



**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: March 11th, 2024**

Correspondence Package No. I-24-MAR-05

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-24-MAR-05 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

- 1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario**
 - a) Ontario Keeping Energy and Housing Costs Down
 - b) Province Repeals Bill 124
 - c) Ontario Investing Nearly \$1.3 Billion to Stabilize Colleges and Universities
 - d) Ontario Helping Build Rural Community Leaders
 - e) Ontario Helping Non-Profits Deliver Important Community Services
 - f) Ontario Keeping Electricity Costs Down for Families
- 2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew**
 - a) County Council Summary – February 2024
- 3. Correspondence from the Renfrew County District Health Unit**
 - a) RCDHU Encourages Residents to Ensure Up-To-Date Measles Immunizations
- 4. Correspondence from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities**
 - a) Mayors across Canada call on federal government for urgent investment in infrastructure to support the quality of life of Canadians
- 5. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
 - a) Watch File – February 22nd, 2024
 - b) Watch File – February 29th, 2024

6. Resolutions from Other Municipalities

- a) Municipality of St. Charles – Unnecessary Noise from Engine Brakes
- b) Municipality of St. Charles – Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act
- c) Municipality of St. Charles – Guaranteed Livable Income
- d) Municipality of St. Charles – MECP Proposal to Expand Use of Permit-by-Rule
- e) Northumberland County – Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) to Clarify the Definition of Employer

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Keeping Energy and Housing Costs Down

New legislation would help build housing faster and save families and businesses money

February 22, 2024

[Energy](#).

TORONTO – Today, the Ontario government introduced legislation that, if passed, would reverse a December 2023 decision by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) that would have significantly increased the costs of building new homes across the province. Reversing this decision will prevent an average of \$4,400 being added to the price of new homes, or tens of thousands of dollars being added to the price of a home in rural Ontario.

“Since day one our government has taken action to lower energy costs, including by cancelling the previous government’s cap-and-trade carbon tax and cutting the gas tax,” said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. “While previous governments implemented schemes that led to skyrocketing energy prices, we’re using every tool in our toolbox to keep costs down for people and businesses. The *Keeping Energy Costs Down Act* will protect future homebuyers from increased costs and keep shovels in the ground on critical infrastructure projects.”

The *Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024* would, if passed, give the province authority to reverse the OEB decision to require residential customers and small businesses to pay 100 per cent of the cost of new natural gas connections upfront. These costs would have previously been paid over forty years. Once the government introduces a Natural Gas Policy Statement, a recommendation of the *Electrification and Energy Transition Panel’s* final report, it will require the OEB to consider this issue again.

The government will also appoint a new chair of the OEB this spring with the expectation that the board and commissioners conducts appropriate consultation – in line with the proposed legislative requirements - before reaching decisions that support the objective of an affordable, reliable, and clean energy system.

“Natural gas will continue to be an important part of Ontario’s energy mix as we implement our pragmatic plan to invest in and bring online more clean nuclear energy,” added Minister Smith. “Unlike the previous government, which saddled families with sky-high hydro bills, our government is taking a thoughtful approach that keeps costs down for people and businesses and delivers energy security.”

To ensure that future decisions reflect and support the priorities of the people of Ontario, the *Keeping Energy Costs Down Act* would require the OEB to conduct broader engagement to ensure impacted organizations and sectors have an opportunity to participate in proceedings. It would also enable the government to require the OEB to conduct a separate hearing on any matter of public interest.

The proposed legislation would also maintain the existing treatment of gas transmission projects that are critical to the province’s economic growth by ensuring new customers do not have to incur upfront financial contributions and update the OEB’s Leave to Construct process to respond to concerns raised by municipalities around supporting critical housing projects and local economic development initiatives.

Quick Facts

- The Ontario’s *Electrification and Energy Transition Panel’s* (EETP) final report, [Ontario’s Clean Energy Opportunity](#) was released on January 19, 2024.
- The EETP’s final report stated that natural gas is an important resource, fulfilling three essential and distinct functions in Ontario’s energy system today as a fuel for electrical power generation, space and water heating, and industrial and agricultural industries.
- 3.8 million households in Ontario currently use natural gas for home heating, representing about 70 per cent of Ontario households.
- Currently natural gas meets 39 per cent of Ontario’s energy demands, while electricity meets 21 per cent.
- Through the [Clean Home Heating Initiative](#) Ontario is deploying hybrid heating solutions which pair electrically powered air source heat pumps with a conventional natural gas furnace to reduce energy costs and emissions by leveraging Ontario’s world-class clean electricity grid. Maintaining access to natural gas ensures reliable access to heat on the coldest days of the year.
- To help Ontario families and businesses keep costs down, the government extended the gas and fuel tax rate cuts through to June 30, 2024. Along with the rate cuts previously in place, this extension is expected to save households \$260 on average since the cuts were first implemented in July 2022.

Additional Resources

- [The Keeping Energy Costs Down Act](#)

[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.

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](#)

Media Contacts

Palmer Lockridge

Minister's Office

palmer.lockridge@ontario.ca

Natasha Demetriades

Communications Branch

Natasha.Demetriades@ontario.ca

[416-327-3855](tel:416-327-3855)

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BACKGROUND

The Keeping Energy Costs Down Act

February 22, 2024

[Energy](#).

The Government of Ontario is making life more affordable for Ontario families and delivering policies that will help power the province's growing economy. As Ontario's population continues to grow the proposed *Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024* would ensure that the province can build new homes and that all Ontario families and businesses can continue to access reliable and affordable energy when it is needed.

Keeping Down Housing Costs

In December 2023, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a split decision which would increase the upfront cost to consumers of installing natural gas connections for new homes and small businesses. During the review process, the OEB made the decision that for small volume customer connections, such as homes and small farms and businesses, the revenue horizon over which gas utilities use to calculate the upfront cost of new connections for customers would be reduced from forty years to zero, effective January 1, 2025. As a result, new customers would have to pay 100 per cent of the cost to connect up front, costs that would have otherwise been paid over forty years. This change could increase the cost of new homes in the province by tens of thousands of dollars, particularly in rural areas, and would limit customer heating choices in Ontario.

The proposed legislation would give the government time-limited authority to set the revenue horizon for residential, small commercial and small farm customers – effectively reversing the OEB's December 2023 decision. If passed, the government intends to immediately introduce regulations to reset the revenue horizon for natural gas connection costs to 40 years. Once the government introduces a Natural Gas Policy Statement, a recommendation of the *Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's* final report, it intends through regulation to require the OEB to consider this issue again.

After the time-limited authority expires, the exclusive jurisdiction to determine a revenue horizon will be returned to the OEB.

Improving Public Participation in Regulatory Processes

Through the *Keeping Energy Costs Down Act*, the government is seeking to support fair and inclusive decision making at the OEB to foster affordable communities. The OEB's December 2023 decision demonstrated opportunities for improvement. For example, a dissenting opinion in the decision noted that reducing the revenue horizon to zero was reached without an understanding of the impacts to the province's electricity grid, as the province's Independent Electricity System Operator was not invited to provide evidence. The dissenting opinion also noted that certain impacted sectors were not invited to participate or provide evidence.

To ensure that future decisions made by the OEB consider a wider range of affected parties and government policy priorities, the proposed act would require the OEB to conduct broader engagement and provide the Minister of Energy with the authority to ask for a separate hearing on any matter of public interest that could arise during an OEB proceeding. This would include both transferring an issue from an ongoing OEB proceeding to its own generic hearing and directing a hearing for a matter not currently before the OEB under certain circumstances.

If passed, the government may subsequently propose regulations to require the OEB to notify and invite participation or testimony from specific stakeholders or economic sectors (for example transit, low-income service providers, construction, housing, or government agencies) that could be significantly impacted by an upcoming decision or hearing.

With the proposed legislation, the government would also ensure new customers do not have to incur upfront contributions toward the construction of certain gas transmission projects that are critical to the province's economic growth. This would preserve the historical treatment of these transmission projects that provide broad energy system benefits and serve many customers in different areas. Preserving this treatment will help ensure that the province can continue to attract critical investments in sectors like greenhouses and automotive in southwestern Ontario.

Leave to Construct Changes

The OEB reviews Leave to Construct (LTC) applications for electricity line and pipeline projects and will grant approval to carry out the work if it determines that it is in the public interest to do so. LTC approval is not required for all pipeline projects, only those that exceed certain thresholds such as cost and length of the

pipeline. Proponents in Ontario that want to construct a pipeline must currently get an LTC order from the OEB if the estimated cost of the project will be \$2 million or above.

Municipalities and municipal and agricultural organizations have raised concerns that the \$2 million threshold for small pipeline projects, first set in regulation in 2003, has not been updated to reflect inflation and increased construction costs.

Under the proposed legislation, the process would be streamlined by allowing the government to prescribe conditions through regulation to exempt certain energy projects from requiring LTC. These changes would allow for regulations to exempt small pipelines projects that cost between \$2 million and \$10 million from LTC, provided, where triggered, the Crown has adequately discharged its duty to consult obligations with Indigenous communities.

For all projects, whether there is an LTC proceeding or not, proponents will require authorizations from Ontario ministries, authorities and municipalities including permits and other approvals relating to technical, safety and environmental requirements needed to support the construction of the pipeline.

These changes are expected to improve the timelines for pipeline construction and expansion that would help build housing and transit faster.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Keeping Energy and Housing Costs Down](#)

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](#)

Media Contacts

Palmer Lockridge

Minister's Office

palmer.lockridge@ontario.ca

Natasha Demetriades

Communications Branch

Natasha.Demetriades@ontario.ca

[416-327-3855](tel:416-327-3855)

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NEWS RELEASE

Province Repeals Bill 124

February 23, 2024

[Treasury Board Secretariat](#)

TORONTO – The Government of Ontario today repealed Bill 124 in its entirety through an Order in Council, as was permitted through the legislation. Repealing the Bill will solve for the inequality of workers created by the recent court decision.

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](#)

Media Contacts

Christopher Martin-Chan

Minister's Office

Christopher.Martin-Chan@ontario.ca

647-632-4673

Kyle Richardson

Communications Branch

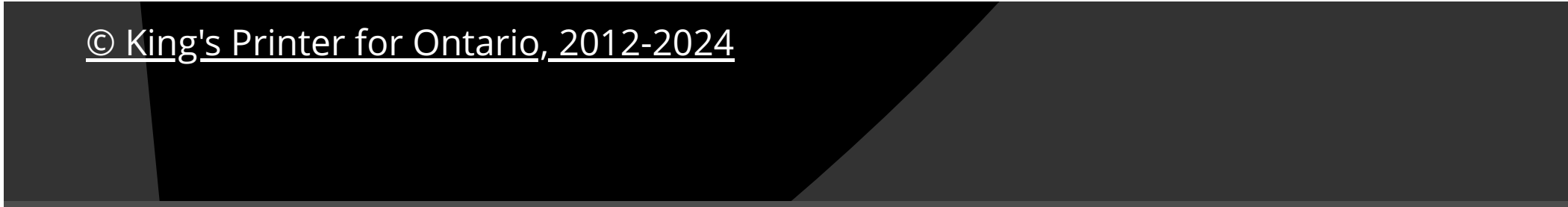
Kyle.Richardson5@ontario.ca

647-262-3176

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing Nearly \$1.3 Billion to Stabilize Colleges and Universities

Province maintaining tuition fee freeze to keep costs down for students and parents

February 26, 2024

[Colleges and Universities](#)

TORONTO – Today, the Ontario government introduced a suite of measures to stabilize the province's colleges and universities, including nearly \$1.3 billion in new funding, while maintaining the tuition fee freeze to keep costs down for Ontario students and parents. The province is also introducing legislation that would, if passed, support student mental health, safe and inclusive campuses and allow for increased transparency of fees. This suite of measures also includes initiatives that will help connect students to rewarding careers to help build Ontario's skilled workforce.

"It's never been more important to keep costs down for students and parents," said Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities. "Instead of burdening hard-working families with higher tuition, we're making historic investments to stabilize colleges and universities. We're taking action to make fees more transparent. We're supporting student mental health, fostering safer campuses and preparing students for rewarding careers."

To support students and their families, Ontario is extending the tuition fee freeze for publicly assisted colleges and universities for at least three more years. Institutions will be able to increase tuition by up to five per cent for out-of-province domestic students. At the time the freeze was first introduced and accompanied by a 10 per cent reduction in fees, Ontario had the highest university tuition rates in the country. Since then, students and parents have saved an estimated \$1,600 per year on average for university and an estimated \$350 per year on average for college, compared to what they would have paid under the previous policy that allowed three per cent increases each year.

To stabilize postsecondary institutions, the Ontario government is investing nearly \$1.3 billion over three years, including:

- \$903 million over three years through the new Postsecondary Education Sustainability Fund starting in 2024-25, including \$203 million in funding for top-ups for institutions with greater financial need.
- \$167.4 million over three years in additional funding for capital repairs and equipment.
- \$10 million in additional one-time funding through the Small, Northern and Rural Grant for colleges and Northern Ontario Grant for Universities in 2024-25. This funding will support financially vulnerable institutions while the government works with them on efficiency initiatives.
- \$15 million over three years beginning in 2024-25 through the Efficiency and Accountability Fund to support third-party reviews that will identify actions institutions can take to drive long-term cost savings and positive outcomes for students and communities. These reviews will target structural issues as well as operational policies in order to improve sustainability and student experiences.
- \$100 million in 2023-24 to support STEM program costs at publicly assisted colleges and universities with enrolments above currently funded levels.
- \$65.4 million to support research and innovation, including \$47.4 million for the infrastructure refresh of Ontario's Advanced Research Computing systems and \$18 million for their ongoing operations and maintenance.
- \$23 million to enhance mental health supports, including \$8 million for the Postsecondary Mental Health Action Plan over the three years.

The province is also introducing the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act, 2024* that would, if passed, authorize the Minister to issue directives requiring colleges and universities to provide information about ancillary fees and other students costs, including costs for textbooks or other learning materials. This could include ensuring that fees are published by institutions in a consistent manner – for instance, by publishing costs in a course syllabus.

In order to provide additional transparency as it relates to tuition, the province will also engage with colleges and universities to create tuition fee transparency to help students and their families better understand how tuition fees are used.

The *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act, 2024* would also, if passed, require colleges and universities to have policies in place relating to mental health and wellness supports and services and require colleges and universities to have policies in place to combat racism and hate, including but not limited to antisemitism and Islamophobia.

The province is also introducing measures to protect students and improve the integrity of career colleges. The province will better integrate enforcement efforts across ministries to strengthen oversight of career colleges and will ensure timely responses to concerns and complaints by improving data management, documentation processes and the efficacy of compliance investigations. As recommended by the blue-ribbon panel, the government will be working with colleges and universities to establish certain core competencies for board members, including financial literacy and risk management.

To help more students find jobs, the province intends to allow colleges to offer applied masters degrees in areas of study that will help students graduate with in-demand skills, expertise and credentials. This approach will also provide employers access to more industry-ready employees that meet labour market needs in specialized fields such as advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence and animation.

The province will also launch a career portal to help students understand labour market needs and make informed decisions on postsecondary education. This will consolidate various sources of information to help students and newcomers access education and careers in Ontario.

With these investments and suite of measures, Ontario is taking a responsible approach to allow flexibility amid a challenging financial climate, while protecting students and parents from the additional costs.

Quick Facts

- In addition to the tuition freeze for domestic in-province students, institutions will have the flexibility to increase tuition fees for domestic out-of-province students by no more than five per cent in 2024-25.
- Given the federal government's introduction of a hard cap on the number of international students allowed in Canada, the province is working closely with the postsecondary sector to achieve a fair allocation of the available study permits.
- The government is continuing to evaluate the blue-ribbon panel's advice and is working with postsecondary sector partners to create the right conditions to help students access and succeed in postsecondary education.
- In 2023-24, Ontario invested \$32.6 million in mental health supports for postsecondary students. These funds help bolster mental health supports at institutions by supporting a range of initiatives, including the Mental Health

Services Grant, Mental Health Worker Grant and the Indigenous Institutes Mental Health Grant.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario universities](#)
 - [Ontario colleges](#)
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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](#)

Media Contacts

Liz Tuomi
Minister’s Office
Liz.Tuomi@ontario.ca

Media Desk
Communications Branch
mcu.media@ontario.ca

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Helping Build Rural Community Leaders

Investment will enhance leadership and governance skills

February 26, 2024

[Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing up to \$836,250 over three years to increase the capacity of rural volunteers and organizations across the province. The Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies is partnering with the Rural Ontario Institute to build upon the good work done by agricultural society volunteers by providing training and workshops that will enhance leadership and governance skills as well as management practices.

“Ontario’s agricultural societies play an important role in leading amazing, annual rural community activities. This educational initiative will enhance the leadership, governance skills and best management practices in important rural organizations, and by extension our agriculture and food industry across the province,” said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. “By investing in people who give so much to maintain our rural traditions and communities, we are showing our appreciation for their commitment and leadership.”

This funding will help the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies partner with the Rural Ontario Institute to provide educational supports focused on leadership, governance, and community engagement to more than 200 agricultural societies across the province. It will also aid the development of other resources that will help agricultural societies hold fairs and events promoting agriculture and the agri-food industry.

“This support is an investment in the future of agricultural societies across Ontario by developing strong leaders and ensuring the vitality of the agri-food sector and rural communities,” said Vince Brennan, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies.

Agricultural societies are run mainly by volunteers and play a critical role in educating people about the importance of agriculture and celebrating a rural way of life. Supporting this important sector will ensure the long traditions and

economic contributions of agricultural societies continue to thrive and attract new talent. By building leadership capacity and involvement within the agriculture and food industry, this investment will further benefit rural communities while maintaining an important tradition at fairs where the ‘best of the best’ in community, the homecraft division, and agricultural competitions continue to be celebrated.

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies has been in operation for over 175 years.
 - Ontario’s agri-food industry generated over \$48 billion in provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employed one in ten Ontarians based on 2022 data.
 - Ontario’s Promoting Agriculture and Food Careers Initiative provides funding to agricultural societies to promote careers in the agriculture and food industry.
 - For more information about OMAFRA programs and services, contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre (AICC) by phone at 1-877-424-1300 or by e-mail at ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca.
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Additional Resources

[Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies](#)

[Grow Ontario Strategy](#)

[Promoting Agriculture and Food Careers Initiative Guidelines](#)

Related Topics

Rural and North

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

Media Contacts

Sam McCormick

Minister’s Office

Sam.McCormick@Ontario.ca

Connie Osborne
Communications Branch
OMAFRA.media@ontario.ca
[519-826-3145](tel:519-826-3145)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Helping Non-Profits Deliver Important Community Services

\$26 million supporting 251 local programs and services Ontarians rely on most

February 27, 2024

[Tourism, Culture and Sport](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government announced more than \$26 million in grant funding this year to support 251 local projects at non-profit organizations across the province through the seventh and final round of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) Resilient Communities Fund.

The Resilient Communities Fund was created in August 2020 to help Ontario's non-profit organizations address pandemic-related challenges so they could continue to provide local services. To date, this fund has supported 3,299 projects with \$294 million in support.

"Non-profit organizations are critical to the success of communities across the province, delivering programming that helps people find jobs and live healthier, happier lives," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "That's why our government is proud to continue to support Ontarians through the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Communities across the province have overcome significant challenges in the past couple of years and supports like the Resilient Communities Fund have enabled non-profit organizations to continue to deliver valuable programming and services to those who need it the most."

Eligible non-profit organizations are provided with grants of up to \$200,000 over a two-year period to recover and build capacity, resilience and sustainability. The full list of this year's grant recipients can be found on the [OTF website](#).

Over the last four years, Resilient Communities Fund grants have made a significant difference in communities across Ontario. They have enabled non-profit organizations to deliver essential programming and services, such as:

- The Interval House of Hamilton received a \$164,000 grant to implement a Women's Education and Rural Support Program to address service gaps for women who live in rural areas and experience violence and abuse.

- Active Scholars in Ajax is using a \$199,100 grant to expand access to S.T.E.M. education and physical literacy programs for more low-income, racialized youth in Ontario.
- Mississauga's ISNA-Canada is creating a 12-month addiction support program to address the specific needs of individuals struggling with addiction, emphasizing long-term recovery and well-being.
- Parkdale Food Centre in Ottawa was awarded a \$149,900 grant to adapt its programming to be safely delivered outdoors or virtually, ensuring families and children had continued access to nutritious food during the pandemic.
- The Georgian Nordic Outdoor Activity Centre in Parry Sound used a \$75,400 grant to adapt programs and update its technology and infrastructure to offer trails for Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, winter and summer cycling and hiking, as well as paddling instruction in canoeing, kayaking and stand-up paddle boards for children and families.

As the government returns the Ontario Trillium Foundation to its Seed, Grow and Capital grant streams in 2024-25, it will continue to make investments to support communities across the province as they adapt to the changing needs of Ontarians.

"This year, the OTF is pleased to invest in 251 non-profit organizations to help them recover and build their capacity and resilience. These investments remain essential to helping organizations deliver programs and services, improving the well-being of Ontarians. As the OTF wraps up this final round of the Resilient Communities Fund, we want to thank the Government of Ontario for supporting the non-profit sector through this fund which has helped over 3,000 organizations recover during and after the pandemic," said Bill Walker, Chair of the Board, Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) has supported thousands of community organizations over the past four decades by investing in community-based initiatives and strengthening the impact of Ontario's non-profit sector. Please visit the [OTF website](#) for a full list of grant recipients and details on how OTF might be able to help your non-profit organization.

Quick Facts

- The Resilient Communities Fund is administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.
- The OTF created the Resilient Communities Fund in August 2020 to maximize the impact of its existing resources to support the non-profit sector, redirecting funds from the Seed, Grow and Capital grant streams.

- Provincial funding delivered through the OTF supports the arts, culture, heritage, sports and recreation, human and social services and environment sectors.
- The OTF awarded \$96.1 million to 994 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.

Media Contacts

Uppekha Allani
Press Secretary, Minister's Office
437-236-6133
Uppekha.Allani@ontario.ca

Denelle Bafour
Communications Branch
Denelle.Balfour@ontario.ca

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Keeping Electricity Costs Down for Families

Expansion of Ontario Electricity Support Program launches today

March 01, 2024

[Energy](#).

TORONTO – The Ontario government is keeping electricity costs down for about 100,000 additional families by expanding the eligibility for the [Ontario Electricity Support Program](#) (OESP). New income eligibility thresholds, which have increased by up to 35 per cent, take effect today.

“Our government is increasing our investment in the Ontario Electricity Support Program by \$50 million to provide targeted support to those who need it most,” said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. “While previous governments implemented schemes that led to skyrocketing energy prices, we’re using every tool in our toolbox to keep costs down for families.”

The government’s increased investment in the OESP will support a significant [expansion of the program](#). For example, a four-person household can now have a combined maximum income of \$65,000 after tax deductions, to qualify for a monthly rebate of \$40. That’s an increase of \$17,000 from the previous maximum of \$48,000.

“This investment in the Ontario Electricity Support Program demonstrates how serious our government is about making life more affordable for Ontarians,” said Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. “Our government will continue to find even more ways to bring down costs to ensure that nobody in our province gets left behind.”

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 customers who are Indigenous, living with Indigenous family members, using electric heating, or using certain electricity-intensive medical devices.

In addition to the OESP, the Ontario Electricity Rebate (OER) keeps electricity bills for families and small business affordable. Last fall, the on-bill [OER was increased from 11.7 per cent to 19.3 per cent](#) – reducing a typical household’s electricity bill by a total of \$26 each month – or \$312 a year.

Quick Facts

- In 2022, the OESP provided energy relief to approximately 212,000 households across the province.
 - Families can apply for the OESP at any time. There is no application deadline, but the sooner they apply and are accepted into the OESP, the sooner they will begin to receive the on-bill credits.
 - Customers who are eligible for Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) are likely also eligible for OESP. [LEAP](#) provides emergency financial assistance for electricity or natural gas customers who are at risk of having their service disconnected for non-payment.
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Quotes

"We are working to protect vulnerable customers by delivering OESP to more families in need."

- Susanna Zagar
Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Energy Board

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.

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](#)

Taxes and Benefits

Learn about taxes in Ontario and what they support, including tax credits you can get to help you with living and business costs. [Learn more](#)

Media Contacts

Palmer Lockridge

Minister's Office

palmer.lockridge@ontario.ca

Natasha Demetriades

Communications Branch

Natasha.Demetriades@ontario.ca

[416-327-3855](tel:416-327-3855)

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County Council Summary

February 28, 2024

Below you will find highlights of the County of Renfrew County Council meeting from January 31, 2024

Please note that this summary does not constitute the official record of the meeting and approved minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

The full [County Council package](#) can be found on our website.

[February meeting](#) YouTube link.

Warden's Address

Key highlights

- Warden Emon noted that Andrea Patrick has accepted the position of Director of Community Services , after holding the position of Manager of Ontario Works and performing in the acting position since Laura LePine's departure in January.
- On February 22, the Warden welcomed the four new international Personal Support Worker recruits at Bonnechere Manor in Renfrew. Fleury Dushime of Burundi, Achile Awashare and Linda Samule-Uche of Nigeria, and Mavis Kissi Ghana received a warm welcome from Bonnechere Manor staff as they began orientation at the long-term care home. See our [media release](#) here.
- He participated in a fireside chat at the Ottawa Valley Business Summit held by the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce. Topics discussed included an overview of County Council and how it relates to local municipalities and the Province; an update on the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre, and the continuance of its success and ongoing development; and the County's role in the local economy, understanding the labour shortages, how to attract new residents to the area, and continuing to make Renfrew County an attractive and welcoming community, as well as what partnerships can be gained through the private sector and not-for-profit agencies.
- Warden Emon thanked Deputy Warden Dan Lynch and the Community Services Department for attending the Coldest Night of the Year walk, hosted by The Grind Pembroke. County Council and staff also supported fundraising initiatives organized by the Community Services Department over the past few weeks.
- The Warden continues to Chair the Warming Centre meetings and noted a report on the progress will be forthcoming.
- He participated on a United Way of Eastern Ontario panel on rural Ontario economic development and opportunities. He spoke about municipal sustainability challenges and the results of many years of provincial downloading.
- He attended the Short-Term Accommodations meeting arranged by the Township of Laurentian Valley with politicians and staff, to discuss the issues and concerns with short-term rentals. It was a fulsome discussion and a report will be coming in the future.

- The Warden noted the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association has launched the 2024 Tourism Awards which recognize and honour tourism champions across the Ottawa Valley. The Ottawa Valley Tourism Awards are presented annually by the OVTA to individuals, businesses, and events that recognize the importance of working together for the growth of the local tourism industry, as well as offering exceptional visitor experiences. The nomination deadline is March 25, 2024. For more information visit <https://www.ottawavalley.travel/industry/>
- Warden Emon expressed sincere condolences to the family, friends, and Arnprior community on the passing of Glenn Arthur, who passed away on February 16, 2024. Mr. Arthur spent 35 years leading Arnprior's recreation department. He continued volunteering after his retirement and received Arnprior's Volunteer of the Year in 2023. The Warden noted Mr. Arthur was a key player in the origins of planning the 2023 Ontario Winter Games and he stepped in at the last moment to assist with hosting an event in Arnprior.

During the month of February 2024, Warden Peter Emon attended 26 meetings on County business.

- On February 2, CAO Kelley and the Warden met with local publishers from the Valley Gazette, North Renfrew Times and the Eganville Leader to listen to their concerns regarding advertising and publishing. They spoke of the increased costs associated with running the local newspapers and competing with online newspaper versions.
- On behalf of the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus, he was at Queen's Park to meet with the Director of Policy within the Premier's Office, with Minister Lisa Thompson, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; and Minister Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, to discuss the EOWC '7 in 7' Regional Housing Plan.
- He and Pembroke Mayor Ron Gervais met with staff at Algonquin College, Pembroke Waterfront Campus, to discuss the Province's announcement regarding capping enrollment of international students and what the impact would be on the College and the community.
- On February 26 Warden Emon, along with MPP John Yakabuski, and County staff attended a post-ROMA Conference meeting with the Ministry of Infrastructure Parliamentary Assistant Amarjat Sandhu to further discuss the implementation of a consistent Provincially mandated Pavement Condition Index (PCI) process and the expansion of Highway 417 including alternative solutions.

Delegations

- Dr. Jason Morgenstern, Medical Officer of Health with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit appeared to address the possible merger between health units.
- Ian Duff, President of McSweeney and Associates, presented the County of Renfrew's new three-year Economic Development Strategic Plan. The planning process was conducted in partnership with the Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation (RCCFDC) and resulted in a separate plan for each organization. Later in the meeting, County Council adopted the 2024-2026 [Economic Development Strategic Plan](#) as presented. It begins on page 93 of the council package.

Finance & Administration Committee

Presented by: Jennifer Murphy, Chair

- The final County of Renfrew consolidated budget, including all items approved at the Budget Workshop held on January 24 and 25, 2024, is available in Adobe and Excel versions on the County of Renfrew website at the following link: [Budget and Finance Reports - County of Renfrew](#).
- County Council adopted the revised By-law for the Remuneration of Members of the Council of the County of Renfrew effective January 1, 2024. Following the adoption of a resolution at a Special County Council Meeting on March 23, 2022, the Council base remuneration of \$16,428 was changed to \$18,001 on January 1, 2024, an annual phase in to the base salary of \$1,573 and as approved at the January 25, 2024 Budget Workshop, a 4.79% Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase was also approved, adjusting the Council base remuneration to \$18,863 effective January 1, 2024. The current per diem rate of \$243 per ad hoc committee meeting will be maintained.
- County Council updated several key appointments, including Craig Kelley as Deputy-Clerk, Gwen Dombroski as Clerk, and Daniel Burke as Treasurer for the County of Renfrew.
- County Council approved several changes to the Non-Union Staff Salary Grid within Employment By-law #1 including the removal, reclassification, creation and renaming of several positions, many as a result of the business cases presented as part of the 2024 Budget Workshop.
- County Council supported the resolution from Halton Region – a proposal that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors consider a biennial election process.

Community Services Committee

Presented by: Anne Giardini, Chair

- The new *mesa* Team, the new name for the Health and Housing Crisis Engagement Team (formerly referred to as the 'Hub' model), marks a pivotal initiative within the County of Renfrew to address the critical intersection of health and homelessness. This collaborative initiative will be led by the Paramedic Service, Community Services, and Development and Property departments. Recognizing the urgent need for a unified and multi-sectoral approach, *mesa* establishes an evidence-to-action model that not only acknowledges the complex challenges at the nexus of health and homelessness but also delineates a roadmap for coordinated, integrated solutions. This report underscores the commitment of the County of Renfrew's administration, community services, development and property, and emergency services departments to work synergistically in executing a transformative strategy that goes beyond individual silos and leverages the collective expertise and resources of the community.
- County Council unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Ministry of Education increase the licensed child-care space allocation for the County of Renfrew through the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child-Care (CWELCC) system. See the full [child-care resolution](#) on our website.
- The Affordable Homeownership Program can provide up to \$25,000 towards the purchase of a new home for qualified households. Applications are currently open and are available on the County of Renfrew website or can be requested by contacting a Community Services office. In

2023, five applications (two each in the City of Pembroke and Town of Renfrew and one in the Town of Deep River) were approved for a total of \$113,400.

- The Ontario Renovates Program can provide up to \$10,000 for essential household repairs or accessibility upgrades. The program is currently closed; however, it will open again for applications in the spring of 2024. In 2023, \$92,850 was paid out to 14 projects (City of Pembroke and Townships of Whitewater Region, Horton, North Algona Wilberforce, Madawaska Valley, Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan and Town of Petawawa).

Development & Property Committee

Presented by: James Brose, Chair

- County Council directed staff to create and issue an Expression of Interest (EOI) to develop affordable housing on County-owned lands. The purpose of this EOI process is to develop a pilot project for alternative housing options. Staff will provide recommendations to Council at a future meeting. Local municipalities that wish to be involved are encouraged to contact [Craig Kelley](#) or [Jason Davis](#).
- The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association's (OVTA) annual tourism conference and AGM is scheduled for April 16, 2024, during National Tourism Week. This full day event includes speakers and presentations about relevant tourism matters, the annual general meeting, and the presentation of the Ottawa Valley Tourism Awards.
- Enterprise Renfrew County (ERC) has developed a sponsorship package that offers community partners, municipalities, and stakeholders the opportunity to formally support entrepreneurs accessing programs, training, and events regionally. The package and various sponsorship opportunities are available on the [Enterprise Renfrew County website](#).
- Enterprise Renfrew County is now actively recruiting for the 2024 edition of the Summer Company and the spring intake session of the Starter Company Plus programs. The Summer Company program, which is open to students aged 15-29 who plan to return to school in the fall, has five seats available. More information, including how to apply before the May 15, 2024 deadline is available at <https://www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/summer-company>.
- Starter Company Plus is a fast-tracked program that provides new or existing adult entrepreneurs, who have been in operation for less than five years, with training and support in establishing their business. Virtual information sessions for the spring intake of the Starter Company Plus program are scheduled for April 2 and 4, 2024, with an application deadline of April 12, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. More information about the Starter Company Plus program, including how to register for an information session is available at <https://www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/starter-company-plus>.
- A decision has been reached and posted by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on how the Endangered Species Act, 2007 protections apply to black ash and its habitat. As of January 26, 2024, healthy black ash over 8cm at 1.37m diameter at breast height (DBH) are protected under the Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA) in the Town of Arnprior, and the Townships of Admaston/Bromley, Greater Madawaska, Horton, and McNab/Braeside. Should any black ash in these areas greater than 8cm DBH require removal, it needs to be assessed by a "qualified professional". If the tree is deemed "unhealthy", a report can be submitted and it can be removed. If the tree is deemed "healthy", it needs to be protected by a 30m radius reserve. No decision has been made on the proposal for a new conditional

exemption for forestry operations on private and municipal lands. Since 2021, comments have been submitted by County staff at all stages of consultation on this process.

- Draft approval was issued for the Morison Townhouses development in Deep River for 12 units. The developer will have up to three years to clear the conditions and attain final approval.
- The first subdivision application for 2024 was received and deemed complete. The subdivision is being called “River Lane Estates” and is located in the Township of Greater Madawaska on the south side of the Madawaska River and adjacent to the Township of McNab/Braeside. The subdivision proposes to create 26 waterfront lots. Information about the application can be found on the County of Renfrew [Zencity](#) engagement platform for public review.
- County Council directed the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Renfrew regarding the potential development(s) at Renfrew County Place and Bonnechere Manor, both in Renfrew, Ontario.
- County Council adopted a By-law to enter into a lease agreement for a two-year period commencing March 1, 2024 with Paradise Childrens Programs Inc. for space at Renfrew County Place, 450 O’Brien Street, Renfrew, Ontario.
- County Council adopted a By-law to approve Official Plan Amendment No. 43 in the Township of McNab/Braeside to change the designation of the lands from Agriculture to Rural. The application to amend the County of Renfrew Official Plan proposes to re-designate a vacant 9.0-hectare waterfront property along the Madawaska River (Lake Madawaska above the Arnprior Generating Station) from Agriculture to Rural. The property was previously severed from a larger farm and includes direct access to Moreau Road.

Health Committee

Presented by: Michael Donohue, Chair

- The County of Renfrew has received confirmation from the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, President of the Treasury Board, Minister Responsible for Emergency Management, that it was successful in its grant application for \$49,600. The Emergency Services Department applied for the Ontario Community Emergency Preparedness Grant to help communities and organizations purchase critical supplies, equipment and deliver training and services to improve local emergency preparedness and response. The goal of the grant is to purchase a gravity-feed sandbag processing machine, supplies and equipment to be shared among all local municipalities and First Nations. The balance of the application focuses on services such as coordination of staff operators / volunteers from the County of Renfrew and participating local municipalities and partners for the delivery of shared public education, training, planning and coordination for flood mitigation, readiness, response, and recovery efforts across the County of Renfrew and its 17 member municipalities and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. A 2024 goal is to adopt a local response model of coordinating local staff and local volunteers i.e., one staff and up to six volunteers from each of the 20 organizations coming together to learn the essentials of basic emergency management, command, and control models, how to lead flood mitigation efforts locally and how to support one another through inter-operable teams across Renfrew County.
- The first four of the anticipated twenty international personal support workers as approved by Council in May of 2023, commenced employment with Bonnechere Manor on February 22, 2024. This endeavour is intended to bolster permanent staffing stability.

- County Council approved the sale of four County of Renfrew decommissioned 2018 vehicles to St. John's Ambulance (1), Algonquin College (1), and St. Lawrence College (2) at a purchase price of \$5,000.00 per vehicle.
- County Council adopted a By-law authorizing the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to sign a lease agreement with ZOLL Canada for the ZOLL ONE Program to acquire and operationalize thirty-five (35) X-series monitor/defibrillator units to replace the existing fleet of monitor/defibrillators at an annual cost of \$344,241.30. The cardiac monitor/defibrillator is a vital piece of equipment that allows paramedics to perform vital signs, cardiac monitoring and provide lifesaving interventions of cardioversion or defibrillation. Most of the existing fleet of 33 Defibrillators were purchased by the County in 2012 and are now two years beyond the recommended lifecycle.

Operations Committee

Presented by: Dave Bennett, Vice-Chair

- County of Renfrew By-law 11-12 is a By-law to Designate a Reduced Load Period on County Roads and pertains to spring load restrictions. A notice has been issued that Spring Load Restrictions on some County of Renfrew roads come into effect Monday, March 4 at 12:01 a.m. and continue until Friday, May 31, unless notified. The list of County Roads can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/SpringLoadRestrictions>.
- County Council directed staff to commence the process required for closure and removal of County Structure B232 (Cochrane Creek Bridge), located on Cement Bridge Road, Township of North Algona Wilberforce. Cochrane Creek Bridge is located on a seasonally maintained road, supports less than 10 vehicles per day during operational months, and would only incur an additional 7.6km of travel in the rare instance a traveller is attempting to reach the other side of the bridge from Burchat Road.
- County Council approved amendments to the 2024 Capital budget as follows:
 - increase the budget for County Road 37 (Murphy Road) by \$922,365 from \$1,537,635 to \$2,460,000;
 - decrease the budget for County Structure B103 (O'Grady Bridge) by \$198,500 from \$238,500 to \$40,000;
 - decrease the budget for County Structure B156 (Burnt Bridge) by \$427,000 from \$477,000 to \$50,000; and,
 - decrease the budget for County Structure B232 (Cochrane Creek Bridge) by \$350,000 from \$450,000 to \$100,000.
- County Council adopted a By-law approving the alterations to County Roads and Structures. This is a By-law passed annually which allows for the implementation of detours, road closures and traffic accommodations during work on County Roads. For several of our 2024 capital projects, the work may include temporary or permanent changes, alterations or restrictions to the use of the highway, or to private entrances.
- County Council approved Corporate Policy PW-22, Naming Bridges and Culverts, for all County of Renfrew owned Bridges and Culverts. A draft Policy PW-22, Naming Bridges and Culverts as presented in November 2023 after receiving no further comments from the consultation process.

- County Council approved several contracts as submitted:
 - For the rehabilitation of County Structure B102 (Brennans Creek Bridge), Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, by KB Civil Constructors Inc., North York, Ontario, in the amount of \$344,296.67, plus applicable taxes.
 - For the relining of various culverts, by Aqua Tech Solutions Inc., Schomberg, Ontario, in the amount of \$207,725, plus applicable taxes.
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 64 (Opeongo Road), from Wieland Shore Road to Constant Lake Road, a distance of 8.20 km, Township of Bonnechere Valley, by Greenwood Paving (Pembroke) Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,718,606.60, plus applicable taxes.

Additional Information

Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer

613-735-7288



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

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, February 29, 2024)

RCDHU Encourages Residents to Ensure Up-to-Date Measles Immunizations

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is asking residents to ensure they are up to date on their measles vaccines, following an increase in global measles cases.

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection with symptoms of fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, fatigue, and red rash. Measles can cause serious health complications, including hospitalization, pneumonia, and inflammation of the brain. The virus can spread quickly from person to person by direct contact and through small respiratory droplets in the air. Immunization is highly effective in preventing measles.

With decreased measles immunization rates over recent years, increased global measles activity, and upcoming March break travel, RCDHU encourages residents to review their immunization records and consult with their health care provider if they are not up to date. It is especially important to review immunization records prior to travelling.

In Ontario, children receive two doses of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine as part of the publicly funded immunization schedule. The first dose is given on or after the first birthday, and the second dose from ages 4 to 6. Those born before 1970 generally already have acquired immunity due to high levels of measles circulating before 1970. Anyone born in 1970 or later who has not had a measles infection or been vaccinated with two doses of MMR vaccine is at risk of infection. Infants between 6 to 11 months of age and adults born before 1970 who are travelling internationally may also be eligible for measles vaccine.

"Measles immunization rates have decreased in recent years and we are seeing a significant increase in cases globally, with several recent cases reported in other health units across Ontario. It is important for everyone to check and make sure they're up to date with measles vaccination. Ensuring adequate immunization is especially important for anyone with upcoming travel," states Dr. Jason Morgenstern, Medical Officer of Health for RCDHU.

If you or your family are not up to date on measles vaccinations, please contact your health care provider to receive missing immunizations. Residents without a health care provider can receive their immunizations through a RCDHU immunization clinic.

To book an immunization appointment at a RCDHU clinic, please call 613-732-9436 or 1-833-773-0004. Stay connected by visiting www.rcdhu.com.

- 30 -

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Fax: 613-735-3067

media@rcdhu.com

www.rcdhu.com

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Mayors across Canada call on federal government for urgent investment in infrastructure to support the quality of life of Canadians



February 26, 2024

OTTAWA – Today, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) launched an urgent call for the federal government to invest in critical infrastructure for Canadian communities as the country faces historic crises in housing, affordability, homelessness and climate change.

“We have been moving at a record pace,” said Mayor of Halifax and Chair of Big City Mayors’ Caucus (BCMC), Mike Savage. “Municipalities across the country have been accelerating housing construction, fast-tracking permit approvals, and coming up with innovative zoning solutions to get more housing built faster.”

While municipalities are working hard to get housing built, they own and maintain most of the infrastructure that Canadians rely on every day. Yet they only collect between 8 and 12 cents out of every tax dollar.

“We tend to take infrastructure for granted because most of us only think about it when it’s not working. We expect our first responders to show up when there’s a crisis, our local recreation centre to have space for kids to play, and our bus to get us to work on time,” said FCM President Scott Pearce. “But this critical infrastructure and these services cost money – and municipalities can’t be expected to keep raising property taxes to pay for them.”

Municipalities have been underfunded for decades and municipal funding models have not kept pace with record growth. “Towns, cities and villages have been funded the same way since 1867,” insisted Scott Pearce. “Back when a horse and buggy was the primary mode of transportation, and population growth was measured in the hundreds, not millions.”

FCM is calling on the federal government to step up in Budget 2024 and enhance its commitment to new housing by investing in the infrastructure required to develop complete communities for Canadian families. Municipalities need to be able to rely on programs such as the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) that support growth and rehabilitation of existing assets.

“It is high time to empower municipalities with the tools they need to support growth,” said Mayor Savage. To successfully support Canada’s growth, FCM is advocating for all orders of government to come together to develop and agree on a Municipal Growth Framework to ensure economic development and great quality of life in every community across the country.

The [Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#) (FCM) unites more than 2,100 local governments at the national level, representing more than 92 per cent of Canadians in every province and territory.

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

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CAREERS

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February, 22 2024

In This Issue

- 2024 is an AMO Board Election Year!
- Meet the 2024 AMO Youth Fellows.
- Consultation on *Seniors Active Living Centres Act*.
- Nominations open for Lieutenant Governor's Award.
- Electrification and Energy Transition Panel report.
- Consultation: Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- Cyber Security Education for Municipal Councilors.
- Advanced Councillor Training Series to Revitalize your Leadership.
- Disability Inclusion Workshop and Panel Discussion – Beyond AODA compliance.
- Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times – Limited space.
- Navigating Conflict - Pre-requisite for NEW advanced strategies course.
- Upcoming Webinar: Financial Analysis for Energy Projects.
- Blog: Supporting and Strengthening Local Leadership.
- Register for OMERS Annual Meeting on April 3, 2024.
- Guidelines for acoustical engineering services in Land-use Planning Process.
- Ontario Age-Friendly Communities 2024 Conference.
- Calls to action for municipalities on economic abuse.
- Housing access in higher education host communities.
- Helpful condo living tips for Ontario residents.
- Future of Aging Summit next May.
- 2024 Farmland Forum.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Elections for positions to the AMO Board of Directors will occur at the AMO Annual Conference, hosted by the City of Ottawa in August 2024. [Click here](#) for answers to some frequently asked questions if you are considering running.

We are extremely proud to announce the 2024 AMO Youth Fellows! [Follow this link](#) to learn about Elizabeth, Henry, and Thomas who were selected from a tremendous group of more than 80 highly qualified young Ontario residents who are passionate about local issues and municipal government.

Provincial Matters

MSAA is [proposing a new regulation](#) that would prescribe entities that could contribute towards a Seniors Active Living Centre program's operational cost. The deadline for comments is March 22, 2024.

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate someone](#) from your municipality by April 30.

Ontario's electrification and energy transition panel has released its [final report](#) outlining recommendations for long-term energy planning.

The province is conducting a [survey](#) to inform the creation of a Rural Economic Development Strategy. Share your ideas on how the province can support rural communities plan for economic success.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (up to \$50,000). Visit their [website](#) for more information and [webinar dates](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Education Opportunities

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[Register for the March 20](#) Cyber Security workshop.

As an elected municipal official we know the pressure you deal with is real and we are here to support you. AMO has developed 3 sessions focused on core elements of leadership. Register for the [March 22 Session 1 workshop](#), [May 29 Session 2 workshop](#), and the [October 2 Session 3 workshop](#).

Participants will leave this workshop with a greater depth of knowledge and understanding of building accessible and inclusive communities as an elected official. Register for the [March 25 Disability Inclusion Workshop](#).

The Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times interactive, one-day course will teach participants how to manage all aspects of crisis communications during an emergency or large-scale event. Claim your space for the [March 27 Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times Workshop](#).

Navigating Conflict Relationships for Elected Officials is one of AMO's most popular training offerings. This course helps you understand and navigate why relationships are or become challenging. Join your colleagues at the [March workshop](#) to gain skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones in your role as an elected municipal official. Attendees are invited to register for the [April Advanced Strategies workshop](#).

LAS

How do you know if an energy conservation opportunity in your facility is worth pursuing? Join SaveONenergy and LAS on March 8 for a free webinar and take a deep dive into the complexities of energy projects financing and life cycle costing. Space is limited. [Register here](#) today – Part Four of the Municipal Series.

AMO has traditionally provided education workshops following each municipal election focused on supporting new heads of council, but this year, there are a range [education workshops](#) aimed at supporting the many facets of local leadership.

MEPCO

Registration is now open for the [2024 OMERS Annual Meeting](#) taking place in-person at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre or virtually by webcast.

Municipal Wire*

Professional Engineer's Ontario has released [a guideline](#) to support the preparation of acoustical assessments and studies to support land use applications.

[Register](#) for the "[Building Healthy Communities: Uniting Experience, Research, and Practice for Ontario's Age-Friendly Future](#)" virtual conference. The free conference is organized into three themed morning sessions on March 20-22.

The [Canadian Centre for Women's Empowerment](#) (CCFWE) released [calls to action for municipalities](#) to address economic abuse in gender-based violence strategies. For more information contact [Michaela Mayer](#).

The International Town and Gown Association and Town and Gown Association of Ontario [launched a survey](#) seeking input from municipal leaders on Canada's student housing crisis. Participate by March 5.

The Condominium Authority of Ontario's [2024 Winter Information Kit](#) offers useful and shareable tips to help Ontario condo residents navigate the ins and out of condo living this season.

The Future of Aging Summit in Toronto from May 15-17, 2024 will bring together policymakers and others focused on building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and register at [agingsummit.ca](#).

The Ontario Farmland Trust is [hosting a forum on March 21st](#) to explore the importance of strong policy for farmland and environmental protection, succession planning for Ontario's food system, and how municipalities can support land access.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Careers

[Appeals Specialist - Ministry of Long Term Care](#). Closing date: March 07.

[Chief Administrative Officer - Municipality of Central Elgin](#) . Closing Date: March 12.

[Commissioner, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer - Region of Waterloo](#). Closing Date:

[City Manager - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: March 15.

[Manager, Planning - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: March 8.

[Data Analysis Coordinator - Region of Durham](#). Closing Date: March 6.

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

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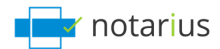
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February, 29 2024

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- Consultation: Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Land use planning framework for energy project siting.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- Cyber Security Education for Municipal Councilors.
- Advanced Councillor Training Series to Revitalize your Leadership.
- Disability inclusion workshop and panel discussion: Beyond AODA compliance.
- Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times - Limited space.
- Anti-Semitism and Anti-Islamophobia: Spring workshops.
- Land Use Planning - Foundations and Deeper Dive workshops.
- Strategies for Navigating Conflict Relationships for Strong Council Outcomes.
- Learn more about municipal investments - Upcoming workshops.
- Cyber Incident Management webinar - March 21.
- Upcoming webinar: Road & Sidewalk Assessment Service.
- Upcoming webinar: Financial Analysis for Energy Projects.
- March is made for webinars.
- 2024 Farmland Forum: The Future of Ontario Farmland.
- Ontario Age-Friendly Communities 2024 Conference.
- Calls to action for municipalities on economic abuse.
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The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Award celebrates municipal governments in Ontario that implement new and innovative ways to make public services, facilities, and infrastructure better for Ontarians. View full details [here](#).

Provincial Matters

MNDM is exploring changes to the [Northern Services Boards Act](#) (NSBA) to modernize provisions across various governance areas of Local Service Boards. The deadline for comments is March 19, 2024.

MSAA is [proposing a new regulation](#) that would prescribe entities that could contribute towards a Seniors Active Living Centre program's operational cost. The deadline for comments is March 22, 2024.

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On February 22, the IESO hosted a webinar with MMAH and OMAFRA providing an overview of the current land use planning policies in place to guide the siting of energy projects in prime agricultural areas. A [recording of the session is available](#).

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As an elected municipal official we know the pressure you deal with is real and we are here to support you. AMO has developed 3 sessions focused on core elements of leadership. Register for the [March 22 Session 1 workshop](#), [May 29 Session 2 workshop](#), and the [October 2 Session 3 workshop](#).

Participants will leave this workshop with a greater depth of knowledge and understanding of building accessible and inclusive communities as an elected official. Register for the [March 25 Disability Inclusion Workshop](#).

The Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times interactive, one-day course will teach participants how to manage all aspects of crisis communications during an emergency or large-scale event. Claim your space for the [March 27 Managing Communications through Uncomfortable Times workshop](#).

The goal of achieving your council's priorities and strategic objectives require understanding, good communication and finding ways to compromise. AMO's Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials is an invaluable resource for AMO members and your councils. This series of two workshops are open for registration: [NCR 1.0 June 26 - 27](#) and for those who have completed NCR 1.0 [April 9 - 10 NCR 2.0](#) register today.

Build your understanding on the historical and contemporary roots of anti-semitism and anti-islamophobia, how to address these and how to build relationships and allyships. Register for the [March 6 anti-islamophobia](#) workshop and [April 24 antisemitism](#) workshop today.

AMO's planning training supports its members in two important ways: [April 17 Foundations in Planning](#) builds foundational knowledge and insight into planning legislation and municipal requirements and roles and the [April 18 Advanced Land Use Planning - A Deeper Dive](#) training works through case studies and lessons learned to build your strategic management and decision making on local planning issues.

ONE Investment

ONE Investment Basics and Beyond Workshops provide an overview of eligible avenues for municipal investing under both the Legal List and Prudent Investor standards in the *Municipal Act*. We have both in-person and virtual options. Learn more and [register here](#).

LAS

Are you concerned with cyber threats? LAS hosts a [free webinar](#) about cyber-Incident management responses on March 21. Learn more about a program designed to help you manage cyber incidents.

Do you have a road or sidewalk survey on your 2024 to-do list? Join our webinar on March 20 for updates on the [LAS Road & Sidewalk Assessment Service](#), providing better data for better decision making. [Register here](#).

How do you know if an energy conservation opportunity in your facility is worth pursuing? Join SaveONenergy and LAS on March 8 for a free webinar and take a deep dive into the complexities of energy projects financing and life cycle costing. Space is limited. [Register here today](#) - Part 4 of the Municipal Series.

LAS provides a variety of free webinars on subjects that will help your municipal staff save time and money. All registrants will receive a link to the recordings. Learn more and [sign up here](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

The Ontario Farmland Trust is [hosting a forum on March 21st](#) to explore the importance of strong policy for farmland and environmental protection, succession planning for Ontario's food system, and how municipalities can support land access.

[Register](#) for the "[Building Healthy Communities: Uniting Experience, Research, and Practice for Ontario's Age-Friendly Future](#)" virtual conference. The free conference is organized into three themed morning sessions on March 20-22.

The [Canadian Centre for Women's Empowerment](#) (CCFWE) released [calls to action for municipalities](#) to address economic abuse in gender-based violence strategies. For more information contact [Michaela Mayer](#).

The International Town and Gown Association and Town and Gown Association of Ontario [launched a survey](#) seeking input from municipal leaders on Canada's student housing crisis. Participate by March 5.

The Condominium Authority of Ontario's [2024 Winter Information Kit](#) offers useful and shareable tips to help Ontario condo residents navigate the ins and out of condo living this season.

The Future of Aging Summit in Toronto from May 15-17, 2024 will bring together policymakers and others focused on building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and register at [agingsummit.ca](#).

Careers

[Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut - Government of Nunavut](#). Closing date: March 22.

[Manager, Solid Waste Policy and Planning - City of Toronto](#). Closing date: March 14

[Senior Project Manager SWMS - City of Toronto](#). Closing date: March 19.

[Program Manager, Facilities Maintenance - City of Peterborough](#). Closing date: March 6.

[Business Technology Coordinator - Region of Durham](#). Closing date: March 7.

[CAO/Clerk/Treasurer - Township of Nipigon](#). Closing date: March 13.

[Real Property Acquisition Specialist - County of Simcoe](#). Closing date: March 8.

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](#)

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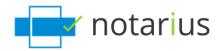
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.3.

Resolution Number 2024-037

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #9

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Municipality of Shuniah on November 14, 2023, regarding Unnecessary Noise - Engine Brakes;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Sarkaria; our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 399-23

Date: Nov 14, 2023

Moved By: 

Seconded By: 

WHEREAS excessive noise resulting from the operation of moving vehicles falls under the jurisdiction of the Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8. ("Highway Traffic Act") which is enforced by provincially appointed officers;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Shuniah, have received complaints from residents regarding noises associated with the use of engine retarder brakes on heavy vehicles;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation recommends the use of engine braking in certain circumstances, such as the downgrade located on Spruce River Road to avoid overheating brakes, and as a form of backup brake if brakes fail;

AND WHEREAS a higher engine noise is typically emitted for a short period of time (e.g., ten (10) to thirty (30) seconds), depending on the vehicle's speed and vehicles may make a loud "chattering" or "jackhammer" exhaust noise when this braking system is engaged;

AND WHEREAS this noise can be amplified if the vehicle has no muffler or an improper muffling system;

AND WHEREAS noise emissions from commercial vehicles form part of the Ministry of Transportation's inspection process;

AND WHEREAS installation of "courtesy" signs that request the drivers to limit the use of loud compression style brakes are difficult to enforce and there is evidence of these types of signs not being beneficial;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to enhance enforcement for deficient muffler systems to address concerns around excessive and unnecessary noise from engine brakes.


FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria, MPP Kevin Holland, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Lise Vaugeois, and MP Patty Hajdu.

☒ **Carried**

☐ **Defeated**

☐ **Amended**

☐ **Deferred**



Signature

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.4.

Resolution Number 2024-038

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #10

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the Town of Aylmer on November 15, 2023, regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Associate Minister of Housing, Rob Flack; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

November 16, 2023

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

Re: Motion regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act

At their Regular Meeting of Council on November 15, 2023, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following motion regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act:

Whereas the Ontario government has acknowledged an affordable housing and housing supply crisis, communicating a targeted approach to build 1.5 million homes by 2031; and

Whereas nearly one-third of Ontario households rent, rather than own, according to the most recent 2021 Census of Population; and

Whereas the Ontario government has reported that Ontario broke ground on nearly 15,000 purpose-built rentals in 2022, a 7.5 percent increase from 2021 and the highest number on record, with continued growth into 2023; and

Whereas the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, provides for the maximum a landlord can increase most tenants rent during a year without the approval of the Landlord and Tenant Board; and

Whereas the Ontario government recently strengthened protections for tenants with the intention of preserving affordability, by holding the rent increase guideline for 2024 to 2.5 percent, well below the average inflation rate of 5.9 percent; and

Whereas the rental increase guideline protection does not apply to rental units occupied for the first time after November 15, 2018, leaving an increasing number of tenants susceptible to disproportionate and unsustainable rental increases compared to those benefiting from legislated increase protection;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the Town of Aylmer requests provincial consideration for amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, to ensure that all tenants benefit from protections intended to preserve affordability;

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to:

- Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Honourable Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- And all Ontario Municipalities.

Thank you,

Owen Jaggard

Deputy Clerk / Manager of Information Services | Town of Aylmer

46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7

519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446

ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing paul.calandra@pc.ola.org

Associate Minister of Housing rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.5.

Resolution Number 2024-039

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #15

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward on November 17, 2023, regarding Guaranteed Livable Income;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Service, Ryan Williams; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament; our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

November 17, 2023

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2023 the following motion regarding urging the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a guaranteed livable income was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-568

DATE: November 14, 2023

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Maynard

WHEREAS on November 23, 2021 Prince Edward County was certified as a 'Living Wage' Employer at the "support" level, through the Ontario Living Wage Network;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario livable wage for Hastings & Prince Edward, in 2022 was determined to be \$19.05, which is \$3.55 more than the Provincial minimum wage rate of \$15.50; and this rate is paid to all staff including students in 2023;

AND WHEREAS our residents on programs such as Ontario Works, receive targeted fixed monthly incomes of \$733, and ODSP recipients receive \$1,376;

AND WHEREAS the current Ontario minimum wage rate, a person working 37.5 hours per week will earn approximately \$2,500 monthly (before tax);

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the 2023 Vital Signs Report, up to 3,500 residents (10.1% to 13.5%) are living on low income (less than \$36,000 a year after taxes) and PEC's median income lags behind Ontario by \$7,500/year;

AND WHEREAS the median rent for one bedroom in Prince Edward County in accordance with the County Housing Plan for 2023 \$1,513 a month;

AND WHEREAS rent is considered affordable, when it is no more than 30% of gross annual income and the number of people receiving government benefits has increased to a level above the provincial average in Prince Edward County. Extrapolated, a full 30% of County residents are deemed to be low-income and unable to afford either market real estate or rental housing prices;

AND WHEREAS as of March 31, 2023, there are 1,089 households on the Prince Edward - Lennox and Addington Social Services wait list for subsidized housing in Prince Edward County;

AND WHEREAS, in accordance with the County Food Collective, Food bank use is up 26% in Prince Edward County and as many as 6,000 residents experience food insecurity over a year's time;

AND WHEREAS on July 25, 2023 Council expressed support for a more generous Canada Child Benefit targeting low-income families struggling with food insecurity and urged Federal government expedite its 2021 election promise to roll-out Canada's first national school food policy, and endorsed the Coalition for Healthy School Food mission to work with partners across Canada to advocate for a universal cost-shared healthy Canada-wide school food program on September 26, 2023;

AND WHEREAS the 2017 Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) study/survey identified the general affordable workforce housing as a primary obstacle in our workforce attraction;

AND WHEREAS the collected data of housing and poverty statistics, and continuing to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result is important in establishing a livable income;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County join other municipalities across Ontario, including Belleville, Napanee to urge the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a Guaranteed Livable Income program; and

THAT this resolution be sent to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Michael Parsa, M.P.P., Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Ryan Williams, Bay of Quinte M.P.P., Todd Smith, Bay of Quinte M.P.P, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition of Ontario and Pierre Poilievre Leader of the Official Opposition of Canada requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

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

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

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

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.6.

Resolution Number 2024-040

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #16 & 25

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward on November 17, 2023, and the support Resolution passed by Loyalist Township on November 27, 2023, regarding Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to Expand the Use of Permit-by-Rule;
AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

November 17, 2023

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2023 the following motion regarding support for the Province to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, storm water management systems, and certain water taking activities was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-569

DATE: November 14, 2023

MOVED BY: Councillor Maynard

SECONDED BY: Councillor Roberts

WHEREAS the Municipality, in support of the Quinte Conservation Authority, actively supports the Source Water Protection Program, as part of local efforts to implement the Clean Water Act, 2006 and its regulations to protect local municipal drinking water sources;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is proposing to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities;

AND WHEREAS In 2018, Bill 68, the Open for Business Act was passed, whereby it legislated that less complex activities that pose low-risk to the environment should not be required to go through the approval process and instead, should self-register on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR);

AND WHEREAS Quinte Conservation Authority has outlined in their October 24, 2023 report to their Board, that the activities proposed to move to the EASR may pose too much risk to drinking water, and can pose threats to human health and the environment;

AND WHEREAS Quinte Conservation Authority noted the source water protection concern generally lies in the fact the Ministry will no longer undertake an up-front detailed review of applications related to the specified activities, thereby potentially weakening regulatory oversight;

AND WHEREAS the specified activities, which have the potential to cause significant adverse impacts to the natural environment and human health will no

longer be subject to public and site-specific scrutiny prior to commencing operation in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County supports the concerns outlined by Quinte Conservation Authority and urges the Provincial government to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities; and

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Todd Smith, Bay of Quinte M.P.P. and Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; and

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

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

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





Northumberland County

Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 22, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109

Carried

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



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**

555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather

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

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By L. Cleveland

Agenda
Item 10

Resolution Number
2024-02-21- 109

Seconded By O. Anwar

Council Date: February 21, 2024

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

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
-------------------	-----------	-------------	---------

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

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

Recorded Vote
Requested by

Councillor's Name

Deferred

Warden's Signature

Carried

Warden's Signature

Defeated

Warden's Signature

Corporate Support Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: February 6, 2024

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2024-02-06-071

Moved by: S. Dibb

Seconded by: B. Ostrander

Council Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

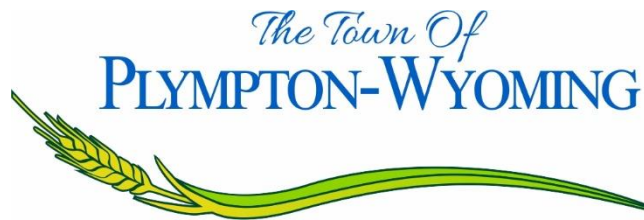
"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence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

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

Carried 
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
Committee Chair's Signature



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

January 15th 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford,

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

Motion 14

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

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

Carried.

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

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

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

December 12, 2023

Sent Via Email

Municipalities of Ontario

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

705.671.2489

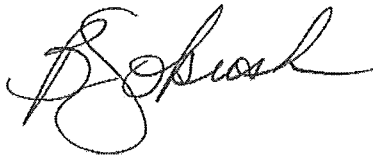
www.greatersudbury.ca
www.grandsudbury.ca

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

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

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

Yours truly,

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

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

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



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

January 11th, 2024

****Sent Via Email****

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

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

Resolution: 4

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

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

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

Carried

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

Sincerely,

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

Crystal Labbe
CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON

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



MOVED BY:

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

SECONDED BY:

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

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

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

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

Recorded vote requested: ☐

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

I declare this motion

☒ Carried

☐ Lost / Defeated

☐ Deferred to: _____ (enter date)

Because:

☐ Referred to: _____ (enter body)

Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Chair:

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

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