typically be geared towards families.

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<sup>[1]</sup> The “missing middle” describes a range of medium-density housing types between single-detached houses and apartment buildings. This includes a range of multi-unit or clustered housing types compatible in scale with single-family homes that help meet the growing demand for walkable urban living, such as duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, rowhouses, and townhouses. Source: [https://www.evergreen.ca/downloads/pdfs/2018/What is the Missing Middle Evergreen CUI s2.pdf](https://www.evergreen.ca/downloads/pdfs/2018/What%20is%20the%20Missing%20Middle%20Evergreen%20CUI%20s2.pdf)



- The proposed definition considers local income in addition to market prices. While the definition clearly identifies that annual incomes for households within the “applicable local municipality” will be used in the income-based test, the local municipality does not appear in the average market rent/purchase price definition. Concerns about the geographic scope of the bulletin and potential implications across local municipalities due to variations in income levels still remain.
- The income level is set at the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile of gross annual income in the applicable local municipality, distinguishing between renter households and all other households. The basis for determination of gross annual income is not provided in the legislation and will be informed by the Minister’s bulletin.
- For affordable households, the rent would be established at 30% of income, and purchase price at accommodation costs equal to 30% of income. A definition of accommodation costs is not provided in the legislation and will be informed by the Minister’s bulletin. The basis for calculating accommodation costs is unclear, and carrying costs need to reflect representative costs of home ownership, including typical mortgage costs, property taxes, and property insurance, as well as condominium fees, where applicable.
- The basis for market rents and purchase prices will be required. Many municipalities utilize Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation data for establishing average market rents in affordable housing strategies. As noted earlier, it is unclear from the legislation how the average market rents and purchase prices will be determined.
- As currently written, the legislation is unclear if market rent and purchase price will be determined using overall averages or averages disaggregated by dwelling unit type or size. Establishing average rents and purchase prices using overall averages across all dwelling unit types will provide higher average values than those established by dwelling unit type and size, which would have greater exemption implications for municipalities with a larger amount of high-density development. As noted earlier, this approach would also tend to favour smaller condominium units, which would more likely meet the affordability threshold, in contrast to larger family sized units, which would likely not qualify for D.C. exemptions.
- Subsections 4.1 (5) and (6) of the D.C.A. currently identify the market rent/purchase price in the year the unit is occupied/sold as identified in the bulletin. This would appear to indicate an annual publication of the bulletin. The proposed definition of the “affordable residential units bulletin” does not imply an annual publication. The timing for publishing the bulletin should be clarified.
- The market test proposed in the definition is increased from 80% of average market rent/purchase price under the D.C.A. currently, to average market rent and 90% of the average market purchase price.



- The D.C.A. defines “rental housing development” for the purposes of the mandatory instalment payments in section 26.1 of the D.C.A. and the discounts for rental housing development in section 26.2. Affordable residential rental units within subsection 4.1 (2) are not specifically defined as rental housing development and, therefore, it does not appear that there is a requirement for those units to be in a building or structure with four or more units.
- The introduction of the income test for affordable residential units will increase municipal administration costs of agreements and the requirement to ensure these units remain affordable over a 25-year period. These administrative burdens will be cumbersome and will need to be monitored and coordinated by both upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities. Further clarification is required with respect to:
  - The parties to the agreement (e.g., developer vs. builder vs. owner);
  - The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing establishing standard forms of agreement, as provided under subsection 4.1 (12); and
  - Reporting requirements and onus (i.e., should the municipality reach out to the parties of each agreement or should the parties to the agreement be required to report to the municipality?).

As summarized above, there are several concerns and areas of clarification that Watson will be advancing in our submission through the Environmental Registry of Ontario. Watson will also be seeking an opportunity to speak as a delegation to the Standing Committee to provide our concerns on behalf of our municipal clients.

We will continue to monitor the progress of Bill 134 through the legislature and will continue to keep our clients informed of any changes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

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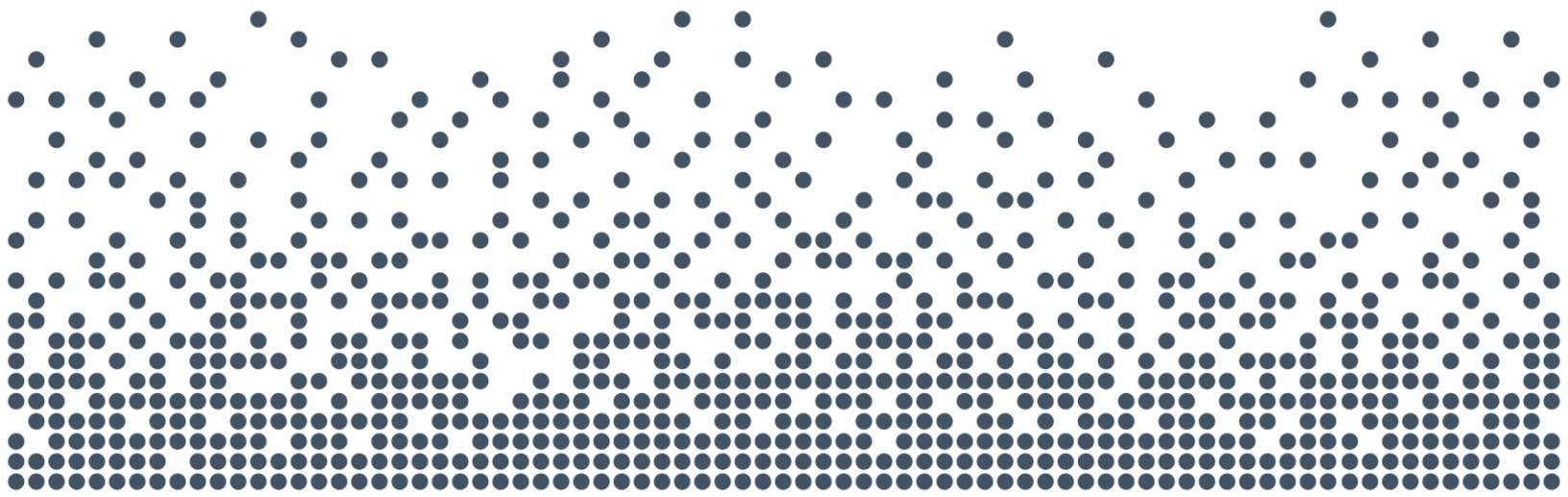
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# Appendix

# Provincial Policy Statement – Housing Table

Table 1: All Households Incomes and Affordable House Prices, 2022

Regional Market Area	10th Income Percentile	10th Percentile Affordable House Price	20th Income Percentile	20th Percentile Affordable House Price	30th Income Percentile	30th Percentile Affordable House Price	40th Income Percentile	40th Percentile Affordable House Price	50th Income Percentile	50th Percentile Affordable House Price	60th Income Percentile	60th Percentile Affordable House Price	70th Income Percentile	70th Percentile Affordable House Price	80th Income Percentile	80th Percentile Affordable House Price	90th Income Percentile	90th Percentile Affordable House Price
<b>Ontario</b>	\$31,200	\$107,200	\$49,100	\$168,800	\$65,400	\$225,000	\$82,300	\$283,200	\$100,500	\$345,900	\$120,400	\$414,300	\$145,800	\$501,700	\$179,000	\$615,800	\$236,400	\$813,400
City of Toronto	\$26,300	\$90,600	\$42,400	\$146,000	\$58,800	\$202,200	\$75,100	\$258,500	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$138,100	\$475,100	\$176,800	\$608,200	\$247,500	\$851,400
<b>Central</b>	\$36,700	\$126,200	\$56,100	\$193,100	\$74,600	\$256,600	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$134,800	\$463,700	\$160,200	\$551,200	\$196,600	\$676,600	\$254,100	\$874,300
Regional Municipality of Durham	\$40,700	\$139,900	\$61,400	\$211,300	\$80,100	\$275,600	\$99,400	\$342,100	\$118,200	\$406,700	\$140,300	\$482,700	\$165,700	\$570,200	\$198,900	\$684,200	\$251,900	\$866,600
Regional Municipality of Halton	\$42,400	\$146,000	\$66,300	\$228,100	\$87,800	\$302,200	\$110,500	\$380,100	\$133,700	\$459,900	\$160,200	\$551,200	\$192,200	\$661,400	\$234,200	\$805,800	\$309,300	\$1,064,300
City of Hamilton	\$29,600	\$101,900	\$46,000	\$158,100	\$61,400	\$211,300	\$77,300	\$266,100	\$93,900	\$323,100	\$113,800	\$391,500	\$137,000	\$471,300	\$169,000	\$581,600	\$221,000	\$760,200
District Municipality of Muskoka	\$29,400	\$101,100	\$46,400	\$159,600	\$61,000	\$209,800	\$75,100	\$258,500	\$91,700	\$315,500	\$108,300	\$372,500	\$129,300	\$444,700	\$159,100	\$547,400	\$209,900	\$722,200
Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$30,000	\$103,400	\$45,100	\$155,100	\$58,300	\$200,700	\$72,400	\$249,000	\$87,800	\$302,200	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$124,800	\$429,500	\$152,500	\$524,600	\$198,900	\$684,200
Regional Municipality of Peel	\$40,200	\$138,400	\$61,900	\$212,900	\$81,200	\$279,400	\$99,400	\$342,100	\$118,200	\$406,700	\$139,200	\$478,900	\$164,600	\$566,400	\$196,600	\$676,600	\$251,900	\$866,600
County of Simcoe	\$35,100	\$120,900	\$52,600	\$180,900	\$69,400	\$238,700	\$85,600	\$294,600	\$102,700	\$353,500	\$121,500	\$418,100	\$143,600	\$494,100	\$173,400	\$596,800	\$223,200	\$767,800
Regional Municipality of York	\$38,000	\$130,800	\$59,700	\$205,300	\$80,600	\$277,500	\$100,500	\$345,900	\$123,700	\$425,700	\$149,100	\$513,100	\$179,000	\$615,800	\$218,700	\$752,600	\$282,800	\$973,100
<b>Eastern</b>	\$31,400	\$108,000	\$49,100	\$168,800	\$65,400	\$225,000	\$81,800	\$281,300	\$99,400	\$342,100	\$118,200	\$406,700	\$142,500	\$490,300	\$174,600	\$600,600	\$227,600	\$783,000
City of Cornwall	\$27,000	\$92,700	\$40,700	\$139,900	\$53,000	\$182,500	\$66,700	\$229,600	\$80,600	\$277,500	\$97,200	\$334,500	\$116,000	\$399,100	\$141,400	\$486,500	\$183,400	\$631,000
County of Hastings	\$28,900	\$99,600	\$43,300	\$148,000	\$55,700	\$191,600	\$68,900	\$237,200	\$82,900	\$285,100	\$99,400	\$342,100	\$118,200	\$406,700	\$142,500	\$490,300	\$183,400	\$631,000
Kawartha Lakes Division	\$29,600	\$101,900	\$45,500	\$156,600	\$60,100	\$206,800	\$74,000	\$254,700	\$90,600	\$311,700	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$129,300	\$444,700	\$154,700	\$532,200	\$203,300	\$699,400
Haliburton County	\$27,800	\$95,800	\$41,500	\$142,900	\$54,400	\$187,000	\$66,700	\$229,600	\$81,200	\$279,400	\$97,200	\$334,500	\$116,000	\$399,100	\$140,300	\$482,700	\$182,200	\$661,400
City of Kawartha Lakes + Haliburton	\$29,200	\$100,300	\$44,600	\$153,600	\$58,800	\$202,200	\$72,900	\$250,900	\$87,800	\$302,200	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$125,900	\$433,300	\$152,500	\$524,600	\$201,100	\$691,800
City of Kingston	\$28,700	\$98,800	\$45,100	\$155,100	\$59,200	\$203,700	\$74,000	\$254,700	\$89,500	\$307,900	\$108,300	\$372,500	\$130,400	\$448,500	\$160,200	\$551,200	\$209,900	\$722,200
County of Lanark	\$32,500	\$111,800	\$49,900	\$171,800	\$65,400	\$225,000	\$80,100	\$275,600	\$97,200	\$334,500	\$114,900	\$395,300	\$135,900	\$467,500	\$163,500	\$562,600	\$212,100	\$729,800
UC of Leeds and Grenville	\$30,500	\$104,900	\$46,000	\$158,100	\$60,100	\$206,800	\$75,100	\$258,500	\$90,600	\$311,700	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$128,200	\$440,900	\$155,800	\$536,000	\$201,100	\$691,800
County of Lennox and Addington	\$32,300	\$111,000	\$48,600	\$167,200	\$64,500	\$222,000	\$79,000	\$271,800	\$93,900	\$323,100	\$110,500	\$380,100	\$129,300	\$444,700	\$158,000	\$543,600	\$194,400	\$669,000
Prince Edward Division	\$32,000	\$110,200	\$46,800	\$161,200	\$60,500	\$208,300	\$74,600	\$256,600	\$90,600	\$311,700	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$127,000	\$437,100	\$156,900	\$539,800	\$212,100	\$729,800
County of Lennox & Addington + Prince Edward Division	\$32,000	\$110,200	\$47,700	\$164,200	\$62,800	\$215,900	\$77,300	\$266,100	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$109,400	\$376,300	\$129,300	\$440,900	\$156,900	\$539,800	\$201,100	\$691,800
County of Northumberland	\$32,900	\$113,300	\$48,600	\$167,200	\$63,200	\$217,400	\$77,300	\$266,100	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$110,500	\$380,100	\$131,500	\$452,300	\$160,200	\$551,200	\$207,700	\$714,600
City of Ottawa	\$35,100	\$120,900	\$56,100	\$193,100	\$75,100	\$258,500	\$93,900	\$323,100	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$134,800	\$463,700	\$162,400	\$558,800	\$198,900	\$684,200	\$258,500	\$889,500
City of Peterborough	\$29,400	\$101,100	\$44,200	\$152,000	\$58,300	\$200,700	\$72,400	\$249,000	\$87,300	\$300,300	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$125,900	\$433,300	\$154,700	\$532,200	\$203,300	\$699,400
UC of Prescott and Russell	\$33,100	\$114,000	\$51,300	\$176,400	\$69,800	\$240,200	\$87,300	\$300,300	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$124,800	\$429,500	\$146,900	\$505,500	\$175,700	\$564,400	\$218,700	\$752,600
County of Renfrew	\$29,400	\$101,100	\$44,600	\$153,600	\$59,700	\$205,300	\$74,000	\$254,700	\$89,500	\$307,900	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$125,900	\$433,300	\$154,600	\$520,700	\$192,200	\$661,400
<b>Southwestern</b>	\$31,400	\$108,000	\$47,700	\$164,200	\$62,300	\$214,400	\$77,900	\$268,000	\$93,900	\$323,100	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$134,800	\$463,700	\$164,600	\$566,400	\$214,300	\$737,400
City of Brantford	\$31,200	\$107,200	\$47,700	\$164,200	\$62,300	\$214,400	\$77,900	\$268,000	\$93,900	\$323,100	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$133,700	\$459,900	\$161,300	\$555,000	\$205,500	\$707,000
County of Bruce	\$31,600	\$108,700	\$48,200	\$165,700	\$62,800	\$215,900	\$79,000	\$271,800	\$96,100	\$330,700	\$116,000	\$399,100	\$143,600	\$494,100	\$176,800	\$608,200	\$240,800	\$828,600
Municipality of Chatham-Kent	\$28,300	\$97,300	\$41,100	\$141,400	\$53,000	\$182,500	\$65,000	\$223,500	\$79,500	\$273,700	\$95,000	\$326,900	\$114,900	\$395,300	\$139,200	\$478,900	\$183,400	\$631,000
County of Dufferin	\$38,900	\$133,800	\$61,000	\$209,800	\$82,300	\$283,200	\$100,500	\$345,900	\$119,300	\$410,500	\$141,400	\$486,500	\$164,600	\$566,400	\$196,600	\$676,600	\$245,300	\$843,800
County of Grey	\$28,700	\$98,800	\$43,300	\$149,000	\$56,600	\$194,600	\$70,700	\$243,300	\$86,200	\$296,500	\$103,800	\$357,300	\$124,800	\$429,500	\$153,600	\$528,400	\$205,500	\$707,000
County of Huron	\$29,400	\$101,100	\$44,200	\$152,000	\$57,400	\$197,700	\$72,400	\$249,000	\$86,700	\$298,400	\$102,700	\$353,500	\$123,700	\$425,700	\$151,400	\$520,700	\$198,900	\$684,200
County of Lambton	\$30,900	\$106,400	\$46,400	\$159,600	\$61,000	\$209,800	\$76,200	\$262,300	\$91,700	\$315,500	\$109,400	\$376,300	\$132,600	\$456,100	\$162,400	\$558,800	\$214,300	\$737,400
City of London	\$28,900	\$99,600	\$44,200	\$152,000	\$58,300	\$200,700	\$72,400	\$249,000	\$87,800	\$302,200	\$105,000	\$361,100	\$127,000	\$437,100	\$155,800	\$536,000	\$205,500	\$707,000
County of Norfolk	\$32,000	\$110,200	\$48,600	\$167,200	\$63,200	\$217,400	\$78,400	\$269,900	\$95,000	\$326,900	\$111,600	\$383,900	\$132,600	\$456,100	\$158,000	\$543,600	\$201,100	\$691,800
County of Oxford	\$33,600	\$115,600	\$50,800	\$174,900	\$65,000	\$223,500	\$79,500	\$273,700	\$96,100	\$330,700	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$132,600	\$456,100	\$159,100	\$547,400	\$203,300	\$699,400
City of St. Thomas	\$31,800	\$109,600	\$47,300	\$162,700	\$61,400	\$211,300	\$76,200	\$262,300	\$91,700	\$315,500	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$127,000	\$437,100	\$152,500	\$524,600	\$192,200	\$661,400
City of Stratford	\$32,500	\$111,800	\$48,600	\$167,200	\$62,300	\$214,400	\$77,300	\$266,100	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$110,500	\$380,100	\$130,400	\$448,500	\$156,900	\$539,800	\$201,100	\$691,800
Regional Municipality of Waterloo	\$34,000	\$117,100	\$51,700	\$177,900	\$68,100	\$234,100	\$84,500	\$290,800	\$101,600	\$349,700	\$121,500	\$418,100	\$144,700	\$497,900	\$175,700	\$604,400	\$227,600	\$783,000
County of Wellington	\$35,400	\$121,600	\$54,400	\$187,000	\$71,300	\$245,200	\$88,400	\$304,100	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$128,200	\$440,900	\$151,400	\$520,700	\$183,400	\$631,000	\$238,600	\$821,000
City of Windsor	\$30,500	\$104,900	\$46,400	\$159,600	\$60,100	\$206,800	\$74,000	\$256,600	\$90,600	\$311,700	\$108,300	\$372,500	\$130,400	\$448,500	\$162,400	\$558,800	\$212,100	\$729,800
<b>Northeastern</b>	\$27,400	\$94,300	\$41,500	\$142,900	\$54,400	\$187,000	\$68,500	\$235,700	\$84,500	\$290,800	\$102,700	\$353,500	\$124,800	\$429,500	\$153,600	\$528,400	\$198,900	\$684,200
Algoma District	\$26,500	\$91,200	\$38,400	\$132,300	\$50,400	\$173,300	\$62,800	\$215,900	\$77,300	\$266,100	\$95,000	\$326,900	\$116,000	\$399,100	\$142,500	\$490,300	\$185,600	\$638,600
Algoma DSSAB	\$26,100	\$89,700	\$36,700	\$126,200	\$47,700	\$164,200	\$58,800	\$202,200	\$72,400	\$249,000	\$89,500	\$307,900	\$109,400	\$376,300	\$135,900	\$467,500	\$176,800	\$608,200
Cochrane DSSAB	\$27,200	\$93,500	\$41,500	\$142,900	\$55,200	\$190,100	\$70,700	\$243,300	\$86,700	\$298,400	\$107,200	\$368,700	\$130,400	\$448,500	\$162,400	\$558,800	\$205,500	\$707,000
City of Greater Sudbury	\$29,800	\$102,600	\$46,000	\$158,100	\$61,000	\$209,800	\$75,700	\$260,400	\$92,800	\$319,300	\$112,700	\$387,700	\$138,100	\$475,100	\$169,000	\$581,600	\$221,000	\$760,200
Manitowlin District	\$24,300	\$83,600	\$34,200	\$117,800	\$46,800	\$161,200	\$58,300	\$200,700	\$71,300	\$245,200	\$85,600	\$294,600	\$102,700	\$353,500	\$123,700	\$425,700	\$160,200	\$551,200
Sudbury District	\$27,400	\$94,300	\$42,400	\$146,000	\$55,700	\$191,600	\$68,900	\$237,200	\$84,500	\$290,800	\$100,500	\$345,900	\$121,500	\$418,100	\$148,000	\$509,300	\$190,000	\$653,800
Manitowlin - Sudbury DSSAB	\$27,200	\$93,500	\$42,000	\$144,400	\$54,800	\$188,500	\$67,600	\$232,600	\$82,900	\$285,100	\$98,300	\$338,300	\$118,200	\$406,700	\$142,500	\$490,300	\$185,600	\$638,600
Nipissing DSSAB	\$26,700	\$92,000	\$39,800	\$136,800	\$52,100	\$179,400	\$65,000	\$223,500	\$80,100	\$275,600	\$96,100	\$330,700	\$117,100	\$402,900				

**Table 2: 10% Below Average Resale Price, 2022**

Regional Market Area	Average Resale Price 2022	10% Below Average Resale Price 2022
<b>Ontario</b>	\$813,000	\$731,700
City of Toronto	\$1,146,500	\$1,031,800
<b>Central</b>	\$1,030,100	\$927,100
Regional Municipality of Durham	\$893,000	\$803,700
Regional Municipality of Halton	\$1,206,300	\$1,085,700
City of Hamilton	\$805,100	\$724,600
District Municipality of Muskoka	\$920,800	\$828,700
Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$667,700	\$601,000
Regional Municipality of Peel	\$1,052,500	\$947,300
County of Simcoe	\$791,500	\$712,300
Regional Municipality of York	\$1,271,000	\$1,143,900
<b>Eastern</b>	\$536,800	\$483,100
City of Cornwall	\$384,400	\$345,900
County of Hastings	\$495,000	\$445,500
City of Kawartha Lakes	\$671,100	\$604,000
City of Kingston	\$581,700	\$523,500
County of Lanark	\$520,300	\$468,200
UC of Leeds and Grenville	\$470,000	\$423,000
County of Lennox and Addington	\$638,700	\$574,800
County of Northumberland	\$673,300	\$606,000
City of Ottawa	\$670,900	\$603,800
City of Peterborough	\$675,200	\$607,700
UC of Prescott and Russell	\$462,400	\$416,200
County of Renfrew	\$399,600	\$359,700
<b>Southwestern</b>	\$650,900	\$585,800
City of Brantford	\$672,400	\$605,200
County of Bruce	\$589,500	\$530,500
Municipality of Chatham-Kent	\$410,900	\$369,800
County of Dufferin	\$923,900	\$831,500
County of Grey	\$712,200	\$641,000
County of Huron	\$569,700	\$512,700
County of Lambton	\$527,000	\$474,300
City of London	\$621,600	\$559,400
County of Norfolk	\$626,900	\$564,200
County of Oxford	\$639,000	\$575,100
City of St. Thomas	\$558,400	\$502,600
City of Stratford	\$609,000	\$548,100
Regional Municipality of Waterloo	\$754,800	\$679,300
County of Wellington	\$830,400	\$747,400
City of Windsor	\$523,400	\$471,000
<b>Northeastern</b>	\$375,800	\$338,200
Algoma DSAB	\$256,700	\$231,000
Cochrane DSSAB	\$254,400	\$229,000
City of Greater Sudbury	\$414,600	\$373,100
Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB	\$332,800	\$299,500
Nipissing DSSAB	\$393,800	\$354,400
Parry Sound DSSAB	\$692,300	\$623,100
Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB	\$312,600	\$281,300
Timiskaming DSSAB	\$246,300	\$221,700
<b>Northwestern</b>	\$322,500	\$290,300
Kenora DSSAB	\$356,400	\$320,800
Rainy River DSSAB	\$247,800	\$223,000
Thunder Bay DSSAB	\$320,400	\$288,300

Source: Real Property Solutions House Price Index

Note: The average resale price may be influenced, particularly in smaller areas, by the number and type of house resales.

Contact: Stewart Houghton | Community and Supportive Housing Division | [Housing.Research@ontario.ca](mailto:Housing.Research@ontario.ca)

Provincial Policy Statement – Housing Table

Table 3: Renter Household Incomes and Affordable Rents, 2022

Regional Market Area	10th Income Percentile	10th Percentile Affordable Rent	20th Income Percentile	20th Percentile Affordable Rent	30th Income Percentile	30th Percentile Affordable Rent	40th Income Percentile	40th Percentile Affordable Rent	50th Income Percentile	50th Percentile Affordable Rent	60th Income Percentile	60th Percentile Affordable Rent	70th Income Percentile	70th Percentile Affordable Rent	80th Income Percentile	80th Percentile Affordable Rent	90th Income Percentile	90th Percentile Affordable Rent
<b>Ontario</b>	\$23,000	<b>\$570</b>	\$30,700	<b>\$770</b>	\$41,500	<b>\$1,040</b>	\$52,600	<b>\$1,310</b>	\$64,500	<b>\$1,610</b>	\$77,900	<b>\$1,950</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$113,800	<b>\$2,840</b>	\$149,100	<b>\$3,730</b>
City of Toronto	\$22,500	<b>\$560</b>	\$31,400	<b>\$780</b>	\$43,700	<b>\$1,090</b>	\$56,600	<b>\$1,410</b>	\$69,800	<b>\$1,750</b>	\$84,500	<b>\$2,110</b>	\$101,600	<b>\$2,540</b>	\$123,700	<b>\$3,090</b>	\$163,500	<b>\$4,090</b>
<b>Central</b>	\$24,500	<b>\$610</b>	\$33,400	<b>\$830</b>	\$44,600	<b>\$1,120</b>	\$56,100	<b>\$1,400</b>	\$68,500	<b>\$1,710</b>	\$82,300	<b>\$2,060</b>	\$98,300	<b>\$2,460</b>	\$120,400	<b>\$3,010</b>	\$155,800	<b>\$3,890</b>
Regional Municipality of Durham	\$25,000	<b>\$620</b>	\$34,000	<b>\$850</b>	\$45,100	<b>\$1,130</b>	\$55,700	<b>\$1,390</b>	\$68,100	<b>\$1,700</b>	\$81,800	<b>\$2,040</b>	\$97,200	<b>\$2,430</b>	\$118,200	<b>\$2,960</b>	\$152,500	<b>\$3,810</b>
Regional Municipality of Halton	\$25,600	<b>\$640</b>	\$38,000	<b>\$950</b>	\$51,300	<b>\$1,280</b>	\$65,000	<b>\$1,620</b>	\$79,500	<b>\$1,990</b>	\$95,000	<b>\$2,380</b>	\$114,900	<b>\$2,870</b>	\$140,300	<b>\$3,510</b>	\$187,800	<b>\$4,700</b>
City of Hamilton	\$20,800	<b>\$520</b>	\$28,900	<b>\$720</b>	\$38,900	<b>\$970</b>	\$47,700	<b>\$1,190</b>	\$57,900	<b>\$1,450</b>	\$69,800	<b>\$1,750</b>	\$83,400	<b>\$2,090</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$129,300	<b>\$3,230</b>
District Municipality of Muskoka	\$21,400	<b>\$540</b>	\$27,600	<b>\$690</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$45,500	<b>\$1,140</b>	\$53,900	<b>\$1,350</b>	\$65,400	<b>\$1,640</b>	\$77,900	<b>\$1,950</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$124,800	<b>\$3,120</b>
Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$21,700	<b>\$540</b>	\$28,300	<b>\$710</b>	\$36,700	<b>\$920</b>	\$44,600	<b>\$1,120</b>	\$53,900	<b>\$1,350</b>	\$64,500	<b>\$1,610</b>	\$77,900	<b>\$1,920</b>	\$95,000	<b>\$2,380</b>	\$122,600	<b>\$3,070</b>
Regional Municipality of Peel	\$25,200	<b>\$630</b>	\$38,400	<b>\$960</b>	\$52,100	<b>\$1,300</b>	\$65,000	<b>\$1,620</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$109,400	<b>\$2,730</b>	\$130,400	<b>\$3,260</b>	\$166,800	<b>\$4,170</b>
County of Simcoe	\$25,000	<b>\$620</b>	\$32,900	<b>\$820</b>	\$43,700	<b>\$1,090</b>	\$53,900	<b>\$1,350</b>	\$65,800	<b>\$1,650</b>	\$79,000	<b>\$1,970</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$113,800	<b>\$2,840</b>	\$146,900	<b>\$3,670</b>
Regional Municipality of York	\$24,500	<b>\$610</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$47,700	<b>\$1,190</b>	\$61,400	<b>\$1,540</b>	\$75,700	<b>\$1,890</b>	\$90,600	<b>\$2,260</b>	\$109,400	<b>\$2,730</b>	\$133,700	<b>\$3,340</b>	\$176,800	<b>\$4,420</b>
<b>Eastern</b>	\$22,800	<b>\$570</b>	\$30,300	<b>\$760</b>	\$40,700	<b>\$1,020</b>	\$50,800	<b>\$1,270</b>	\$62,300	<b>\$1,580</b>	\$75,100	<b>\$1,880</b>	\$90,600	<b>\$2,260</b>	\$109,400	<b>\$2,730</b>	\$141,400	<b>\$3,540</b>
City of Cornwall	\$21,400	<b>\$540</b>	\$26,700	<b>\$670</b>	\$32,500	<b>\$810</b>	\$41,100	<b>\$1,030</b>	\$49,500	<b>\$1,240</b>	\$58,800	<b>\$1,470</b>	\$71,300	<b>\$1,780</b>	\$86,700	<b>\$2,170</b>	\$111,600	<b>\$2,790</b>
County of Hastings	\$22,500	<b>\$560</b>	\$28,100	<b>\$700</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$44,600	<b>\$1,120</b>	\$53,000	<b>\$1,330</b>	\$63,200	<b>\$1,580</b>	\$76,800	<b>\$1,920</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$118,200	<b>\$2,960</b>
Kawartha Lakes Division	\$19,400	<b>\$490</b>	\$26,100	<b>\$650</b>	\$31,800	<b>\$800</b>	\$41,100	<b>\$1,030</b>	\$49,900	<b>\$1,250</b>	\$61,900	<b>\$1,550</b>	\$74,600	<b>\$1,860</b>	\$95,000	<b>\$2,380</b>	\$124,800	<b>\$3,120</b>
Haliburton County	\$20,100	<b>\$500</b>	\$27,000	<b>\$670</b>	\$32,300	<b>\$810</b>	\$40,700	<b>\$1,020</b>	\$48,200	<b>\$1,200</b>	\$58,300	<b>\$1,460</b>	\$74,000	<b>\$1,850</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$119,300	<b>\$2,980</b>
City of Kawartha Lakes + Haliburton	\$19,400	<b>\$490</b>	\$26,100	<b>\$650</b>	\$31,800	<b>\$800</b>	\$41,100	<b>\$1,030</b>	\$49,500	<b>\$1,240</b>	\$61,400	<b>\$1,540</b>	\$74,600	<b>\$1,860</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$122,600	<b>\$3,070</b>
City of Kingston	\$21,000	<b>\$520</b>	\$29,200	<b>\$730</b>	\$38,400	<b>\$960</b>	\$47,300	<b>\$1,180</b>	\$57,400	<b>\$1,440</b>	\$68,900	<b>\$1,720</b>	\$82,900	<b>\$2,070</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$132,600	<b>\$3,310</b>
County of Lanark	\$21,200	<b>\$530</b>	\$27,800	<b>\$700</b>	\$37,100	<b>\$930</b>	\$45,500	<b>\$1,140</b>	\$54,400	<b>\$1,360</b>	\$65,000	<b>\$1,620</b>	\$75,700	<b>\$1,890</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$122,600	<b>\$3,070</b>
UC of Leeds and Grenville	\$21,700	<b>\$540</b>	\$27,400	<b>\$680</b>	\$35,100	<b>\$880</b>	\$42,900	<b>\$1,070</b>	\$51,300	<b>\$1,280</b>	\$61,900	<b>\$1,550</b>	\$75,700	<b>\$1,890</b>	\$90,600	<b>\$2,260</b>	\$116,000	<b>\$2,900</b>
County of Lennox and Addington	\$22,500	<b>\$560</b>	\$28,500	<b>\$710</b>	\$35,100	<b>\$880</b>	\$45,100	<b>\$1,130</b>	\$55,700	<b>\$1,390</b>	\$65,800	<b>\$1,650</b>	\$79,000	<b>\$1,970</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$123,700	<b>\$3,090</b>
Prince Edward Division	\$24,100	<b>\$600</b>	\$28,900	<b>\$720</b>	\$38,000	<b>\$950</b>	\$46,400	<b>\$1,160</b>	\$57,400	<b>\$1,440</b>	\$66,300	<b>\$1,660</b>	\$77,900	<b>\$1,950</b>	\$98,300	<b>\$2,460</b>	\$127,000	<b>\$3,180</b>
County of Lennox + Addington + Prince Edward Division	\$23,000	<b>\$570</b>	\$28,700	<b>\$720</b>	\$36,200	<b>\$910</b>	\$46,000	<b>\$1,150</b>	\$56,600	<b>\$1,410</b>	\$66,300	<b>\$1,660</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$125,900	<b>\$3,150</b>
County of Northumberland	\$23,200	<b>\$580</b>	\$28,900	<b>\$720</b>	\$37,600	<b>\$940</b>	\$45,500	<b>\$1,140</b>	\$54,800	<b>\$1,370</b>	\$66,300	<b>\$1,660</b>	\$81,200	<b>\$2,030</b>	\$98,300	<b>\$2,460</b>	\$125,900	<b>\$3,150</b>
City of Ottawa	\$23,600	<b>\$590</b>	\$34,200	<b>\$860</b>	\$46,000	<b>\$1,150</b>	\$58,300	<b>\$1,460</b>	\$70,700	<b>\$1,770</b>	\$85,100	<b>\$2,130</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$121,500	<b>\$3,040</b>	\$156,900	<b>\$3,920</b>
City of Peterborough	\$21,700	<b>\$540</b>	\$27,800	<b>\$700</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$43,700	<b>\$1,090</b>	\$53,000	<b>\$1,330</b>	\$63,600	<b>\$1,590</b>	\$76,200	<b>\$1,910</b>	\$91,700	<b>\$2,290</b>	\$117,100	<b>\$2,930</b>
UC of Prescott and Russell	\$23,200	<b>\$580</b>	\$28,100	<b>\$700</b>	\$35,800	<b>\$890</b>	\$44,200	<b>\$1,100</b>	\$53,000	<b>\$1,330</b>	\$66,300	<b>\$1,660</b>	\$80,100	<b>\$2,000</b>	\$97,200	<b>\$2,430</b>	\$124,800	<b>\$3,120</b>
County of Renfrew	\$21,000	<b>\$520</b>	\$27,400	<b>\$680</b>	\$37,100	<b>\$930</b>	\$46,800	<b>\$1,170</b>	\$57,900	<b>\$1,450</b>	\$71,300	<b>\$1,780</b>	\$85,100	<b>\$2,130</b>	\$101,600	<b>\$2,540</b>	\$129,300	<b>\$3,230</b>
<b>Southwestern</b>	\$22,100	<b>\$550</b>	\$29,800	<b>\$750</b>	\$39,300	<b>\$980</b>	\$48,600	<b>\$1,220</b>	\$58,300	<b>\$1,460</b>	\$69,400	<b>\$1,730</b>	\$83,400	<b>\$2,090</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$129,300	<b>\$3,230</b>
City of Brantford	\$23,200	<b>\$580</b>	\$29,800	<b>\$750</b>	\$38,900	<b>\$970</b>	\$47,700	<b>\$1,190</b>	\$57,400	<b>\$1,440</b>	\$69,400	<b>\$1,730</b>	\$82,300	<b>\$2,060</b>	\$101,600	<b>\$2,540</b>	\$129,300	<b>\$3,230</b>
County of Bruce	\$21,900	<b>\$550</b>	\$27,400	<b>\$680</b>	\$35,800	<b>\$890</b>	\$44,200	<b>\$1,100</b>	\$53,500	<b>\$1,340</b>	\$63,200	<b>\$1,580</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$98,300	<b>\$2,460</b>	\$134,800	<b>\$3,370</b>
Municipality of Chatham-Kent	\$19,400	<b>\$490</b>	\$27,000	<b>\$670</b>	\$33,600	<b>\$840</b>	\$41,500	<b>\$1,040</b>	\$49,500	<b>\$1,240</b>	\$58,300	<b>\$1,460</b>	\$70,300	<b>\$1,760</b>	\$85,100	<b>\$2,130</b>	\$108,300	<b>\$2,710</b>
County of Dufferin	\$25,000	<b>\$620</b>	\$31,800	<b>\$800</b>	\$40,200	<b>\$1,010</b>	\$51,300	<b>\$1,280</b>	\$63,600	<b>\$1,590</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$113,800	<b>\$2,840</b>	\$145,800	<b>\$3,650</b>
County of Grey	\$18,800	<b>\$470</b>	\$26,300	<b>\$660</b>	\$32,300	<b>\$810</b>	\$40,700	<b>\$1,020</b>	\$49,100	<b>\$1,230</b>	\$58,300	<b>\$1,460</b>	\$71,300	<b>\$1,780</b>	\$87,800	<b>\$2,200</b>	\$116,000	<b>\$2,900</b>
County of Huron	\$20,500	<b>\$510</b>	\$26,700	<b>\$670</b>	\$34,200	<b>\$860</b>	\$43,300	<b>\$1,080</b>	\$52,100	<b>\$1,300</b>	\$61,900	<b>\$1,550</b>	\$75,100	<b>\$1,880</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$125,900	<b>\$3,150</b>
County of Lambton	\$20,100	<b>\$500</b>	\$27,800	<b>\$700</b>	\$35,100	<b>\$880</b>	\$43,700	<b>\$1,090</b>	\$53,900	<b>\$1,350</b>	\$64,100	<b>\$1,600</b>	\$76,800	<b>\$1,920</b>	\$93,900	<b>\$2,350</b>	\$123,700	<b>\$3,090</b>
City of London	\$20,800	<b>\$520</b>	\$29,400	<b>\$730</b>	\$38,400	<b>\$960</b>	\$47,700	<b>\$1,190</b>	\$57,000	<b>\$1,430</b>	\$67,600	<b>\$1,690</b>	\$80,600	<b>\$2,020</b>	\$97,200	<b>\$2,430</b>	\$122,600	<b>\$3,070</b>
County of Norfolk	\$21,400	<b>\$540</b>	\$27,800	<b>\$700</b>	\$35,800	<b>\$890</b>	\$44,200	<b>\$1,100</b>	\$54,400	<b>\$1,360</b>	\$64,500	<b>\$1,610</b>	\$80,100	<b>\$2,000</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>	\$134,800	<b>\$3,370</b>
County of Oxford	\$24,500	<b>\$610</b>	\$30,700	<b>\$770</b>	\$40,700	<b>\$1,020</b>	\$50,800	<b>\$1,270</b>	\$60,500	<b>\$1,510</b>	\$72,400	<b>\$1,810</b>	\$85,100	<b>\$2,130</b>	\$102,700	<b>\$2,570</b>	\$128,200	<b>\$3,200</b>
City of St. Thomas	\$23,200	<b>\$580</b>	\$28,300	<b>\$710</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$43,700	<b>\$1,090</b>	\$52,100	<b>\$1,300</b>	\$62,300	<b>\$1,560</b>	\$74,600	<b>\$1,860</b>	\$90,600	<b>\$2,260</b>	\$113,800	<b>\$2,840</b>
City of Stratford	\$24,100	<b>\$600</b>	\$31,400	<b>\$780</b>	\$40,700	<b>\$1,020</b>	\$49,100	<b>\$1,230</b>	\$57,900	<b>\$1,450</b>	\$68,900	<b>\$1,720</b>	\$82,900	<b>\$2,070</b>	\$101,600	<b>\$2,540</b>	\$129,300	<b>\$3,230</b>
Regional Municipality of Waterloo	\$24,500	<b>\$610</b>	\$34,000	<b>\$850</b>	\$45,100	<b>\$1,130</b>	\$55,200	<b>\$1,380</b>	\$66,300	<b>\$1,660</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$111,600	<b>\$2,790</b>	\$142,500	<b>\$3,560</b>
County of Wellington	\$24,700	<b>\$620</b>	\$33,400	<b>\$830</b>	\$44,200	<b>\$1,100</b>	\$55,200	<b>\$1,380</b>	\$65,800	<b>\$1,650</b>	\$78,400	<b>\$1,960</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$110,500	<b>\$2,760</b>	\$140,300	<b>\$3,510</b>
City of Windsor	\$19,700	<b>\$490</b>	\$27,600	<b>\$690</b>	\$36,200	<b>\$910</b>	\$44,600	<b>\$1,120</b>	\$53,500	<b>\$1,340</b>	\$63,200	<b>\$1,580</b>	\$75,700	<b>\$1,890</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$120,400	<b>\$3,010</b>
<b>Northeastern</b>	\$19,700	<b>\$490</b>	\$26,500	<b>\$660</b>	\$32,900	<b>\$820</b>	\$41,500	<b>\$1,040</b>	\$49,900	<b>\$1,250</b>	\$60,100	<b>\$1,500</b>	\$72,900	<b>\$1,820</b>	\$88,400	<b>\$2,210</b>	\$117,100	<b>\$2,930</b>
Algoma District	\$18,300	<b>\$460</b>	\$25,900	<b>\$650</b>	\$30,700	<b>\$770</b>	\$38,000	<b>\$950</b>	\$45,500	<b>\$1,140</b>	\$53,900	<b>\$1,350</b>	\$65,000	<b>\$1,620</b>	\$80,100	<b>\$2,000</b>	\$105,000	<b>\$2,620</b>
Algoma DSSAB	\$18,300	<b>\$460</b>	\$25,400	<b>\$640</b>	\$28,900	<b>\$720</b>	\$35,400	<b>\$880</b>	\$42,900	<b>\$1,070</b>	\$50,800	<b>\$1,270</b>	\$61,000	<b>\$1,520</b>	\$75,100	<b>\$1,880</b>	\$100,500	<b>\$2,510</b>
Cochrane DSSAB	\$19,000	<b>\$480</b>	\$26,500	<b>\$660</b>	\$31,400	<b>\$780</b>	\$40,200	<b>\$1,010</b>	\$48,600	<b>\$1,220</b>	\$59,200	<b>\$1,480</b>	\$75,100	<b>\$1,890</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,320</b>	\$121,500	<b>\$3,040</b>
City of Greater Sudbury	\$21,400	<b>\$540</b>	\$28,700	<b>\$720</b>	\$37,600	<b>\$940</b>	\$46,000	<b>\$1,150</b>	\$55,700	<b>\$1,390</b>	\$66,700	<b>\$1,670</b>	\$79,000	<b>\$1,970</b>	\$97,200	<b>\$2,430</b>	\$123,700	<b>\$3,090</b>
Manitoulin District	\$23,600	<b>\$590</b>	\$26,300	<b>\$660</b>	\$32,700	<b>\$820</b>	\$42,900	<b>\$1,070</b>	\$52,100	<b>\$1,300</b>	\$65,000	<b>\$1,620</b>	\$76,200	<b>\$1,910</b>	\$90,600	<b>\$2,260</b>	\$112,700	<b>\$2,820</b>
Sudbury District	\$17,700	<b>\$440</b>	\$25,400	<b>\$640</b>	\$29,200	<b>\$730</b>	\$39,300	<b>\$980</b>	\$49,900	<b>\$1,250</b>	\$59,700	<b>\$1,490</b>	\$71,800	<b>\$1,800</b>	\$92,800	<b>\$2,32</b>		

## Average Apartment Rents, Ontario, 2022

Table 4. Average Rent by Bedroom Count

Regional Market Area	Bachelor Rent	1 Bedroom Rent	2 Bedroom Rent	3 Bedroom Rent	4+ Bedroom Rent	Total Bedroom Rent
<b>Ontario</b>	\$1,179	\$1,350	\$1,555	\$1,835	\$2,549	\$1,470
City of Toronto	\$1,316	\$1,537	\$1,811	\$2,083	\$2,633	\$1,673
<b>Central</b>	\$1,297	\$1,514	\$1,754	\$2,014	\$2,425	\$1,644
Regional Municipality of Durham	\$1,074	\$1,284	\$1,460	\$1,662	**	\$1,425
Regional Municipality of Halton	\$1,145	\$1,510	\$1,784	\$1,910	**	\$1,696
City of Hamilton	\$919	\$1,142	\$1,334	\$1,486	**	\$1,238
District Municipality of Muskoka	\$814	\$965	\$1,203	\$1,281	**	\$1,143
Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$858	\$1,071	\$1,260	\$1,389	**	\$1,199
Regional Municipality of Peel	\$1,148	\$1,484	\$1,666	\$1,849	\$1,768	\$1,601
County of Simcoe	\$985	\$1,226	\$1,430	\$1,572	**	\$1,338
Regional Municipality of York	\$1,048	\$1,383	\$1,539	\$1,881	**	\$1,489
<b>Eastern</b>	\$1,078	\$1,273	\$1,485	\$1,694	\$2,773	\$1,381
City of Cornwall	\$780	\$825	\$1,003	\$1,035	**	\$941
County of Hastings	\$913	\$1,109	\$1,295	\$1,579	**	\$1,245
City of Kawartha Lakes	\$777	\$1,070	\$1,292	\$1,294	**	\$1,169
Haliburton County	**	**	**	**	**	**
City of Kawartha Lakes + Haliburton County	\$777	\$1,070	\$1,292	\$1,294	**	\$1,169
City of Kingston	\$975	\$1,211	\$1,472	\$1,624	**	\$1,390
County of Lanark	**	\$900	\$1,119	**	**	\$982
UC of Leeds and Grenville	\$767	\$912	\$1,141	\$1,161	**	\$1,066
County of Lennox and Addington	**	\$913	\$989	**	**	\$955
Prince Edward Division	**	\$1,024	\$1,124	**	**	\$1,089
County of Lennox & Addington + Prince Edward Division	**	\$943	\$1,042	**	**	\$1,002
County of Northumberland	**	\$1,231	\$1,650	\$1,756	**	\$1,544
City of Ottawa	\$1,122	\$1,348	\$1,633	\$1,865	**	\$1,462
City of Peterborough	\$873	\$1,090	\$1,339	\$1,517	**	\$1,244
UC of Prescott and Russell	\$501	\$680	\$1,131	**	**	\$1,014
County of Renfrew	\$508	\$879	\$1,066	**	**	\$1,028
<b>Southwestern</b>	\$888	\$1,132	\$1,354	\$1,472	**	\$1,261
City of Brantford	\$885	\$1,165	\$1,259	\$1,326	**	\$1,233
County of Bruce	**	\$1,054	\$1,409	\$1,488	**	\$1,324
Municipality of Chatham-Kent	\$867	\$954	\$1,088	\$1,058	**	\$1,036
County of Dufferin	**	\$1,269	\$1,455	\$1,588	**	\$1,372
County of Grey	\$742	\$931	\$1,069	\$1,145	**	\$1,019
County of Huron	**	\$787	\$948	**	**	\$877
County of Lambton	\$873	\$1,011	\$1,221	\$1,554	**	\$1,142
City of London	\$863	\$1,127	\$1,400	\$1,617	**	\$1,291
County of Norfolk	\$610	\$882	\$1,021	**	**	\$979
County of Oxford	\$886	\$1,161	\$1,384	\$1,468	**	\$1,311
City of St. Thomas	\$790	\$1,042	\$1,292	**	**	\$1,208
City of Stratford	\$743	\$1,257	\$1,350	\$1,434	**	\$1,310
Regional Municipality of Waterloo	\$1,075	\$1,245	\$1,469	\$1,631	**	\$1,398
County of Wellington	\$989	\$1,324	\$1,490	\$1,504	**	\$1,424
City of Windsor	\$791	\$1,010	\$1,174	\$1,316	**	\$1,065
<b>Northeastern</b>	\$751	\$914	\$1,151	\$1,281	**	\$1,064
Algoma District	\$741	\$880	\$1,009	\$964	**	\$958
Algoma DSSAB	\$741	\$880	\$1,009	\$964	**	\$958
Cochrane DSSAB	\$570	\$944	\$1,062	\$1,120	**	\$1,004
City of Greater Sudbury	\$796	\$930	\$1,254	\$1,472	**	\$1,135
Manitoulin District	**	**	**	**	**	**
Sudbury District	**	**	**	**	**	**
Manitoulin - Sudbury DSSAB	**	**	**	**	**	**
Nipissing DSSAB	\$674	\$905	\$1,116	\$1,311	**	\$1,040
Parry Sound DSSAB	**	**	**	**	**	**
City of Sault Ste. Marie	\$746	\$917	\$1,087	\$1,005	**	\$1,015
Timiskaming DSSAB	**	**	**	**	**	**
<b>Northwestern</b>	\$751	\$956	\$1,168	\$1,446	**	\$1,084
Kenora DSSAB	**	\$836	\$1,008	**	**	\$911
Rainy River DSSAB	**	**	**	**	**	**
Thunder Bay DSSAB	\$757	\$964	\$1,175	\$1,457	**	\$1,094

Source: CMHC, Rental Market Survey, October 2022

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality, not statistically reliable or not available

Contact: Stewart Houghton | Community and Supportive Housing Division | [Housing.Research@ontario.ca](mailto:Housing.Research@ontario.ca)



## Fire Underwriters Survey supports Canada's volunteer firefighters, our first responders

*To continue protecting lives and property and ensuring a minimum level of public fire safety in Canada, we strongly invite you to add your voices to this wake-up call initiative of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs*

71% of firefighters in the Country are part-time, that's more than 90,000 firefighters. This essential profession no longer attracts these valiant workers we desperately need, because of their low pay, if any. It is only their passion that motivates them: **Protecting our communities**. But that's no longer enough in today's inflationary world. Their remuneration often consists of an annual tax credit of \$3,000 when they fight a minimum of 200 hours per year. And when they exceed that threshold, the tax credit decreases!!

Please take a minute to sign this petition proposed by the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs to the Government of Canada <https://cafc.ca/page/Bill-C310-Petition> to support Bill C-310's amendments to the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of the tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

## Petition in Support of Volunteer Firefighters and Search and Rescue personnel

Advocacy » National Issues for the Fire Service » Petition in Support of Bill C-310



**Petition in Support of Bill C-310:**  
An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act  
(Volunteer Firefighting and  
Search and Rescue Volunteer Tax Credit)

**Pétition à l'appui du projet de loi C-310 :**  
Loi modifiant la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu  
(services de pompier volontaire et  
de volontaire en recherche et sauvetage)

Click here to view and sign the e-petition

Pour la version en français, veuillez [appuyer ici](#)



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION  
OF FIRE CHIEFS

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES CHEFS DE POMPIERS

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/volunteer-firefighter-shortage-new-brunswick-1.6865721>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/9754788/canada-firefighter-shortage-recruitment/#:~:text=But%20the%20number%20of%20volunteers,census%20report%20for%202022%20showed>

## Le Service d'inspection des assureurs incendie appuie les pompiers à temps partiel, nos premiers répondants

*Pour continuer à assurer une sécurité incendie publique minimale au pays et protéger nos vies et nos biens, nous vous invitons ardemment à joindre vos voix à ce cri d'alarme, en appuyant cette initiative de l'Association canadienne des chefs de pompiers*

71% des pompiers au pays sont à temps partiel, ce sont plus de 90 000 pompiers. Ce métier essentiel n'attire plus ces valeureux intervenants à cause de leur faible rémunération, quand ils en obtiennent une. C'est uniquement leur passion qui les motive : **protéger nos communautés**. Mais ce n'est plus suffisant dans le contexte inflationniste d'aujourd'hui. Leur rémunération bien souvent consiste à obtenir un crédit d'impôt annuel de 3 000 \$ lorsqu'ils combattent un minimum de 200 heures par année. Et quand ils les dépassent, le crédit diminue !!!

Nous vous invitons à prendre une minute pour signer cette pétition proposée par l'Association canadienne des chefs de pompiers à l'intention du Gouvernement du Canada <https://cafc.ca/page/Loi-C310-Petition> afin qu'il appuie le projet de loi C-310 proposant une modification de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu afin d'augmenter le montant du crédit d'impôt de 3 000 \$ à 10 000 \$.

## Pétition à l'appui des pompiers volontaires et du personnel de recherche et de sauvetage



**Petition in Support of Bill C-310:**  
An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act  
(Volunteer Firefighting and  
Search and Rescue Volunteer Tax Credit)

**Pétition à l'appui du projet de loi C-310 :**  
Loi modifiant la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu  
(services de pompier volontaire et  
de volontaire en recherche et sauvetage)

Click here to view and sign the e-petition

For the english version, please [click here](#)



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION  
OF FIRE CHIEFS

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES CHEFS DE POMPIERS

Étude 2023 de l'Association des gestionnaires en sécurité incendie et civile du Québec (AGSICQ) sur Les enjeux de relève chez les pompiers : <https://www.newswire.ca/fr/news-releases/l-agsicq-publie-un-portrait-des-impacts-de-la-penurie-de-main-d-oeuvre-chez-les-pompiers-859614744.html>

Dear Terry

Dear Terry Fox

CHER TERRY

dear Terry Fox

CHER TERRY FOX

dear Terry Fox

Dear Terry

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dear Terry Fox

dear Terry Fox

DEAR TERRY





Thank you once again  
for your support of  
the 2023 Terry Fox Run.

We smashed through  
our goal of \$5,000 and  
raised \$8,049.50 !!

Denise Johnston  
RUN ORGANIZER