



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: November 25th, 2024
Correspondence Package No. I-24-NOV-20**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-24-NOV-20 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Ontario Health – Ontarians Want to Learn More About Saving Lives Through Organ And Tissue Donation
- b) Ontario Building Safer and Stronger Communities
- c) Ontario Boosting Efforts to Combat Bullying and Support Student Mental Health
- d) Ontario Giving Police More Tools to Monitor Registered Sex Offenders
- e) Ontario and Starlink to Bring High-Speed Satellite Internet to Remote Communities
- f) Ontario Investing Over \$74 Million Through Next Round of Skills Development Fund Capital Stream
- g) Ontario Building More Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Construction Update – November 2024
- b) New Eganville Paramedic Base Station officially opened November 1
- c) Councillor Peter Emon and Councillor Rob Weir nominated for 2025 County of Renfrew Warden

3. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Watch File – November 7th, 2024
- b) Watch File – November 14th, 2024
- c) AMO Policy Update – Encampments and Opioid Crisis

4. Resolutions from Other Municipalities

- a) Township of Clearview – Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit
- b) Town of The Blue Mountains – Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program
- c) Township of Whitewater Region – 2025 Costs for Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Services
- d) County of Renfrew – Provincial Funding for Child Welfare Services
- e) Township of Puslinch – Provincial Projects and Excess Soil Management Practices
- f) Township of Papineau-Cameron – Ontario Building Code



Ontarians Want to Learn More About Saving Lives Through Organ And Tissue Donation

November 13, 2024


Toronto, ON – Over 2.1 million Ontarians now have an easier way to learn the important role they can play to save and improve lives.

With the launch of an innovative collaboration between the provincial and federal governments, Ontario taxpayers can now indicate their interest to learn more about organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Through a question that first appeared on the 2022 T1 General tax return, Ontario taxpayers who consent will receive an email from Ontario Health (Trillium Gift of Life Network) with more information. The goal of this initiative is to raise public awareness and increase donor registrations.

Beginning this week, over 2.1 million Ontario taxpayers who consented when they filed their 2022 and 2023 taxes will receive an email communication from Ontario Health (TGLN) that includes information about how to register as a potential donor.



“This initiative is an incredible opportunity for Ontarians to learn more about the importance of organ and tissue donation and the lives that can be saved and improved by transplantation,” says Rebecca Cooper, Vice President, Ontario Renal Network and TGLN. “Our goal is to increase donor registrations and ensure that individuals are openly speaking with their family about their wishes. Partnering with the Canadian Revenue Agency allows us to reach a large number of individuals with our message so they may make informed decisions and will be inspired to register as organ and tissue donors.”

Transplant recipient Shilpa Raju knows first-hand the life-saving power of donation. “The little things like running for the bus, and big things like pursuing a career or getting married; I never forget that I wouldn’t be doing any of this without my donor. My lung donor and their family – they’re the reason I’m still here. The impact of one person’s choice is transformative, and it’s a butterfly effect. Anything I do or accomplish is bigger than me.”

For more information about organ and tissue donation and transplantation in Ontario, please visit www.beadonor.ca  (<http://www.beadonor.ca/>)

Background and Quick Facts:

- In 2021, the Canadian House of Commons and Senate passed Bill C-210 43-2): An Act to amend the Canada Revenue Agency Act (organ and tissue donors), to support organ and tissue donation and transplantation across Canada.
- Ontario is one of the first jurisdictions to launch this initiative.
- One organ donor can save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of up to 75 others through tissue donation.
- On average, 1,400 people in Ontario are waiting for a lifesaving organ and thousands more are in need of a transformative tissue transplant.
- Every three days someone dies while they wait for their gift of life.

- While 90% of residents indicating support for organ and tissue donation, only one in three Ontarians are registered organ and tissue donors.
- Anyone 16 years or older with a valid Ontario health card can register – either in person at any ServiceOntario location or online at [beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca/)  (<http://www.beadonor.ca/>).
- Talk to your family about your donation decision and visit [Beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca/)  (<http://www.beadonor.ca/>)

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Last Updated: November 13, 2024

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Building Safer and Stronger Communities

New legislation supporting safety near supervised consumption sites, introducing new tools to monitor sex offenders and targeting auto theft

November 18, 2024

[Solicitor General](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government introduced legislation that, if passed, will help keep streets and communities safe and hold criminals accountable. The *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act* includes targeted measures to help support public safety near supervised consumption sites, crack down on auto theft and careless driving, enhance the tools police can use to manage sex offenders, tackle illegal cannabis sales and support access to justice. The government is also exploring measures to improve the collection of bail statistics as part of its ongoing calls for *Criminal Code* reform.

“Our government is keeping our communities safe and holding criminals accountable,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “Today, we’re proposing impactful changes to strengthen tools for police officers, improve access to justice and eliminate dangerous activity that puts hard-working people at risk. In Ontario, crime doesn’t pay.”

Building on recent legislation and community safety initiatives, the *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act* will, if passed:

- Carry through on the government’s [previously announced commitment](#) to protect children and families by prohibiting the operation of supervised consumption sites within 200 metres of a school, licensed child-care centre or EarlyON Child and Family Centre through the creation of the *Community Care and Recovery Act, 2024*
- Require municipalities and local boards to seek provincial approval prior to making or supporting requests for new supervised consumption sites
- [Introduce new penalties for fraud](#) related to vehicle identification numbers (VIN) and further combat careless driving through the *Highway Traffic Act*
- Give police services more tools to monitor sex offenders and investigate sex crimes through *Christopher’s Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000* and make

individuals with active reporting requirements ineligible from legally changing their name, through the *Change of Name Act*

- Support terrorism victims by amending the *Limitations Act, 2002* to remove the limitation period for lawsuits under the federal *Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act*
- Prohibit advertising and promoting the sale of illegal cannabis through the *Cannabis Control Act, 2017*

“Our government is making bold and innovative changes to keep communities safe while improving access to mental health and addictions services that focuses on prevention and treatment, meeting people and their families where they are and putting them on a path to recovery,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “These proposed changes to consumption treatment sites, along with the \$378 million investment we are making in new Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hubs, will support community safety along with the recovery of those struggling with opioid addiction.”

“Our government has been crystal clear, enough is enough,” said Associate Minister of Auto Theft and Bail Reform Graham McGregor. “We continue to call for meaningful bail reform. Our legislation today will make our streets safer and our communities stronger. The federal government needs to step up and do the same.”

To support the commitment of creating safer communities, the government continues to call on the federal government for enhanced bail measures to keep repeat and violent offenders off Ontario streets.

In addition to amendments proposed in the act, the government is also exploring several initiatives such as:

- Proclaiming the month of November each year as Community Safety and Crime Prevention Month to raise awareness about the importance of local partnerships in combatting crime.
 - Expansion of Justice Centres – Integrated Treatment Courts to address the underlying causes of crime
 - Examining opportunities to engage on and modernize the Private Security and Investigative Services Act, 2005
-

Quotes

"Our proposed changes to the Highway Traffic Act send a clear message to anyone who tries to steal cars or drives recklessly in Ontario. These crimes have a significant impact on victims and local communities. That is why our government is using every tool in our toolbox to crack down on auto theft and ensure Ontario roads continue to be among the safest in North America."

**- Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation**

"We're working to keep our communities safe. With these proposed changes, our government is tackling the illegal cannabis market, helping victims of terrorism and making justice more accessible to more communities across Ontario."

**- Doug Downey
Attorney General**

"Promoting the safety of all Ontarians, modernizing the delivery of policing services, and prioritizing crime prevention and victims of crime are all vital components of healthy and vibrant communities. The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police welcomes these legislative changes, which will help make communities safer."

**- Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie
President, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police**

"The proposed legislation introduced by the Ministry of the Solicitor General marks a significant step forward in enhancing public safety and policing effectiveness in Ontario. Strengthening the Ontario Sex Offender Registry and aligning it with federal amendments will provide our police services with critical information to combat sex crimes, including those committed online. The modernization of the Community Safety and Policing Act, with its emphasis on governance, operational, and technical requirements, reflects our commitment to evolving and improving our policing standards. These changes will empower our police services to operate with greater flexibility and efficiency, ultimately leading to safer communities across Ontario. We look forward to the positive impact these amendments will bring."

- Patrick J. Weaver
Chair, Ontario Association of Police Service Boards

"Through this bill, the Ford government is cracking down on terrorism by extending the limitation period for victims of terror with an Ontario connection to sue terrorists and their supporters under the Justice for Victims of Terror Act. This is an historic advancement in Canada's fight against terrorism and the pain and horror it inflicts upon our nation. As the principal advocate for the federal Justice for Victims of Terror Act, Secure Canada thanks Premier Ford, Minister Downey, and Minister Kerzner for their decisive leadership in defending Canadians from terror and standing up for its victims today, tomorrow, and always."

- Sheryl Saperia
CEO of Secure Canada

Additional Resources

- [The Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act](#)
- [Ontario Giving Police More Tools to Monitor Registered Sex Offenders](#)
- [Ontario Cracking Down on Auto Theft and Careless Driving](#)
- [Ontario Calls for Immediate Federal Action on Bail Reform](#)
- [Ontario Protecting Communities and Supporting Addiction Recovery with New Treatment Hubs](#)

Related Topics

Law and Safety

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Boosting Efforts to Combat Bullying and Support Student Mental Health

Province ensuring more students feel safe, empowered and respected in schools

November 18, 2024

[Education](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is marking Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week by investing \$4.6 million to help combat bullying in schools and expand initiatives to equip students with the social and emotional skills they need to thrive. This funding will help foster stronger connections among students, promote a safe, respectful and inclusive school environment, and help reduce incidents of violence in schools across the province.

“As a mother, I understand firsthand how heartbreaking it is to hear about your child facing bullying or having a difficult day at school,” said Jill Dunlop, Minister of Education. “Our investment in anti-bullying and mental health initiatives is a testament to our commitment to nurturing our students and making our schools places of respect and care. Through these efforts, we are fostering an environment where every child has the support they need to promote their mental health and reach their full potential without fear or hesitation.”

To advance the government’s efforts to improve student mental health and well-being, the funding is supporting the following community partners:

- \$1.485 million to Big Brothers and Big Sisters to provide a school-focused mentorship program for students in Grades 1 to 12, with the goal of increasing school connectedness and improving social-emotional skills, mental health and educational outcomes
- \$1 million to Roots of Empathy to offer classroom programs aimed at reducing aggression and enhancing social-emotional competence in children aged 5-13, to build skills that support student success, mental health and well-being
- \$800,000 to Kids Help Phone to provide prevention counselling and offer high-quality professional resources and crisis response
- \$436,500 to Egale Canada to support educators in facilitating learning opportunities to address cyberbullying, with particular emphasis on supporting

students who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+

- \$250,000 to Child Development Institute to improve students' emotion regulation, self-control, and problem-solving skills through the SNAP (Stop Now And Plan) program
- \$245,000 to Principal Association Projects to develop resources for parents and provide professional development opportunities for principals and vice-principals on responding to cyberbullying
- \$150,000 to Victim Services Toronto to increase youth safety, and in particular young women, within the context of online dating, healthy relationships, healthy masculinity and peer pressure
- \$100,000 to pflag Canada to improve the mental health and relationships of 2SLGBTQIA+ students and their parents by providing culturally responsive community supports
- \$78,000 to Victim Services Durham Region to host a Youth Symposium that educates students in Grades 7 to 9+ and educators on youth safety and violence prevention
- \$65,000 to George Hull Centre for Children and Families to deliver culturally relevant socio-emotional learning initiatives designed to help students enhance self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making

Ontario's investments address the critical need to support students through personal and academic challenges, help them build meaningful connections and achieve success. Support to address bullying and cyberbullying will advance broader efforts to improve student safety and prevent violence in schools, fostering a safe and respectful environment.

Quick Facts

- According to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), more than half of Ontario students report symptoms of depression and anxiety and a third of students (31 per cent) rate their ability to cope as fair or poor.
- In 2023, CAMH found that one-quarter (25 per cent) of Ontario students reported being bullied at school since the beginning of the school year in 2022.
- For the 2024-25 school year, the Ministry of Education is providing \$127.5 million to support initiatives and programs that help build a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. Additionally, mental health funding is being increased to nearly \$121 million, an increase of 595 per cent since 2017-18.

- Ontario requires all school boards to have an anti-bullying policy in place to help foster welcoming, supportive and inclusive school communities.
- School boards must establish and provide annual professional development to educate teachers and other school staff about bullying prevention and strategies for promoting a positive school climate.

Quotes

"Bullying can have lasting effects on children that leads to emotional, behavioural, and social issues. Our government is working with partners and community organizations to help create safe environments for all children, including kids who may be more vulnerable to bullying, so they can succeed and thrive in their communities."

- Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services

"For students to grow into mentally healthy and resilient adults, their school needs to be a place for safe and productive learning – not a source of fear. With these new investments, our government is setting students up for success by providing resources and invaluable mental health training that will help them throughout their lives."

- Michael Tibollo
Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

"I am pleased to accept this significant funding on behalf of the more than 10,000 children we serve in schools across the province of Ontario. More than nine out of 10 children in our mentoring programs deal with at least 4 adversities each day. This is an investment in building their resilience and giving them the hope and skills for a bright future."

- Jill Zelmanovits
President and CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada

"Roots of Empathy is grateful and honoured to receive the continued support since 2000 from the Ontario government. This bullying prevention support is so welcome as our program has been proven to reduce bullying and aggression on randomised control trials from three continents and it all started in Ontario."

- Mary Gordon
Founder and President, Roots of Empathy

"We're grateful to the Government of Ontario, and specifically the Ministry of Education, for its continued support of Kids Help Phone through anti-bullying program funding since 2005. With this funding, KHP has established and scaled programs and services to promote help-seeking behaviour and demystify mental health for students, in partnership with and in support of educators across the province. Whether they're experiencing bullying, doing the bullying, witnessing it or facing other challenges in their worlds, young people have a safe, 24/7 space to feel out loud at Kids Help Phone."

- Jenny Yuen
Group Head & EVP, People, Culture and Partnerships, Kids Help Phone

"Fostering inclusive school environments for all students, including 2SLGBTQI students, is crucial for protecting positive mental health and overall well-being. Egale Canada would like to thank the ministry for this critical investment. Together we can create inclusive schools where all students feel valued and supported."

- Helen Kennedy
Executive Director, Egale Canada

"Thanks to the Ministry of Education's generous support of our SNAP for Schools program, the Child Development Institute can help create safer, healthier classrooms for thousands of additional students across Ontario. The ministry's investment in SNAP for Schools will help reduce aggression in our classrooms while teaching students social skills and positive behaviours at an early age, with measurable long-term benefits for their learning and development."

- Andrew Reddin
Chief Executive Officer, Child Development Institute

"With the support of the Ministry of Education, the Healthy Relationships in a Digital World project aims to empower principals and vice-principals with essential tools and strategies to foster healthy digital relationships and literacy among students, promoting a safe and supportive learning environment."

- Alison Osborne
President, Ontario Principals' Council

"On behalf of Victim Services Toronto, I want to extend our deepest gratitude to Minister Dunlop and the Ministry of Education for their generous \$150,000 investment. This support is a significant boost to our efforts in promoting youth safety, fostering healthy relationships, and educating young people about the realities of online dating. Together, we are equipping youth with the knowledge and tools they need to navigate these challenges safely, and we are grateful to have the Ministry of Education as a partner in this critical work."

- Carly Kalish
Executive Director, Victim Services Toronto

"On behalf of pflag Canada's national board and the many pflag Chapters across 10 provinces, we're proud to be a recipient of the Ministry of Education's funding toward addressing bullying and supporting mental health. 2SLGBTQIA+ youth are much more likely to be the target of bullying, with 77 per cent reporting to have experienced bullying in the last year. Additionally, 2SLGBTQIA+ youth are twice as likely to report poor mental health and twice as likely to have considered suicide as compared to other bullied groups. We at pflag Canada are committed to providing ongoing support to 2SLGBTQIA+ people and their families through advocacy, education and resources. This funding will support pflag Canada in our commitment to be family for all."

**- Christa Duvall
Board President, pflag Canada**

"Victim Services of Durham Region would like to extend our gratitude to the province of Ontario and the Ministry of Education for the ongoing support of our award-winning Provincial Youth Violence Prevention Symposium. The Symposium ensures that every youth across the province has access to critical prevention education to enhance protection from various forms of exploitation and abuse. This support will allow us to continue essential programming that helps keep our communities, and our youth safe."

**- Krista MacNeil
Executive Director, Victim Services of Durham Region**

"This investment from the Ministry of Education will allow us to engage 100 children in Grades 1 to 3 in Feeling Explorers, a groundbreaking and culturally relevant socio-emotional and skills-based program developed by the George Hull Centre specifically for Canadian school classrooms. Children are taught important skills in self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationships and responsible decision-making, in the context of a safe, fun and engaging program in their school classroom. Children and teachers report a strong positive impact on students' emotional awareness, relationship skills and social connections after participating in Feeling Explorers and we are thrilled to be able to continue to offer it in our schools, thanks to support from the Ministry of Education."

- Susan Chamberlain

Executive Director, George Hull Centre for Children and Families

Additional Resources

- [Promote a positive school environment](#)
- [Creating safe and accepting schools](#)
- [Bullying, We Can all Help Stop It](#)
- [PPM 144 – Bullying Prevention and Intervention](#)
- [Your child's education: a parent guide to our school system](#)

Related Topics

Education and Training

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Giving Police More Tools to Monitor Registered Sex Offenders

Proposed enhancements to Christopher's Law would help protect our most vulnerable people and keep communities safe

November 15, 2024

[Solicitor General](#)

MISSISSAUGA — The Ontario government will soon introduce amendments to *Christopher's Law*, that, if passed, will strengthen Ontario's Sex Offender Registry by giving police more tools to better monitor and supervise registered sex offenders. The government is also proposing changes that would prevent sex offenders from legally changing their names in Ontario so they can't hide their identities.

"Decades ago, Ontario led the way with Canada's first sex offender registry, and today we're making it stronger," said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "By introducing changes to make *Christopher's Law* more effective, we're giving police new tools to prevent, investigate, and solve egregious sex crimes to protect those most vulnerable, especially our children."

The proposed changes would help to maintain Ontario's high reporting compliance rate for registered sex offenders and high-risk child sex offenders by:

- Requiring sex offenders to report to a police service within a prescribed period after being ordered to serve a conditional sentence
- Mandating sex offenders to report to a police service within a prescribed period after receiving a passport or driver's licence
- Requiring offenders to report when they are starting to use or make changes to email addresses, social media usernames and other digital identifiers
- Adding new strict travel notification requirements, including requiring registered sex offenders to provide 14 days advance notice if they intend on traveling for seven days or more and requiring that registered child sex offenders provide advance notice if they will be out of Canada for any length of time.

The government is also proposing to amend the *Change of Name Act* which would prohibit sex offenders from changing their names while they have reporting obligations to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry. While there are safeguards currently in place, this proposed change would make it easier for police to monitor sex offenders and prevent them from using a new identity to commit new crimes.

“Banning convicted sex offenders from legally changing their name in Ontario will improve public safety,” said Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement. “By strengthening the *Change of Name Act*, we are closing a legal loophole that allowed these offenders to live in anonymity.”

Quick Facts

- Ontario's Sex Offender Registry, the first of its kind in Canada, was sparked by the tragic 1988 murder of 11-year-old Christopher Stephenson at the hands of a convicted pedophile on federal statutory release. At the 1993 inquest into Christopher's death, the coroner's jury recommended creating a national registry for convicted sex offenders, requiring that they register with their local police service as soon as they are released from jail. With the support of the Stephenson family, victims' groups and law enforcement organizations, the province proclaimed *Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000* on April 23, 2001.
 - Ontario has one of the highest compliance rates of all sex offender registries. More than 94 per cent of registered sex offenders are compliant.
 - As of September 2024, there are over 14,000 registered sex offenders on the Ontario Sex Offender Registry with active reporting obligations.
 - The act requires some individuals convicted of or found not criminally responsible on account of a mental disorder for a designated sex offence to register in person at their local police station and report annually each year and within seven days of specific events (for example, a change of address or change of name).
 - Ontario remains the only province with its own registry. The Ontario Sex Offender Registry is administered by the Ontario Provincial Police and gives local police services a critical tool to prevent, investigate and solve crimes of a sexual nature and to manage sex offenders within their local community.
-

Quotes

"This bill gives communities another measure to protect themselves from sex offenders who try to slip into unsuspecting neighborhoods by changing their names. The criminals who shatter the lives of their victims should not be given the opportunity to hide from their crimes and threaten the safety of women and children."

- Laurie Scott
MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

"The right to change one's name must not be abused. I am proud that our government is working to close a long-standing loophole that previously provided sex offenders, that committed heinous crimes against our children, anonymity and an opportunity to escape accountability. This legislation, would be another measure by our government to protect and support victims and their families on their path to healing."

- Laura Smith
MPP, Thornhill

"The Police Association of Ontario fully supports the government's proposed enhancements to Christopher's Law that will lead to better protections for our community members. This will strengthen the Ontario Sex Offender Registry and better equip our police service members to prevent, investigate, and solve crimes, especially in today's increasingly digital environment. Providing law enforcement with timely access to critical information on offenders enables our members to do more to keep communities safe and respond effectively to the complexities of modern crime."

- Mark Baxter
President, Police Association of Ontario

"Christopher's Law remains a vital investigative, offender management, and community safety tool that helps hold sex offenders accountable, delivers justice for victims of crime, and ultimately saves lives. We thank the province for committing to the safety and well-being of communities across Ontario."

**- Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie
President, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police**

"In 1988, the Stephenson family endured a devastating and unimaginable loss when their child was fatally abducted by a known sex offender. The proposed amendments to Christopher's Law aim to strengthen protections for children and families by implementing stricter conditions for sex offenders in our community and enhances police's enforcement abilities. Peel Regional Police commends the Stephenson family for their tireless advocacy in helping to ensure other families are protected."

**- Nishan Duraiappah
Chief, Peel Regional Police**

"Victim Services Toronto recognizes the importance of modernizing the Ontario Sex Offender Registry to meet the challenges of a digital world. Many of the survivors we support have experienced harm facilitated through online platforms, and by adapting the registry to include digital identifiers, we are moving towards a more comprehensive approach to prevention and accountability. While there are always considerations around privacy and implementation, these updates could help law enforcement and communities better respond to emerging threats, ultimately enhancing safety for survivors of sexual violence."

**- Carly Kalish
Executive Director, Victims Services Toronto**

Related Topics

Law and Safety

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario and Starlink to Bring High-Speed Satellite Internet to Remote Communities

New program offering connectivity for 15,000 eligible homes and businesses

November 14, 2024

[Infrastructure](#)

SUDBURY — The Ontario government is partnering with Starlink to launch the new Ontario Satellite Internet (ONSAT) program, which will offer high-speed satellite internet access to 15,000 eligible unserved and underserved homes and businesses, including in rural, remote and northern communities, beginning in June 2025.

“Our government is pleased to work with Starlink to offer a highly advanced satellite internet service that will help people living and working in the hardest to reach areas of the province access high-speed internet,” said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. “Our government knows how essential it is to have access to online services and supports, which is why we are using all viable options and technologies, including fibre, fixed wireless and satellite to ensure every community across the province has access by the end of 2025.”

More details on the program and the registration process for eligible primary residences and businesses will be available in Spring 2025. The new ONSAT program is part of the government’s nearly \$4 billion investment to help bring access to reliable high-speed internet to every community across the province by the end of 2025. This is the largest single investment in high-speed internet, in any province, by any government in Canadian history.

Quick Facts

- Starlink has the world’s first and largest constellation of highly advanced satellites operating in a low-Earth orbit to deliver broadband internet capable of supporting streaming, online gaming, video calls and more. Starlink is engineered and operated by SpaceX.
- As of November 2024, Ontario has finalized agreements worth approximately \$2.5 billion for over 270 projects that will enable high-speed internet access and

improved cellular connectivity across the province. Over 100,000 homes and businesses have been connected to high-speed internet to date, and about 450,000 additional premises will be connected by the end of 2025.

- Visit Ontario's [interactive online map](#) to find out where provincially funded high-speed internet projects are planned, currently under way or have been recently completed.

Quotes

"Bridging the digital divide is a priority for this government and Infrastructure Ontario is proud to play a critical role in the procurement and execution of solutions to deliver Ontarians the high-speed internet they need to succeed and thrive in an increasingly digital age. As we work to deliver high-speed internet access for Ontarians across the province, satellite offers the value and feasibility to provide high-speed internet specifically to some of our province's hardest to reach regions."

- Michael Lindsay

President and Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Ontario

"Maawandoon is honoured to be part of the awarded project alongside Starlink and FSET, demonstrating an effort that will transform connectivity in Indigenous communities. By partnering with Maawandoon, an Indigenous-owned company, we are ensuring that engagement is done thoughtfully and respectfully. Through Infrastructure Ontario, our collective focus will deliver critical infrastructure and create long-lasting socio-economic benefits for Indigenous communities across the Nations in Ontario."

- Darren Harper

President and Chief Executive Officer, Maawandoon

"FSET is proud to deploy Starlink to assist with advanced digital equity and bridge the digital divide for Indigenous communities across Ontario. Our commitment to this initiative stems from our belief that Starlink offers a solution to the existing gaps in internet connectivity. We are dedicated to transforming connectivity for remote communities, ensuring that even the most isolated regions have access to dependable internet. Providing high-speed internet to communities to improve their quality of life through connectivity allows for new opportunities for education, healthcare, economic growth and more. As a company rooted in the North, we are grateful for the trust and collaboration of our neighbouring communities. We remain committed to ensuring that everyone has equitable access."

- Nicole Brown

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner, and Dave Brown, Chief
Digital Officer and Managing Partner, FSET

Additional Resources

- [Contract Awarded for the Ontario Satellite Internet \(ONSAT\) Program](#)
- [About Starlink technology.](#)
- [Ontario connects: making high-speed internet accessible in every community.](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing Over \$74 Million Through Next Round of Skills Development Fund Capital Stream

Province also investing nearly \$5 million to train over 1,600 crane workers in Oro-Medonte

November 12, 2024

[Office of the Premier](#)

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

ORO-MEDONTE — The Ontario government is launching the second round of its [Skills Development Fund \(SDF\) Capital Stream](#) starting November 29, with over \$74 million in available funding to build, expand and retrofit training facilities for workers in the trades, including construction, manufacturing technology and health care. The government is also investing nearly \$5 million from the first round of the SDF Capital Stream with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) to build a new crane training facility for over 1,600 workers in Barrie. Since the province launched the Skills Development Fund in 2021, Ontario is building training facilities and providing training programs that are projected to support over one million workers across the province.

“With more than \$74 million committed to training and workers across the province, this new round of funding through our Skills Development Fund Capital Stream will help thousands of additional Ontario workers find better jobs and bigger paycheques,” said Premier Doug Ford. “It’s especially great to be here in Oro-Medonte to announce nearly \$5 million in support from the first round of funding and see first-hand how it’s making a difference in the lives of Ontario workers.”

Building on the success of the SDF Capital Stream [announced in 2023](#), Ontario will open a second round on November 29, 2024, with an enhanced, streamlined application process that includes a new SEED pathway to help with the upfront costs of developing construction proposals, such as design drawings and technical plans. This addresses the needs of businesses and training providers who may lack the in-house capacity to develop complex construction plans. As a further improvement, the Capital Stream will now also accept funding proposals all year round, which enables faster application reviews.

“Under Premier Ford, our government has an ambitious plan to build Ontario – from new housing that families can call home, to highways and public transit connecting our communities, to clean energy projects powering our economy,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “But with one in three tradespeople retiring over the coming years, we must pass on the skills and expertise from the Golden Generation of Skilled Tradespeople to the next generation of workers. With a new, second round of our Skills Development Fund Capital Stream, we are going to kick Ontario’s training capacity into high-gear, training over one million workers for in-demand careers in every corner of Ontario.”

The announcement was made in Oro-Medonte, where the government is investing nearly \$5 million in the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) to build a new crane training facility, led by the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario (OETIO). The SDF Capital Stream investment from round one will help build a new crane training facility focused on training apprentices in mobile and tower crane operation, as well as heavy equipment. This modern and high-tech centre will include simulation labs, workshops and an outdoor training area for tower cranes, in addition to classrooms, offices and a cafeteria. This full-service training facility will train over 1,600 jobseekers – including youth, Indigenous peoples and newcomers – and foster innovation, while helping to build a talent pipeline for the construction industry in the region and across Ontario.

Quick Facts

- SDF comprises two streams: the [Training Stream](#) supports hiring, training and upskilling programs for jobseekers, apprentices and workers; and the [Capital Stream](#) supports upgrades or construction of training centres for the skilled trades. The total investment for both streams is to up to \$1.4 billion.
- SDF Capital Stream Round 2 will open on November 29 and will allow a continuous intake of applications. This improved application process allows interested organizations to apply year-round through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#). Inquiries can be sent to: SDFCapitalProgram@ontario.ca.
- The new SEED pathway of the Capital Stream will help fund the development of capital plans for training facilities and will complement the already established GROW pathway that will continue to support projects to build, upgrade and expand new training infrastructure.
- Organizations that are interested in submitting a proposal for either the SEED or GROW pathways will be able to review the SDF Capital Stream application

guidelines over the coming week at

<https://forms.mgcs.gov.on.ca/en/dataset/on00540>.

- Since its launch in 2023, Ontario's SDF Capital Stream has been supporting renovation and construction projects that aim to help almost 250,000 workers train for in-demand sectors.
- The SDF Training Stream supports hiring, training and upskilling projects for jobseekers, apprentices and workers. Round 5 of the SDF Training Stream closed on October 11, 2024 and over 800 applications for funding were submitted.
- Ontario's \$5 million investment through round one of the SDF Capital Stream will go to support the construction of IUOE's \$25 million crane training facility.
- Over 21,000 jobs were recently going unfilled in Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie region, including jobs in the construction sector.
- The Capital Stream of the Skills Development Fund is exclusively funded by the Government of Ontario.
- The Training Stream of the SDF is supported through labour market transfer agreements between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.
- As the Government of Canada has unilaterally cut over \$230 million annually from Ontario's Labour Market Transfer Agreements, which supports employment and settlement service programs, Ontario continues to call for the federal government to reinstate this critical funding for Ontario workers and jobseekers.

Quotes

"You are seeing homes, highways, roads, transit, and critical infrastructure being built across the province and our government is training the next generation of workers we need to build growing communities like Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte. This is all part of our plan to deliver better jobs with bigger paycheques. Ontario is growing at a rapid pace. By delivering \$5 million for this new crane operator training facility for over 1,600 workers in Oro-Medonte, we are supporting jobseekers in the construction industry, supporting our local economy, and building a stronger Ontario."

- Doug Downey
MPP, Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte

"This new \$25 million training facility represents an investment not just in the future of IUOE Local 793, but also in the province of Ontario. As a union that represents more than 20,000 Operating Engineers and has invested more than \$275 million in training since the 1990s, it is a pleasure to work with a government that has ambitious plans to rebuild Ontario and understands the need to develop a skilled workforce that can turn those plans into reality. With the help of this grant from the Skills Development Fund Capital Stream, our new facility will complement the training we already provide at our two world-class campuses in Oakville and Morrisburg. It will also allow us to offer even more young people a direct route into a secure, well-paid career as an Operating Engineer. On behalf of myself and our Board of Training Trust Fund Trustees and members, I wish to thank Premier Doug Ford and Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini for their ongoing commitment to Local 793 as we continue to build the skilled workforce of the future."

- Mike Gallagher
Business Manager, IUOE, Local 793

"This award from the Ontario government's Skills Development Fund Capital Stream will help us to dramatically increase our training capacity to more closely match the growing demand for skilled Operating Engineers. Once completed, our new facility will include the latest simulators, modern classrooms and state-of-art equipment that will create new opportunities for young people to enter the trade and put our members and apprentices on the pathway to success."

- Rick Kerr
Executive Director, OETIO

"The Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario has seen the positive impact Skills Development Funding has had under the Ontario Government and today's announcement of the Capital Stream will allow the expansion and growth of our many training centres across the province, supporting the training and advancement of our workforce to meet industry demand."

- Marc Arsenault

**Business Manager of the Provincial Building and Construction Trades
Council of Ontario**

Additional Resources

- [Skills Development Fund: Training Stream](#)
- [Skills Development Fund: Capital Stream](#)
- [Skilled Trades Ontario](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Building More Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Province making it easier and more convenient to charge up outside of large urban centres

November 12, 2024

[Energy and Electrification](#)

AJAX — The Ontario government is building over 1,300 new electric vehicle (EV) charging ports in small and medium-sized communities, marking a major milestone in the province's plan to increase access to EV chargers outside of large urban centres and support the electrification of transportation across the province. As the province continues to see substantial job creation and investment in the growing EV and EV battery manufacturing sector, these new charging stations will provide critical supporting infrastructure in communities across the province, including for EVs made right here in Ontario.

"With more than 201,000 electric vehicles on the road in Ontario, we're putting shovels in the ground to build more charging stations and make life easier for drivers," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Electrification. "That includes a focus on smaller and underserved communities across our province where we are providing more certainty for parents and workers during their commutes."

The new chargers are part of the government's \$63 million investment to build publicly accessible charging stations in communities with less than 170,000 people, as well as in any Indigenous community in Ontario. The chargers will be located at [270 sites across the province](#), such as arenas, hospitals, parks and recreation centres. This includes 190 charging ports in northern Ontario, providing drivers across the north with more options when travelling.

"Improving EV charging infrastructure is essential to ensuring drivers are confident in electric vehicles," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "By focusing on smaller and medium-sized communities, we're filling gaps in underserved areas to build a more connected charging network for everyone in Ontario."

Each new EV charging site will include Level 2 charging stations, Level 3 charging stations, or a combination of the two. In addition, the government has also launched a new [Ultra-Low Overnight Electricity Price Plan](#) and is exploring options for [an Electric Vehicle Charger Discount Electricity Rate](#) to further support EV adoption and reduce emissions. The new Ultra-Low Overnight Electricity Price Plan is helping customers who use more electricity at night, including those who charge their electric vehicle, save up to \$90 per year.

“Having attracted \$45 billion in new electric vehicle and EV battery investments over the last four years, our government is delivering on a plan to build a fully integrated end-to-end EV supply chain in Ontario” said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. “By expanding access to charging infrastructure beyond urban centres, we’re ensuring workers and families across the province can feel confident in their adoption of EVs.”

Quick Facts

- The government is investing a total of \$91 million through the EV ChargeON program which consists of two streams: the Community Sites Stream and the Government Sites Stream. [Requests for bids for the Government Sites Stream](#) closed in September 2024.
- Businesses, not-for-profit corporations, municipalities, Indigenous communities and organizations, and broader public sector organizations (such as hospitals, universities, and colleges) were invited to submit funding applications for the Community Sites Stream.
- As of October 2024, there were more than 201,000 EVs registered in Ontario, including both battery-electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. By 2030, over one million EVs are expected on Ontario’s roads.
- This initiative builds on [Driving Prosperity: The Future of Ontario’s Automotive Sector](#), a government plan that includes measures aimed to encourage EV uptake across Ontario.

Additional Resources

[EV ChargeON program](#)

[EV ChargeON Community Sites Stream](#)

[Ontario Tackles Energy Demand by Introducing Affordable Energy Act](#)

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Construction Update - November 2024

Posted on Wednesday, November 06, 2024



County Road 512 (Foymount Road) at McCauley Mountain Road, Bonnechere Valley Township

Construction Update – November 1, 2024

The County of Renfrew Department of Public Works and Engineering provides monthly updates on construction projects within the County. This notice should be shared with members of the public, or in public forums, in order to keep residents, businesses, and stakeholders informed of any potential upcoming traffic interruptions due to construction projects. For up-to-date information on active projects and their traffic impacts, please visit [Municipal511](#).

Please contact our office should you have any questions or concerns about a County construction project or our general operations.

Ongoing Projects

County Road 37 (Murphy Road) – Town of Petawawa

The reconstruction of County Road 37 (Murphy Rd.), from Woodland Crescent to County Road 51 (Petawawa Blvd.), commenced construction on June 17 and is anticipated to be completed late-November. During construction, the road will be reduced to a single lane of traffic in locations and short-term closures will occur with detours in place.

County Road 508 (Calabogie Road) – Township of McNab/Braeside

The rehabilitation of County Road 508 (Calabogie Rd.), from County Road 52 (Burnstown Rd.) to Goshen Rd., commenced the week of September 9 and is anticipated to be completed early-November. During construction, the road will be reduced to a single lane of traffic in locations.

County Structure B007 (Butler Bridge) – Township of Admaston/Bromley

The rehabilitation of County Structure B007 (Butler Bridge), located on Butler Rd.,

approximately 1km south of Highway 60, commenced construction on May 13 and is anticipated to be completed early-November. During construction, the road at the bridge is closed with alternate routes, using South McNaughton Rd., Bonnechere Rd., and Highway 60, posted.

County Structure C204 (Bellows Creek Culvert) – Township of Whitewater Region
The rehabilitation of County Structure C204 (Bellows Creek Culvert), located on County Road 12 (Westmeath Rd.), approximately 4.5km east of County Road 21 (Beachburg Rd.), commenced on July 15 and is anticipated to be completed early-November. During construction, the road at the structure will be limited to a single lane of alternating traffic at times.

Completed Projects

County Road 70 (Ruby Road) – Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards
The rehabilitation of County Road 70 (Ruby Rd.), from County Road 512 (Brudenell Rd.) to Gorman Rd., commenced the week of September 9 and was completed October 31. Line painting remains to be completed, which should be done in early-November.

County Road 73 (Deep River Road) – Town of Deep River

The rehabilitation of County Road 73 (Deep River Rd.), from Algonquin St. to Champlain St., commenced the week of August 26 and was completed in late-October. Line painting remains to be completed, which should be done by early-November.

County Road 512 (Foymount Road) – Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan
The rehabilitation of County Road 512 (Foymount Rd.), from Hubers Rd. to County Road 515 (Palmer Rd.), commenced the week of September 2 and was completed November 1. Line painting and granular sealing remains to be completed, which should be done in early-November.

County Road 515 (Palmer Road) – Township of Madawaska Valley
The rehabilitation of County Road 515 (Palmer Rd.), from County Road 62 (Combermere Rd.) to Finch Rd., commenced the week of August 5 and was completed October 8.

County Structure C134 (Campbell Drive Culvert) – Township of McNab/Braeside
The rehabilitation of County Structure C134 (Campbell Drive Culvert), located on Campbell Drive, approximately 3km west of Highway 417, commenced the week of July 15 and was completed early-October.

County Structure B181 (Peter Black Bridge) – Township of Laurentian Valley
The rehabilitation of County Structure B181 (Peter Black Bridge), located on County Road 24 (White Water Road), approximately 1.5km east of Highway 41, commenced construction on June 17 and was completed mid-October.

County Structure C268 (St. Columbkille's Culvert) – Township of Laurentian Valley
The rehabilitation of County Structure C268 (St. Columbkille's Culvert), located on County Road 58 (Round Lake Rd.), approximately 50m south of TV Tower Rd., commenced on September 3 and was completed October 25.

County Structure C325 (Neilson Creek Culverts) – Township of Bonnechere Valley
The rehabilitation of County Structure C325 (Neilson Creek Culverts), located on Lake Clear Road, approximately 2.2km south of County Road 512 (Foymount Rd.), is commenced the week of October 14 and was completed October 31.

For the safety of all, please use extra caution when travelling through construction zones.

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By [GHD Digital](https://www.govstack.com) (<https://www.govstack.com>).



New Eganville Paramedic Base Station officially opened November 1

Posted on Friday, November 08, 2024



Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon cut the ribbon to mark the official opening of the new Eganville Paramedic Base Station during a ceremony on November 1. Also taking part (from left) were Deputy Chief Mathieu Grenier (hidden), Advanced Care Paramedic John Greene; Pat and Helen O'Grady, previous owners of the building; Slawek Tyloch, owner TS General Contracting who did the work on the building; Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy; County Councillor Rob Weir; Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski; County Councillor Dan Lynch; Warden Emon; Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property; Pembroke Mayor Ron Gervais; County Councillors Neil Nicholson, James Brose; Commander Nick LeRiche; County Councillors Anne Giardini and Keith Watt; Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley; County Councillor Michael Donohue; Chief Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services; County Councillor Valerie Jahn; Deputy Chief Dave Libby and Primary Care Paramedic Tiffany Reiche.

RELEASE DATE:

November 8, 2024

BONNECHERE VALLEY – The County of Renfrew was thrilled to mark the official opening of its new Paramedic Base Station in the village of Eganville on November 1, 2024.

This base represents not only a commitment to the health and safety of our community but also the strength of our ongoing partnerships with provincial and local leadership. The new base is located in a landmark building which formerly housed the O'Grady Brothers Limited Garage at the corner of Highway 41 and County Road 512 (Foymount Road) in Eganville.

The County of Renfrew Paramedic Service is thankful to the Township of Bonnechere Valley for the use of space within its municipal building for many years, but the Paramedic Service simply outgrew the space and required a new home. This new base provides Paramedics with the tools and space they need to serve the community in a greater capacity.

This new location offers a more functional space to provide a broader diversity of resources and services to the people of Bonnechere Valley and residents along the Highway 60 corridor and throughout the western area of Renfrew County.

Paramedic Service Chief Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services for the County of Renfrew, noted the new Paramedic Base Station in Eganville provides critical services to a complex area of the County with a large geographic area and population spread throughout.

"We are excited to provide this new and innovative space to offer both paramedic service and the Clinical Assessment Centre through RC VTAC to increase access to services and ensure the safety and security of the people in that portion of Renfrew County," Chief Nolan added. "This building provides a wonderful foundation as we continue to grow the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service."

Renfrew Warden Peter Emon said this new base is about meeting the expanded health-care needs of the community.

"Our new Eganville Paramedic Base is a statement by the County of Renfrew and our Paramedic Service to continually pursue and establish services and health-care equity in our community," he said. "This is a facility built with purpose and with the future of our health-care system in mind, offering our dedicated paramedic teams an advanced, well-equipped space to provide top-level care to residents throughout the region."

Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski highlighted the innovation the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service is known for in terms of Community Paramedicine and the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre, both programs which will provide service out of the new Eganville Paramedic Base.

"We are leaders in so many ways in Renfrew County and we are the epicentre of good health-care innovation in Renfrew County," MPP Yakabuski said. "We look forward to bringing new and innovative health-care solutions to the rest of Ontario which were started right here in Renfrew County."

Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy said the unveiling of this new Eganville Paramedic Base marks the start of a new era of emergency medical care in her community.

"This facility represents our shared commitment to enhancing the safety, health and well-being of every person who lives and works here and visits our area," she said. "We look forward to a safer and healthier future for our area. This base is a reminder that when we work together and prioritize the well-being of our community, we can make a meaningful difference."

Development and Property Committee Chair James Brose, Health Committee Chair Michael Donohue and Pembroke Mayor Ron Gervais also provided remarks at the ceremony, which was attended by students from nearby St. James Catholic Elementary School and other community partners.

The County of Renfrew purchased the building from Helen and Pat O'Grady in the fall of 2023 and work commenced last November. The renovations were administered in-house by the County's Real Estate Division. The building, originally built in 2008, now boasts 2,500 square feet of office space and includes shower and changing facilities, kitchen and dining area,

lounge, quiet quarters and meeting space in addition to a 4,000 square-foot four-bay garage to house Paramedic Service vehicles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Councillor Peter Emon and Councillor Rob Weir nominated for 2025 County of Renfrew Warden

Posted on Tuesday, November 12, 2024



Renfrew Reeve Peter Emon (left) and Greater Madawaska Mayor Rob Weir have both been nominated for 2025 Warden of the County of Renfrew. An election will take place at the Inaugural Session of County Council on December 10.

RELEASE DATE:

November 12, 2024

Reeve Peter Emon of the Town of Renfrew and Mayor Rob Weir of the Township of Greater Madawaska have both been nominated for the 2025 Warden's seat.

A ballot vote by County Councillors will take place on December 10, 2024 during the Inaugural Session of County Council to decide who will assume the Office of the Warden of the County of Renfrew for 2025.

A formal nomination process takes place annually for the Office of Warden, and any member of County Council is eligible after being nominated by two fellow council members. The successful councillor then fills the Office of Warden for a one-year term.

The Warden fulfills the role as head of council. The nomination process closes 30 days prior to the Inaugural Session and if there is more than one nomination, an election is required at the December meeting to determine the Warden for the upcoming year.

This marks the first time since 2019 that there will be an election for Warden.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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November 07, 2024

- ERO posting on changes to excess soils regulations.
- ERO posting on proposed changes to energy legislation.
- Emergency Treatment Fund - Deadline November 8.
- Applications open for Codes Acceleration Fund.
- ROMA 2025 Annual Conference - *Rural Routes* - Request delegation meetings.
- ROMA 2025 *Rural Routes*: ROMA Exhibit Hall is close to sold out!
- Register for a discounted AMO Workshop at the ROMA Conference.
- Plan your professional development for 2025 with AMO Education Workshops.
- Outdoor Ice: Managing Risk Related to Skating Rinks webinar.
- New Where to Recycle map.
- OAITH Wrapped in Courage Campaign
- Early rate pricing for HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum.
- Webinar for municipalities on LT2 energy procurements.
- Food waste: Initiatives Leading Change Symposium.
- Careers.

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is [seeking comments](#) on proposed changes to excess soil management to remove barriers for the reuse of soil. Comments are due November 21.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is seeking comments on [proposed legislative amendments](#) to related to integrated energy planning and affordability measures. Comments are due November 22.

Federal Matters

The [Call for Proposals for the Emergency Treatment Fund](#) is open until November 8. Proposals should address urgent needs related to the overdose crisis in individual communities.

The [Codes Acceleration Fund](#) (CAF) is open to projects geared towards accelerating the adoption and implementation of the higher tiers of the national model energy codes or other mandatory energy regulations. Approximately \$30M in funding available.

Education Opportunities

Municipal officials can now request delegation meetings through MMAH for the ROMA Conference. [Details on how to request a delegation meeting is here.](#)

Book your trade show booth today to connect with over 1,500 rural municipal leaders at the 2025 ROMA Conference. Limited spaces available. Download the [exhibitor package](#) or [sponsorship package](#) today.

AMO's [Two Keys to Municipal Success: Sustainability & Engagement](#) workshop is a specially designed session focusing on strategies for planning your organizations financial sustainability and how to successfully communicate to and engage your community on your plan and efforts. Take advantage of the discounted rate to engage with colleagues from across the province. Session offered at the ROMA Conference on Saturday, January 18 from 2:00pm-5:00pm onsite.

To help you plan your time and budget for 2025, registration is now open for a number of AMO Education's in-demand workshops, including: [Foundations in Planning](#) February 13 and [Advanced Land Use Planning](#) March 6, [Indigenous Community Awareness](#) February 19, [Navigating Conflict](#) March 19, and [Disability Inclusion](#) March 27. View all workshop opportunities at [AMO Education](#).

LAS

On November 12, 11:00 AM our special guest, ORFA's Director Training, Research and Development, Terry Piche, will explore and discuss outdoor ice risks including skating rinks, skating trails and more. [Register here.](#)

Municipal Wire*

Add this new Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority '[Where to Recycle](#)' map to your municipalities' websites and communications materials. Get answers to your questions at this [FAQ](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

elected officials about violence against women and the services needed. Make a proclamation on November 25.

HSC's 2025 [Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up - New Approaches to Transform Housing](#) is showcasing strategies to sustain and grow the community housing sector. Dive into finance, scale, and development on February 27-28 in Toronto.

The IESO is [hosting a webinar](#) on November 13 for municipalities and Indigenous communities to provide information, answer questions, and solicit input on the upcoming LT2 procurements.

Join Ontario Food Collaborative's [virtual symposium](#) on November 21, 2024, to explore impactful food waste solutions, practical tips, and the true costs of waste with industry experts.

Careers

[Procurement & Resource Planning Specialist - Municipality of Red Lake](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Deputy Chief, EMS Professional Standards - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: November 20, 2024.

[Truck and Coach/Automotive Technician - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: November 21, 2024.

[Manager, IT Service Delivery - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: November 17, 2024.

[Utility Operator Level II/III - Municipality of Souris-Glenwood](#). Closing Date: November 15, 2024.

[Manager of Infrastructure Services - Town of Cochrane](#). Closing Date: November 22, 2024.

[Treasurer - Town of Cochrane](#). Closing Date: November 22, 2024.

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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[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

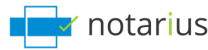
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)



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Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

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November 14, 2024

- OEB Bulletin for re: new connections.
- Human Rights Impact Assessment for AI Tools.
- ERO posting on changes to excess soils regulations.
- ERO posting on proposed changes to energy legislation.
- Applications open for Codes Acceleration Fund.
- ROMA Conference: Rural Routes – Program Updates.
- Request Your Delegation Meeting at 2025 ROMA Conference by Deadline November 27 5:00pm.
- Tips to how to best prepare for your provincial delegation meetings at the ROMA Conference.
- ROMA 2025 *Rural Routes*: ROMA Exhibit Hall is almost sold out!
- Foundations in Planning & Advanced Land Use Planning – Winter Workshops.
- Indigenous Community Awareness – February 2025 Workshop.
- ROMA Pre-conference Workshop January 18 - Two Keys to Municipal Success.
- NEW Workshop! Apathy to Action: Building Resilient Communities through Managing Assets.
- NEW Workshop! Equity, Inclusion and Innovation in Municipalities, March 25.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official - March 2025 Workshop.
- Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop – March 27.
- Managing Communications through Crisis – April 2025 Workshop .
- Canoe webinar: Leveraging Stakeholder Relationships for Procurement Success.
- Lighting upgrades in 2025? Talk to LAS!
- New Where to Recycle map.
- OAITH Wrapped in Courage Campaign.
- HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up – Transforming Housing.
- Food waste: Initiatives Leading Change Symposium.
- AdvantAge Annual Seniors' Housing Forum.
- Careers.

Provincial Matters

The Ontario Energy Board has [issued a bulletin](#) to electricity distributors providing guidance and expectations for meeting obligations to ensure new connections are timely.

The Law Commission of Ontario, and Ontario Human Rights Commission have developed [an assessment toolkit](#) to help organizations implementing AI systems ensure systems are designed to avoid discrimination and encourage compliance with human rights requirements.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is [seeking comments](#) on proposed changes to excess soil management to remove barriers for the reuse of soil. Comments are due November 21.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is seeking comments on [proposed legislative amendments](#) to related to integrated energy planning and affordability measures. Comments are due November 22.

Federal Matters

The [Codes Acceleration Fund](#) (CAF) is open to projects geared towards accelerating the adoption and implementation of the higher tiers of the national model energy codes or other mandatory energy regulations. Approximately \$30M in funding available.

Education Opportunities

ROMA is pleased to share the 2025 conference concurrent sessions. Sessions are designed from the rural perspective, highlighting solutions and innovation for rural communities. [Register for the ROMA Conference today.](#)

MMAH is now accepting requests for delegations at the ROMA Conference. [Details on how to request a delegation meeting is here.](#)

AMO has developed a guide for municipal officials to request, prepare for and attend delegation meetings with provincial officials. Download the guide [here.](#)

The ROMA conference exhibit hall connects with over 1.500 attendees from rural Ontario municipalities.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

[Foundations in Land Use Planning](#) familiarizes participants with legislation, land use planning processes, and provides real life examples to give a deep understanding and insight into important planning matters. From a strategic perspective, [Advance Land Use Planning](#) analyzes case studies through instructor lead instruction and group discussion.

The OFIFC and AMO workshop provides historical and current insight and knowledge into the damage brought to Indigenous communities. This workshop builds understanding and insight that is critical to developing strong, productive, and meaningful relationships between municipalities and Indigenous leaders and communities. Through a self-paced learning module and live virtual component, this workshop will provide knowledge and tools to utilize in moving improved and stronger Indigenous-municipal relations forward in Ontario. [Register today](#) for the February 19 workshop.

AMO's [Two Keys to Municipal Success: Sustainability & Engagement](#) workshop explores strategies for planning your organizations financial sustainability and how to successfully communicate to and engage your community on your plan and efforts.

Asset management is about making informed, evidence-based decisions that help you allocate limited resources effectively and prioritize infrastructure investments. The [Apathy to Action: Building Resilient Communities through Managing Assets](#) interactive workshop offers municipally elected officials the opportunity to explore how asset management not only fulfills legislative requirements but also enhances decision-making and strengthens service delivery.

The [Equity, Inclusion and Innovation in Municipalities workshop](#) examines the importance and opportunities in embedding equity, inclusion and innovation within municipal decision-making processes, policies, and innovations. Explore practical strategies to create a more inclusive and equitable leadership approach and municipal organization.

Municipal leadership is often a pin cushion for our culture's broader issues. Conflict and misunderstanding is a big part of many municipal leaders current realities. This workshop provides an opportunity to transform conflict into collaboration. The [Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official October workshop](#) teaches skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones in your role as an elected municipal official.

AMO Education has partnered with the Abilities Centre to deliver a workshop designed to enhance your understanding and approach to inclusion. Register for this important [Disability Inclusion Workshop](#).

Your community elected you to provide sound and confident leadership in the best interest of your community. During a crisis, this approach to leadership is critical. AMO's workshop on [Managing Communications through Crisis](#) provides insight and tools to support in being this leader.

LAS

The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) is hosting a [member-only](#) webinar on November 26 at 11am EST. Join Procurement Manager Stephanie Dion and Contract Manager Tony DeSciscio to explore how building trust and engaging stakeholders can enhance your procurement team's role. [Register here](#).

The [LAS Facility Lighting Service](#) provides a complete turn-key solution for your lighting upgrades, both indoors and out. [Contact us](#) today for a free budget proposal for your 2025 budget.

Municipal Wire*

Add this new Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority '[Where to Recycle](#)' map to your municipalities' websites and communications materials. Get answers to your questions at this [FAQ](#).

The [campaign](#) from the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses educates community and elected officials about violence against women and the services needed. Make a proclamation on November 25.

[HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up – New Approaches to Transform Housing](#) is showcasing strategies to sustain and grow the community housing sector. Dive into finance, scale, and development on February 27-28 in Toronto.

Join Ontario Food Collaborative's [virtual symposium](#) on November 21, 2024, to explore impactful food waste solutions, practical tips, and the true costs of waste with industry experts.

Expanding Living Options for Seniors will be held virtually on November 22 from 8:45 am – 2:30 pm. The event shares transformative solutions in seniors' supportive housing and care. Register [here](#).

Careers

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

[Administrative Assistant to the Director - City of Vaughan](#). Closing Date: November 25.

[General Manager of Operations - County of Brant](#). Closing Date: December 2

About AMO

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

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

[ONE Investment](#)

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

This email was sent to .

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 7, 2024 4:56 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Encampments and Opioid Crisis



AMO Policy Update - Encampments and Opioid Crisis

Comprehensive Provincial Approach Needed to Make Tangible Progress on Homeless Encampments and the Opioid Crisis

Municipalities across Ontario understand the need for urgent action to address both the rising number of homeless encampments and the opioid crisis. There are more than 1400 encampments across the province. We can do better for our most vulnerable Ontarians and our broader communities.

Decades of isolated policy decisions made by successive provincial governments have compounded problems. More people are facing income insecurity. Health care and mental health demands are not being met. Help with addiction is hard to get. Affordable housing is desperately needed everywhere.

We need provincial action that is going to help the Ontarians who are struggling today and also tackle the root causes of homelessness so the crisis does not continue to grow.

Earlier this year, AMO released two policy papers calling for provincial action on the [opioid crisis](#) and [homeless encampments](#). AMO engaged with municipal members, police, paramedics, and mental

health and addictions and housing experts over the course of months to identify the suite of actions needed.

This is a complex problem that won't be solved by simple, short-term solutions. We need a comprehensive approach, including:

- Provincial guidance that supports an appropriate and consistent approach to encampments across the province;
- Improvements to the income security system that leave too many living in poverty, and more than 1 million people in Ontario using food banks last year;
- Significant investments in deeply affordable housing and supportive housing;
- Long-term, sustainable, and substantial investment in prevention programs;
- Expanding access to voluntary and evidence-based treatment with same-day access and scaling up 24/7 crisis centres; and,
- Ensuring local say on the harm reduction approaches needed within local communities.

The current Ontario government did not create this crisis, but it has the resources and the wherewithal to take the comprehensive actions needed to solve it. Municipalities are ready to work together with the provincial government to tackle this systemic problem.

This policy update is also available on [AMO's Website](#).

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

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

October 22, 2024

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Hon. Rob Flack

Sent by Email: Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org

RE: Request for Support – Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Please be advised at its meeting held on October 21, 2024, Council of the Township of Clearview passed the following resolution supporting the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe's request that the Province consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit:

Moved by Councillor Beelen, Seconded by Councillor McArthur, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby support the motion from the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe requesting that the Province, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit to a minimum of \$100,000; and,

That Council direct staff to send this support motion to the Honourable Rob Flack - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

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

Sincerely,

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

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
All Ontario Municipalities



March 22nd, 2024

The Honourable Lisa Thompson
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
11th Floor
77 Grenville St.
Toronto, ON M5S 1B3

RE: Township of Adelaide Metcalfe – Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Dear Minister Thompson,

On March 18, 2024, the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS farm drainage is of paramount importance in Ontario due to its significant impact on agricultural productivity and sustainability. Effective drainage systems help mitigate waterlogging, control soil moisture levels, and enhance soil structure, thereby optimizing growing conditions for crops;

WHEREAS improved drainage also facilitates timely field operations, reduces erosion, and minimizes nutrient runoff, contributing to environmental conservation efforts;

WHEREAS Ontario's diverse agricultural landscape, where weather variability is common, well-maintained drainage systems play a crucial role in ensuring stable yields, economic viability, and long-term resilience for farmers across the Province;

WHEREAS the Tile Loan Drainage Act, R.S.O 1990, c. T.8 allows for the borrowing of money for the purpose of constructing drainage works;

WHEREAS the maximum annual limit for these loans, unchanged since 2004, is currently set at \$50,000.

WHEREAS costs for Tile Drainage has increased markedly since 2004;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe requests that the Province through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Loan limit to a minimum of \$100,000.

AND THAT this resolution be circulated the Honourable Lisa Thompson – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario municipalities.



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

Title: Scott R. Butler, Executive Director, Ontario Good Roads Association and Antoine Boucher, President, Ontario Good Roads Board of Directors

Date: Monday, October 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor McKinlay

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the correspondence of Scott R. Butler, Executive Director, Ontario Good Roads Association and Antoine Boucher, President, Ontario Good Roads Board of Directors Re: Request for Council Consideration of Support for Resolution regarding the Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program;
WHEREAS official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads;
AND WHEREAS, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads;
AND WHEREAS, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;
AND WHEREAS, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system;
AND WHEREAS, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of The Blue Mountains requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and
FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and
FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.

YES: 6

NO: 0

CONFLICT: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Mayor Matrosovs

Councillor Ardiel

Councillor Hope

Councillor Maxwell

Councillor McKinlay

Councillor Porter

NO: 0

CONFLICT: 0

ABSENT: 1

Deputy Mayor Bordignon

From: Scott Butler <scott@goodroads.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 12:07 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@thebluemountains.ca>
Subject: Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program

Good Roads

Wednesday, October 09, 2024

To: Town of The Blue Mountains Head of Council and Council Members

Sent via email to: townclerk@thebluemountains.ca

Subject: Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program

Too many Ontarians are being seriously injured or killed on our roads.

In 2023, there were 616 people killed and 36,090 people injured. The number of fatalities is up nearly 20% in the last ten years.

In 2021, the most recent year of complete data from MTO's *Ontario Road Safety Annual Report* (ORSAR), there were 561 fatalities – 426 of which occurred on municipal roads. While rural Ontario only represents 17% of the province's population, 55% of these deaths occurred on rural roads. By any measure, Ontario's rural roads are disproportionately more dangerous.

At the same time, municipal insurance premiums continue to increase. With no plausible reform being considered for joint and several liability, municipalities need to find innovative means for managing risk, particularly on their roadways,

To deal with this crisis, Good Roads has designed a multifaceted rural road safety program and have been in discussions with the Ministry of Transportation to fund it. The program would target a municipality's most dangerous roads, perform road safety audits, and install modern safety infrastructure that prevents serious injuries and save lives. This program is designed to be cost effective while also providing rural municipalities with a direct means for addressing risk associated with their roadways.

Good Roads has proposed leading a five-year \$183 million program that leverages our 131 years of municipal road expertise and our industry partnerships to quickly put in place the solutions that will address some of Ontario's most dangerous roads.

Good Roads is seeking support to address these preventable tragedies.

If the Town of The Blue Mountains would be interested in pursuing this, a Council resolution similar to the example below should be adopted and sent to the Premier and the Minister of Transportation:

WHEREAS official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads;

AND WHEREAS, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads;

AND WHEREAS, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;

AND WHEREAS, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system;

AND WHEREAS, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;

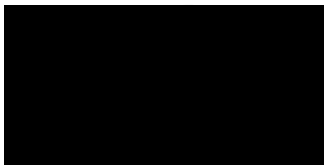
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of The Blue Mountains requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and

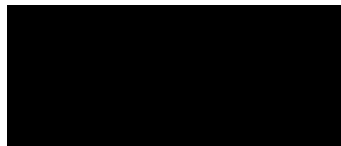
FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.

If you have any questions regarding this initiative please contact Thomas Barakat, Good Roads' Manager of Public Policy & Government Relations, at thomas@goodroads.ca at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Scott R. Butler
Executive Director



Antoine Boucher
President
Good Roads Board of Directors

Council Members

Mayor Neil Nicholson
Deputy Mayor Cathy Regier

Councillors:
Mark Bell
Michael Moore
Chris Olmstead
Connie Tabbert
Joey Trimm

Certified True Copy

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Re: Resolution - OPP Notice of Motion for funding support - Municipality of Tweed

At its meeting of October 16, 2024, the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario Government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both

upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, bridges, water/ wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets:

AND WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources;

AND WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental

infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

AND WHEREAS in 2015 the provincial government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract

D.P.P. (5.1) locations;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway; and \$534 million to

Ottawa for the repatriation of Hwy 174;

(613) 646-2282

P.O. Box 40,
44 Main Street
Cobden, ON
K0J 1K0

whitewaterregion.ca



AND WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million;

AND WHEREAS this annual cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Express Way, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the Province overall;

AND WHEREAS this will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs while having a minimal impact on the provincial budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Township of Whitewater Region call on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities: AND FURTHER, that Council direct staff to circulate this resolution to Premier Doug Ford (premier@ontario.ca). Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca), MPP John Yakabuski (john.yakabuskico@pc.ola.org) and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried as amended - Resolution #2024 - 5187

Sincerely,



Carmen Miller
Clerk/CEMC



Office of the
County Warden



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

November 5, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Via email: Premier@ontario.ca

RE: Child Welfare Funding

Dear Premier Ford:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew, at their regular meeting on October 30, 2024, passed the following resolution regarding Child Welfare Funding. Council and our community are deeply concerned about the ongoing funding reductions to the child welfare sector. Renfrew County is experiencing a significant rise in complex social challenges within our communities, placing a heavy strain on local resources and hindering our ability to effectively support families in need.

WHEREAS the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke have no financial obligations concerning the funding of Child Welfare agencies; and

WHEREAS the Financial Accountability Office in June 2024 identified issues with funding in the Child Welfare sector; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has experienced a funding cut of \$1.59 million, or 10.8%, over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County was provided planning allocations reflecting a further funding reduction of \$963, 603 over the next two years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has achieved administrative efficiencies as a multi-service agency, has implemented various cost mitigation measures, including reductions in staff and services, and has reached a point where further measures could negatively impact children at risk and their families; and

WHEREAS both the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke are committed to improving the health and safety of their residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke formally request the Province of Ontario to consult with and collaborate with Child Welfare agencies to develop an updated and equitable Child Welfare funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the newly developed funding formula be structured to ensure an equitable and proportionate distribution that meets the diverse, unique, individual, and complex needs of the communities and populations served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Warden of the County of Renfrew and the Mayor of the City of Pembroke be directed to write a letter to Minister Parsa expressing their concerns and request a

meeting in the fall of 2024 or to submit a joint delegation request for the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference;

AND THAT this resolution be shared with Premier Doug Ford, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC), Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS), and local municipalities.

A compounding challenge impacting our community is that the County of Renfrew has recently declared a state of emergency in response to the opioid crisis, with our service partner, the City of Pembroke, experiencing overdose death rates per capita that are twice the national average. Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has been negatively impacted by a funding reduction of \$1.59 million over the past ten years and is facing a further cut of \$963,603 over the next two years. This continued erosion to the investment in our local child welfare agency will jeopardize the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children and their families. The cuts will diminish the agency's capacity to offer essential support to those with the greatest need within our small and largely rural communities.

The social determinants of health play a critical role in shaping children's wellbeing, influencing their development, educational success, and overall health outcomes. For children in communities with geographic isolation and underdeveloped services such as we experience, these determinants become even more pronounced. In Renfrew County, families often face challenges such as limited access to quality healthcare, mental health support, and educational resources.

The lack of these essential services can result in children experiencing higher rates of chronic illnesses, mental health issues, and developmental delays. Furthermore, many families throughout our region are experiencing economic hardships, which can lead to poor nutrition, unstable housing, and heightened exposure to environmental stressors. Again, I am sure you will agree, all of which negatively impact children's long-term health and wellbeing.

Maintaining consistent funding for our rural agency that provides child protection and essential support services is vital. Without adequate financial support for these critical services, vulnerable children may not receive the interventions they need to develop and thrive. Child protection agencies are essential in safeguarding children from abuse and neglect while helping to address emotional and psychological challenges early in life, setting children on a path to healthier futures.

In an area like Renfrew County with limited clinical and assistive infrastructure, these services often become a lifeline, helping to mitigate the impact of social determinants on child health. Prioritizing funding for these services can help break the cycle of disadvantage, promote healthier environments, and ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your interest in our most vulnerable age group in our community.

Sincerely,

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

Peter Emon, Warden
County of Renfrew

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca



Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Environment,
Conversation and Parks
VIA EMAIL:
Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

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

November 7, 2024

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Agriculture,
Food, and Agribusiness
VIA EMAIL:
minister.omafra@ontario.ca

Hon. Matthew Rae, MPP
VIA EMAIL:
Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org

Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP
VIA EMAIL:
ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org

Barclay Nap
Wellington Federation of
Agriculture
VIA EMAIL:
napbarclay@gmail.com

RE: Motion for the Protection of Agricultural Lands and Sustainable Development in Relation to Provincial Projects and Excess Soil Management Practices

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on October 23, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-378: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

Whereas the provincial government is undertaking:

- a) significant road and underground projects over the next ten years which will generate significant excess soil to be managed and disposed; and
- b) studies of underground projects that if implemented will also generate significant excess soil: and



Whereas landfill sites across Ontario are already near capacity, necessitating amendments to legislation to allow certain quality soil to be disposed at excess soil reuse sites instead of being disposed of in landfills effective January 1, 2025; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is currently under resourced and lacks the capacity to effectively manage the additional enforcement and oversight required for the relocation of excess soil; and

Whereas the responsibility to enforce and oversee excess soil regulations is being downloaded onto municipalities, which have limited enforcement capabilities and face the risk of significant costs being passed on to local taxpayers; and

Whereas contamination of existing soil and groundwater is a significant concern, particularly in rural municipalities with valuable agricultural lands and reliance on groundwater for its residents; and

Whereas agricultural lands must be prioritized equally with housing needs, roads and underground infrastructure; failure to adequately protect these lands could exacerbate the ongoing food crisis in Ontario; and

Whereas Ontario is not alone in navigating the challenges of sustainable development, and the United Nations provides guidance through its Sustainable Development Report, which includes goals focused on economic growth, infrastructure, sustainable communities, hunger, clean water and sanitation, climate action, and life on land; and

Whereas it is critical that governments consider the comprehensive impacts on all of these areas when conducting feasibility studies and implementing projects which generate excess soil; and

Whereas neglecting to account for the broader implications of projects may lead to negative outcomes;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the Township of Puslinch calls on the provincial government to:



1. Prioritize the protection of agricultural lands in the management of excess soil from roads and underground projects and in the planning and feasibility studies related to such projects.
2. Ensure that adequate resources are allocated to the MECP to support effective enforcement and oversight of excess soil regulations.
3. Collaborate with municipalities to provide necessary support and funding for enforcement activities related to excess soil management, minimizing financial burdens on local taxpayers.
4. Conduct a comprehensive impact assessment that considers all aspects of sustainable development, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Report, before proceeding with the traffic tunnel project and any further amendments to excess soil legislation; and

That the Township of Puslinch Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Premier of Ontario; all Ontario municipalities; MPP Arnott; MPP Rae; the Wellington Federation of Agriculture; and OMAFRA requesting support for the protection of agricultural lands and sustainable development practices in Ontario.

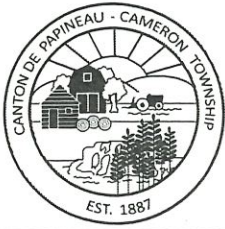
CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
E-mail: clerk@papineaucameron.ca Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

November 13, 2024

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

RE: Ontario Building Code

The Council of Papineau-Cameron met at their regular Council meeting on November 12, 2024 and passed the attached resolution 2024-328.

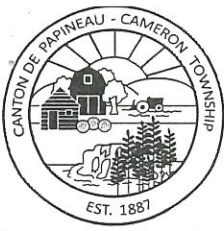
Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jason McMartin, BA, ADA
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

Encl. Council Resolution 2024-328

c.c. Hon. Paul Calandra MPP, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Michael Parsa MPP, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP, Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Building Officials Association
Municipalities of Ontario



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: November 12, 2024 **RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 2024- 328

MOVED BY: *Shelley Belanger* **SECONDED BY:** *MChenier*

WHEREAS Ontario is facing a significant affordable housing crisis, with many residents struggling to secure safe and affordable living accommodations;

AND WHEREAS the crisis of homelessness in Ontario continues to affect thousands of individuals and families, necessitating urgent and effective housing solutions;

AND WHEREAS the current Ontario Building Code contains regulations that may inadvertently hinder the development of affordable housing by imposing excessive costs and barriers on individuals and developers;

AND WHEREAS current building code regulations may restrict the development of innovative housing solutions designed to address the needs of homeless individuals and families;

AND WHEREAS an increase in affordable housing units is essential to promote economic stability, community well-being, and social equity within Ontario;

AND WHEREAS providing pre-approved affordable housing plans can streamline the construction process, reduce costs, and facilitate quicker access to housing for those in need;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township hereby calls on the Ontario government to amend the Ontario Building Code to include provisions for pre-approved affordable housing plans specifically aimed at supporting low income and homeless individuals, including:

1. Standardized Designs: Creating a set of pre-approved housing designs that meet safety and quality standards while being cost-effective and quick to construct.
2. Flexible Design Standards: Allowing for innovative building designs and materials that meet affordability criteria while ensuring safety and livability.
3. Community Integration: Ensuring that these housing designs can be integrated into existing neighborhoods in a way that respects community character and promotes acceptance.
4. Support for Diverse Models: Including options for various types of housing, such as tiny homes, modular units, and converted shipping containers, to cater to different needs and preferences.

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township encourages the Ontario government to engage with stakeholders, including architects, housing advocates, and service providers, to develop these pre-approved plans that effectively address the needs of low income and homeless individuals;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be provided to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Hon. Victor Fedeli, Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Association Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Building Officials Association, Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED: *Robert Corriveau* **NOT CARRIED:** _____
(Mayor) (Mayor)

COPY

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			