



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: December 9th, 2024
Correspondence Package No. I-24-DEC-21**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-24-DEC-21 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Canada

- a) MP Cheryl Gallant – Canada Summer Jobs Program – Applications Now Open

2. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Additional Residential Units (ARUs)
- b) Ontario Ministry of Solicitor General – OPP Costs
- c) Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility – AODA Toolkit for December 2024
- d) Ontario Expanding Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel
- e) Ontario Cutting Red Tape to Further Reduce Costs for People and Businesses
- f) Ontario Returning Over \$2.5 Billion to Workers and Businesses Through Fee Reductions and WSIB Rebates
- g) Ontario Expanding Cancer Coverage for Firefighters
- h) Ontario Increasing Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund to \$600 Million
- i) Ontario Supporting Women and Families in the Trades
- j) Ontario to Introduce Sixth Working for Workers Act

- k) Ontario Investing \$1 Billion to Help Municipalities Build More Homes
- l) Ontario Offsetting OPP Cost Increases for Small and Rural Municipalities
- m) Seniors Community Grant Program Applications Now Open
- n) Ontario Expanding Access to Primary Care in Renfrew County
- o) Ontario Connecting People to Dementia Care and Supports for Caregivers
- p) Ontario Continuing to Build a More Connected and Convenient Health Care System

3. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Starter Company Plus Autumn 2024 Grant Recipients
- b) Renfrew County declares Significant Weather Event
- c) County Council Summary (November 2024)

4. Correspondence from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit

- a) Medical Officer of Health Report to Board (November 26th, 2024)

5. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Watch File – November 21st, 2024
- b) Watch File – November 28th, 2024
- c) AMO Policy Update – NDP Motion on Municipal Fiscal Sustainability, Mental Health and Addictions, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure
- d) AMO Policy Update – 2024 Housing Targets in Ontario
- e) AMO Policy Update – OPP Billing and Bills

6. Correspondence from Small Flock Ontario

- a) Avian Influenza: Protecting your flock from disease

7. Resolutions from Other Municipalities

- a) City of Toronto – Respecting Local Democracy and Cities (Bike Lanes)**
- b) Township of Terrace Bay – Ambulance Shortages and Healthcare System Issues**
- c) Township of Terrace Bay – Support for Billy Bishop Airport**
- d) City of Hamilton – Opposing the Proposed Provincial Initiative that Seeks to Restrict or Limit the Autonomy of Municipalities in Implementing Road Safety Measures**
- e) Township of Clearview – OPP Annual Billing Statement**
- f) Township of Admaston-Bromley – Cost Share Allocation for 2025 Renfrew and Area OPP Detachment Board Budget**

Oliver Jacob

From: Gallant, Cheryl - M.P. <cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2024 2:33 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Canada Summer Jobs Applications Now Open



November 22nd, 2024

Dear Nick Smith Center,

I am pleased to advise you that the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2025 application period for employers has officially opened.

From now until **11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on December 19, 2024**, employers for not-for-profit organizations, the public sector, and private sector organizations with 50 or fewer full-time employees can apply for funding to hire young Canadians next summer.

Due to the uncertainty with the ongoing labour disruption at Canada Post, we strongly encourage all applicants to submit their application online via the [Grants and Contributions Online Services \(GCOS\) portal](#). Creating a GCOS account is a one-time process that allows you to apply for various funding opportunities with Employment and Social Development Canada in a secure web environment. Once the GCOS account has been created, employers can submit their CSJ applications.

CSJ provides wage subsidies to employers to create quality summer work experiences for youth aged 15 to 30.

A summer job is valuable to a young person's career journey. Such experiences help foster independence, teamwork and earnings to pay for further education.

For more information about the Canada Summer jobs program visit cherylgallant.com/program/canada-summer-jobs.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Gallant, M.P.
Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

Cheryl Gallant, M.P.
Constituency Office
84 Isabella St.
Pembroke, ON, K8A 5S5
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Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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et du Logement**

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Tél. : 416 585-7000



Ontario

234-2024-5434

November 28, 2024

Dear Head of Council:

Through the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, changes were made to the *Planning Act* to accelerate implementation of the province's additional residential unit (ARU) framework. These changes allowed "as-of-right" (without the need to apply for a rezoning) the use of up to 3 units per lot in many existing residential areas (i.e., up to 3 units allowed in the primary building, or up to 2 units allowed in the primary building and 1 unit allowed in an ancillary building such as a garage).

To support implementation of ARUs, the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*, made further changes to the *Planning Act* to provide me, as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, with broader regulation-making authority to remove municipal zoning by-law barriers that may be limiting the development of ARUs.

Following consultation on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, our government has taken further action to tackle the housing supply crisis and reach our goal of building more homes by amending [Ontario Regulation 299/19 – Additional Residential Units](#) to remove certain municipal zoning by-law barriers. These changes took effect upon filing.

These changes will help to facilitate the creation of ARUs, such as basement suites and garden suites, by eliminating barriers including maximum lot coverage, angular planes, floor space index (FSI), minimum separation distances and minimum lot sizes on parcels of urban residential land subject to the ARU framework in the *Planning Act*. More information on these changes can be found through [Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 019-9210](#).

It is my expectation that municipalities will respect these regulatory changes and the intent behind them. I will not hesitate to use my available powers to ensure these changes to the *Planning Act* are allowed to support our goal of building more homes.

We will continue working with our municipal partners to achieve our goal of building the homes that Ontarians need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Calandra", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c. Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister

Jessica Lippert, Chief of Staff to Minister Calandra

Chief Administrative Officer
Office of The Clerk

Solicitor General

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November 29, 2024

Her Worship Lisa McGee
Mayor
Town of Arnprior
lmcgee@arnprior.ca

Dear Mayor McGee:

Our government is proud to have a strong working relationship with both our municipal partners and the police services that keep our communities safe. The collective agreement that was reached between the province and the Ontario Provincial Police Association (OPPA) earlier this year reflects this strong relationship and will support our brave women and men in uniform across Ontario.

At the same time, we understand the impact these changes are having on the budgets of municipalities that are served by the OPP, including your own, which is why we are stepping up with additional provincial support. With that in mind, I am pleased to share with you the following proposed billing changes:

- A 3.75 per cent reduction of the total 2023 reconciled costs to all communities to approximate the full (100 per cent) impact of the Ontario Provincial Police Association (OPPA) salary increases, excluding the 1 per cent increase that was built into the 2023 estimates; and
- A 44 per cent reduction on overtime 2023 reconciled costs to all communities;
- A 10 per cent reduction of 2025 invoice amounts to all communities to approximate the full (100 per cent) impact of the OPPA salary increases excluding the 1 per cent increase that was already built into the 2023 estimate.

These changes would provide over \$77 million in relief to OPP-policed municipalities.

The total billing statement that was initially provided to you for 2025, inclusive of the increases resulting from the new collective agreement, was \$2,150,048. Today's proposed billing changes will provide an estimated \$303,189 in financial relief for your municipality, bringing the new total for OPP services being billed to your municipality in 2025 to \$1,846,860.

In addition to these changes, the Government of Ontario is continuing its annual \$125 million Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Transfer Payment Program for the 2025 calendar year.

... /2

The province will also be examining options for reviewing the OPP billing model to ensure that it meets the needs of communities across the province.

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Whealy, Deputy Director of Issues and Legislative Affairs, at Ryan.Whealy@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continued collaboration, valuable relationship, input and dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Kerzner", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General

From: Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility <AODAoutreach@ontario.ca>
Sent: December 3, 2024 1:37 PM
To: Oliver Jacob
Subject: AODA Toolbox -December 2024, Boîte à outils sur la LAPHO - decembre 2024

December 2024 | [View this email online](#)

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AODA Toolbox



What you need to know about Ontario's accessibility laws

The [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005](#) (AODA) is about identifying, removing and preventing barriers to inclusion for people with disabilities. Collaboration among businesses, organizations, communities and all levels of government is key to creating a more accessible and inclusive province.



International
Day of
**Persons with
Disabilities**
3 DECEMBER

Minister's greeting

A Shared Journey - Celebrating International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Each year on December 3, we recognize [the United Nations' International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#) to acknowledge the contributions of people with disabilities to Ontario, and to drive awareness of the issues impacting them.

Ontario continues to build a more accessible province that supports the well-being and inclusion of people with disabilities and older Ontarians. Our cross-government actions include:

- Providing over \$600 million annually to support people with disabilities with mobility needs through [the Assistive Devices Program](#).
- Investing nearly \$70 billion in [the largest transit expansion in North America](#) to build and expand public transit. Transit providers must ensure that all existing and future stations are fully accessible, and transit funding programs require that any transit vehicles purchased are accessible.
- Since 2021, through [the Skills Development Fund](#), we have invested \$465 million in 341 projects that support Persons With Disabilities, aiming to serve over 396,000 clients.
- Investing more than \$73 million, since 2018, in [the Home and Vehicle Modification Program](#) to help people with disabilities continue to live safely in their homes, avoid job loss and participate in their communities.
- Investing more than \$5 million since the program's start in 2020 in [Inclusive Community Grants](#) to deliver projects that build inclusive communities.
- Investing over \$7 million since 2018 in [the EnAbling Change Program](#) to support projects that promote the value and benefits of accessibility.
- Enhancing [the Ontario Building Code accessibility requirements](#) for most new construction and extensive renovations of existing buildings, and working to further harmonize it with National Construction Codes.
- Requiring, through the AODA, that Ontario's 444 municipalities have [accessibility plans](#) to improve accessibility in services, facilities and programs.
- Providing \$1.4 billion annually so provincial school boards can [renew and improve schools](#). A portion of this investment can be used to improve accessibility by installing items such as elevators and ramps.

It is a true team effort to further accessibility, and I appreciate the ongoing commitment of Ontario organizations to help meet and exceed their accessibility requirements. By continuing to put an accessibility lens on everything you do, you are helping to make our

province more inclusive each and every day.

Accessibility is a shared journey, and I thank you all for playing such a vital role to help ensure every Ontarian has equal opportunity to participate, excel and succeed!

Sincerely,

Honourable Raymond Cho
Minister for Seniors and Accessibility



IDPD Greetings from Deputy Minister Thomson and ADM Sikand

Every year, around the globe December 3 is recognized as [the International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#). This annual observance established by the United Nations reminds us of our responsibility to promote awareness and understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities in our communities.

In this spirit, we would like to thank the members of the Accessibility Standards Advisory Council and Standards Development Committees for their continued contributions. They demonstrate the principles of leadership and inclusion that lie at the heart of our ongoing journey to building an accessible Ontario.

As the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, we take great pride in the progress we have already made and look forward to continuing this work in the months and years ahead.

Ontario's progress has been made possible by the hard work of every organization that installs a ramp, offers accessible menus and provides accessibility training to its employees. Accessibility Advisory Committees and accessibility coordinators continue to advocate and advise local partners on how to continue meeting and exceeding AODA requirements. We are celebrating all these individuals – and many more -- who are leading the way to make Ontario a more accessible and inclusive province for everyone.

Ontario continues to deliver [the EnAbling Change Program](#) to fund projects that promote accessibility, support compliance, and educate on AODA-related requirements.

Sources of information like the AODA Toolbox and [the Accessibility in Ontario: information for businesses website](#), contain information updates, success stories, and tips for making your organization accessible.

We consistently connect with stakeholders who share how these efforts continue to advance accessibility in Ontario. Their feedback is vital in helping us in designing policies and programs towards this common goal. As an example, we'd like to remind that you can [provide input](#) on the initial recommendations of the Standards Development Committee that is reviewing the AODA's Customer Service Standards until January 9.

So, as we celebrate and reflect on this International Day of Persons with Disabilities, let's reflect not only on progress, but on the path ahead where we continue address barriers to accessibility that still exist in our communities. We are grateful for your continued collaboration and look forward to building on our progress in the year ahead.

With Regards,

Deputy Minister Melissa Thomson, and
Assistant Deputy Minister Meenu Sikand
The Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility,



Melissa Thomson
Deputy Minister
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility



Meenu Sikand
Assistant Deputy Minister
Accessibility for Ontarians with
Disabilities Division

Was this newsletter helpful?

Please forward this email to others interested in accessibility, so that they can [subscribe to the Toolbox newsletter](#).

For more accessibility information and resources you can visit: ontario.ca/accessibility.

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Let us know if the newsletter was helpful to you! Please use this [survey](#) to share your thoughts.


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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel

New program providing specialized services to those who keep province safe

November 19, 2024

[Solicitor General](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing more than \$32 million to ensure first responders and public safety personnel have access to mental health supports. The new Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel program (MHS4PSP) will provide specialized services for police officers, firefighters, correctional workers, paramedics and others who support Ontario's public safety system.

"First responders and public safety personnel have our backs every day and we will always have theirs," said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "This new program will ensure Ontario's selfless heroes, who put their lives on the line daily for us, receive targeted mental health supports that match the unimaginable challenges they face."

The Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel program builds off elements of Ontario's [Roadmap to Wellness](#). The program will include:

- A web portal for public safety personnel to access core services, including internet-based cognitive behavioural therapy and peer-support tools
- Additional programs and services, such as access to a 24/7 call-line and other trauma-informed mental health services

Funds will also be dedicated to a grant for employers that will help subsidize the costs of these additional programs and services.

"Ontario is proud to be home to world-class frontline workers who go above and beyond every day to provide care and support to people and their families across the province," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "This investment builds on our work through the Roadmap to Wellness to enhance access to mental health services and ensure that our first responders can connect to targeted and compassionate supports, where and when they need it most."

The Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel program will also support the creation of an Anti-Stigma Strategy designed to remove potentially harmful stigmas around asking for help. Based on the findings of the [Staying visible, staying connected, for life](#) report, the goal of the strategy is to help create work environments where people feel confident to seek mental health support. It will include:

- A website with mental health resources specific to public safety personnel
- A leadership support network
- Training to equip leaders with the skills and knowledge to support mental health in their organizations
- Recommended mental health practices for organizations

The program initiatives and the Anti-Stigma Strategy will roll out in phases. A call for applications, inviting organizations to apply for funding under the grant, will be rolled out in early 2025.

Quick Facts

- Following a rigorous selection process, [Warrior Health](#) has been selected as the successful vendor to design and deliver the services and programs for the MHS4PSP program. Warrior Health represents a group of experts with over 300 years of experience to provide specialized mental health services and research for public safety personnel and their families.
- This funding is part of the \$45.2 million announced in the [2022 Budget](#) for programs focusing on early intervention, access to specialized mental health services and creation of an online provincewide inventory of available services and supports for public safety personnel.
- Ontario is investing \$3.8 billion over 10 years to fill gaps in mental health and addictions care, create new services and expand programs through [Roadmap to Wellness](#).
- As part of Budget 2024, Building a Better Ontario, the government is building on its work through the Roadmap by investing an additional \$396 million over three years to improve access and expand existing mental health and addictions services and programs.
- Ontario has invested up to \$10.6 million in one-time capital funding for early capital planning to support first responders affected by work-related stress or trauma, including post-traumatic stress injury. The services are being planned for the [Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Centre of Excellence for First Responders](#), with proposed sites located in Toronto and Caledon.

Quotes

"First responders face not only physical, but also moral and mental injury on a daily basis to keep us safe. With this new investment, we are making sure that they get the crucial mental health care supports they need and deserve."

- **Michael Tibollo**

Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

"It has been a difficult few years in policing, with an unprecedented number of officers dying while serving their communities, both in the line of duty and because of the line of duty. It is so important for our members and their loved ones to have access to specialized mental health support when and where they need it. That's why investments in mental health support by the provincial government, that put specialized supports in place for police personnel and first responders, are paramount. On behalf of the Police Association of Ontario and police service members from across the province, we are thankful to the government of Ontario's ongoing commitment to supporting the physical and mental well-being of our police service personnel."

- **Mark Baxter**

President, Police Association of Ontario

"Firefighters are routinely exposed to disasters and emergencies that can have a lasting impact on their mental health. Studies have shown that firefighters often struggle with mental health and PTSD at much higher rates than the general public. On behalf of Ontario's professional firefighters, I thank the Ontario government for establishing the Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel Program. This initiative has enabled the OPFFA to offer essential Train-the-Trainer courses, which equip firefighters with the necessary tools to support their peers and continue serving Ontarians with commitment and resilience."

- **Greg Horton**

President, Ontario Association of Professional Firefighters

"Paramedics and other public safety personnel are there for Ontarians in their most vulnerable moments, encountering situations that put them at a high risk for PTSD and other mental health challenges that can impair their ability to work and cope with day-to-day life. A specialized resource such as this is much needed and we're pleased to see an emphasis on destigmatization as we know that is a major barrier to our peers seeking help."

- Chief Greg Sage
President, Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs

"On behalf of our Warrior Health consortium partners at Wounded Warriors Canada, Homewood Health, Trillium Health Partners, Boots on the Ground and CAMH, we are excited to announce this innovative new program. Collectively, Warrior Health represents over 300 years of experience and expertise and is at the forefront of research and delivery of mental health services. The service delivery model will support the province in establishing a mental health platform that is trauma-informed, culturally specific, confidential, and responsive to the unique needs of public safety organizations, public safety personnel, and their families across Ontario."

- Scott Maxwell
Chief Executive Officer, Wounded Warriors Canada

Additional Resources

If someone is in immediate danger or having thoughts of suicide, please call 911, the 24/7 Talk Suicide Canada helpline at 1-833-456-4566, or go to the nearest hospital or emergency department.

[Mental health resources for first responders and public safety personnel](#)

[Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program](#)

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 Cutting Red Tape to Further Reduce Costs for People and Businesses

New legislation making it cheaper and easier to work with government

November 20, 2024

[Red Tape Reduction](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government introduced the *Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario Act, 2024*, that if passed, would make life easier and more affordable for businesses and individuals, while improving our competitiveness and strengthening the economy.

The legislation is a key part of the [Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction package](#) that includes such measures as removing barriers to building homes and making it easier for people seeking long-term care. These are among the more than 550 red tape reduction measures introduced since 2018 that have saved people, businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and the broader public sector over \$1 billion every year and 1.5 million hours in time savings.

“Red tape has long hindered productivity and economic growth in Ontario,” said Mike Harris, Minister of Red Tape Reduction. “Thanks to the actions taken by our government since 2018, our red tape reduction measures have lowered costs, improved services and supported economic recovery, all while maintaining essential safety and environmental standards. Our most recent red tape package includes new initiatives that would provide an additional \$20 million in cost savings and more than 56,000 hours in time saved per year. This will continue to make life easier and more affordable, strengthen Ontario’s standing in the global economy and create the conditions for people and businesses to thrive.”

The *Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario Act, 2024* contains over 60 new burden reduction initiatives to improve services, keep costs down and rebuild Ontario’s economy, including:

- Freezing fees for knowledge and road tests for Ontario drivers
- Making the admission process easier for people seeking long-term care

- Reducing unnecessary administrative requirements for brownfield redevelopment to help accelerate the building of new homes
- Speeding up operations at the Landlord and Tenant Board
- Proposing regulatory changes to make it easier for building officials to work across provincial boundaries
- Employing digital tools to help deliver key infrastructure projects such as hospitals, highways and transit on time and on budget

The Ministry of Red Tape Reduction is also proposing to amend the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020* to enhance the province's ability to measure and report on how government's actions are impacting individuals. This would help identify areas where processes can be simplified and improved so people can spend less time and money accessing or receiving services, resulting in a more positive experience when interacting with government.

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

Quick Facts

- This is the 14th Red Tape Reduction Package introduced by the Ontario government since 2018.
- To date, Ontario has taken more than 550 actions to reduce regulatory burdens — all without compromising health, safety, or the environment.

Quotes

"We commend Minister Harris and the Ontario government for remaining laser-focused on reducing regulatory burdens for businesses – and now also individuals – through the consistent introduction of two Red Tape Reduction packages every year. Unnecessary, excessive, and duplicative paperwork costs businesses and people valuable time and money that could be better spent on job creation and families. Regulation disproportionately impacts smaller businesses, because they don't have compliance or HR departments to do the work of following government rules."

- Julie Kwiecinski

Director of Provincial Affairs for Ontario, Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB)

Additional Resources

- [Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario](#)
 - [Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package](#)
 - [Learn how Ontario is cutting red tape](#)
 - [2024 Burden Reduction Report](#)
-

Related Topics

Business and Economy

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

Government

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

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BACKGROUND

Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario

November 20, 2024

[Red Tape Reduction](#)

The proposed *Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario Act, 2024*, part of Ontario's Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package, will help provide better services, keep costs down, and bolster the economy.

The bill is the next step in the Ontario government's efforts to modernize legislation, regulations, and policies that have become outdated, burdensome, or inefficient. It also builds on the measures Ontario has taken to date, saving people and businesses 1.5 million hours and more than \$1 billion since 2018.

In this bill, the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction is proposing to amend the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020* to enhance the province's ability to measure and report on how government's actions are impacting individuals. This would help identify areas where processes can be simplified and improved so people can spend less time and money accessing or receiving services, resulting in a more positive experience when interacting with government.

Below is a list of proposed initiatives in the *Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario Act, 2024* and the broader Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package:

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA)

Modernizing the Farm Products Marketing Commission Regulations: The Ontario Farm Products Marketing Commission is proposing to amend regulations under the *Farm Products Marketing Act* and other legislation. These changes are designed to reduce red tape and remove obsolete requirements on agricultural marketing boards. Additionally, the Commission is reforming processor and dealer licences by making all licences indefinite for holders who are in compliance.

Reducing Burden for Dealerships and Distributors: Ontario is proposing legislative amendments and plans to consult on future regulatory changes to the *Farm Implements Act* (FIA). These changes would ease administrative burdens, streamline dispute resolution processes, and reduce fees for dealers and distributors.

Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG)

Access to Landlord and Tenant Board Orders for Credit Reporting Purposes, and Greater Public Transparency: Ontario is exploring the feasibility of arrangements with one or more registered consumer reporting agencies to facilitate access to Landlord and Tenant Board orders where tenants have a history of missed payments. This initiative will enhance accountability and strengthen transparency. Ontario will also enhance online information about rights and responsibilities relating to consumer reporting agencies and collection agencies. This initiative will empower tenants by helping them understand their rights and will assist landlords in making more informed decisions when selecting prospective tenants, including accessing rental payment histories. Strengthening the use of credit scores for non-compliance with payment orders will further support a reliable and transparent rental system.

Amending the Election Finances Act: Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Election Finances Act* that would, if passed, provide the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) at Elections Ontario with the discretion to forgive longstanding amounts owing to the CEO by any registered political entity in Ontario prior to January 1, 2017. A registered political entity includes a political party, constituency association, nomination contestant, candidate or leadership contestant.

Modernizing the Justices of the Peace Act: One of the ways Ontario is working on reducing backlog is by proposing minor legislative changes to the *Justices of the Peace Act* to allow for administrative and operational updates to the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee. These legislative changes would require the appointment of an alternate judge or justice of the peace to the core committee, the appointment of a newly created Vice-Chair position to the core committee, and the designation of alternate regional leads. This structure would enable the Committee to maintain its operations in the absence of key members.

Speeding Up Operations at the Landlord and Tenant Board: Ontario is proposing legislative changes to the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006* and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act* to increase tribunal efficiencies, as well as respond to the Ombudsman's recommendations regarding the Landlord and Tenant Board's backlog.

Updating the Courts of Justice Act: Ontario is proposing an amendment to give the Attorney General the same rule-making authority that the Civil and Family Rules Committees have. The Attorney General would be able to exercise the authority subject to prior consultation with the judiciary. Additionally, Ontario is proposing

several other amendments to the *Courts of Justice Act*, including eliminating reference to two defunct committees, updating the judicial membership of the Civil and Family Rules Committees to introduce greater flexibility and making a minor amendment to the vexatious litigant provision that was made as part of the *Enhancing Access to Justice Act, 2024*. The vexatious litigant amendment will make it clear that the judge who makes a vexatious litigant order does not need be the same judge who initiated the procedure leading to the order.

Modernizing the Expropriations Act: Currently, the only method of publication authorized by the *Expropriations Act* is publication in print newspapers, which is increasingly challenging for areas of the province with few print newspapers in circulation. Ontario is proposing to amend the *Expropriations Act* to create a regulation-making power to allow for changes to publication of notice requirements. If passed, regulations could be created to authorize the publication of notices and other documents in electronic formats.

Amending the Family Law Act: Ontario is proposing legislative changes to the *Family Law Act* and consequential amendments to other statutes, allowing parties to a family arbitration award for support to file the award with the Court for enforcement. Following the passage of the legislative changes, amendments to the Family Law Rules would also be required.

Updating the Juries Act: Ontario is proposing legislative changes to the *Juries Act* that would authorize the Minister of Health to include the year of birth for prospective jurors in the jury source list, alongside names and addresses. The proposed amendments will enhance the security of the online jury portal, improve public satisfaction with and confidence in the jury system and achieve operational efficiencies.

Modernizing the Professional Engineers Act, Architects Act and Law Society Act – Annual Report Provisions: Ontario is proposing to amend reporting and publication requirements contained in the *Architects Act*, *Professional Engineers Act*, and *Law Society Act*. Currently, annual reports by Professional Engineers Ontario, the Ontario Association of Architects and the Law Foundation of Ontario must be submitted by the Attorney General to the Lieutenant Governor in Council and tabled in the Legislative Assembly. If passed, the proposed changes would remove the tabling requirement, but would still require public posting. This would allow the public to access these publications more quickly and conveniently.

Modernizing the Professional Engineers Act and Architects Act – Building Code (a joint proposal with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing): Ontario is proposing a change that would align the *Architects Act* and the *Professional Engineers Act* with the new Building Code regulation, which requires owners to engage an engineer or architect to conduct a general review of large farm buildings.

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)

Transforming the Heritage Framework: Ontario is committed to transforming its heritage framework to effectively deliver on its core regulatory programs and services. Transforming Ontario's heritage conservation framework, in consultation with Indigenous communities and sector stakeholders will ensure the conservation of cultural heritage resources, while proactively supporting the government's priorities of building housing and other critical infrastructure.

Streamlining Approvals for Easement Disposal: Ontario is proposing an amendment to the *Ontario Heritage Act* to streamline the approval process for releasing parts of conservation easements where the release would not impact the heritage attributes identified and protected in the easement agreement.

Ministry of Education (EDU)

Amending the *Education Act*: To recognize the position of 'system principal' in school boards, Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Education Act* to introduce a new 'system principal' definition that is separate and distinct from that of school principals as currently defined in the Act. This would codify in legislation a role that already exists in school boards across Ontario, and enable system principals to be appointed, as appropriate, to support the implementation of board-wide priority initiatives for high quality student learning.

Ministry of Energy and Electrification (ENERGY)

Amending the Efficiency Regulation: Ontario is amending Ontario Regulation 509/18: Energy and Water Efficiency – Appliances and Products made under the *Electricity Act, 1998* (the Efficiency Regulation). These amendments would fully harmonize Ontario requirements and efficiency metrics for 42 products through rolling incorporation by reference to the federal, Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) standards. This means that Ontario's standards would be automatically updated whenever NRCAN revises its standards for these products. The proposed amendments would also remove now obsolete efficiency requirements for three existing products and streamline the regulation.

Hydrocarbon Pipeline Relocation/Reconstruction: Ontario is proposing regulatory changes to broaden the types of hydrocarbon pipeline relocation and reconstruction projects where the Ontario Energy Board can determine that leave-to-construct is not required –streamlining the delivery of infrastructure projects, such as public transit, municipal utilities, flood protection, and housing developments.

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Reducing Requirements for Brownfield Redevelopment: Ontario is proposing to amend the *Environmental Protection Act* and O. Reg. 153/04: Records of Site Condition to help reduce barriers to redevelop and revitalize historically contaminated lands (also known as brownfields) where it is safe to do so, putting low-risk sites back into good use and supporting our work to build more homes. The proposed changes would save municipalities and builders time and money by reducing Record of Site Condition registration requirements for the redevelopment of certain lower risk sites, while continuing to ensure that the health and safety of people and the environment are protected.

Removing Barriers for Reuse of Excess Soil: Ontario is proposing to amend its Excess Soil Regulation (O. Reg 406/19) under the *Environmental Protection Act* to clarify existing regulatory requirements and make it easier and more affordable for municipalities and business in the construction industry to reuse more excess soil excavated from construction sites and infrastructure projects. These changes will continue to ensure strong environmental protections.

Streamlining Environmental Approvals for Ontario's Fruit and Vegetable Growers: Ontario is supporting fruit and vegetable growers by updating terminology in environmental compliance approvals and working with the agricultural sector to improve guidance and processes such as how spills are reported. These changes will make it easier for growers to demonstrate compliance and address challenges, while protecting the Great Lakes and other waterways.

Streamlining Sewage and Water Distribution Works for Transit Projects: Ontario is proposing changes to help get important transit projects built faster by making it easier for Metrolinx and other transit authorities to make changes to municipal sewage and water distribution works, while maintaining environmental oversight. Currently only developers are pre-authorized to do this type of work under Ontario law. The proposed changes to regulations under the *Environmental Protection Act* (O.

Reg. 208/19) and *Safe Drinking Water Act* (O. Reg. 172/03) would allow transit authorities to make these changes under the authority of the municipality's consolidated environmental approvals instead of applying for separate approvals.

Streamlining Permissions While Maintaining Environmental Standards and Protections to Get Housing and Infrastructure Projects Started Sooner: Ontario is proposing changes that would streamline environmental permissions for certain stormwater management works, construction-related water takings, residential geothermal systems, on-site sewage systems, and aggregate washing systems. This would allow municipalities and businesses to self-register these projects online on the ministry's Environmental Activity and Sector Registry instead of applying for a traditional environmental permission that can take up to a year to obtain.

Ministry of Health (MOH)

Streamlining the Assistive Devices Program: Based on input from the community, Ontario is making it easier and more convenient for people with vision loss to receive more support closer to home. Ontario will increase coverage to 100 per cent for white canes and cane tips while also modernizing its processes to reduce burden on clients and the sector such as eliminating the need to be re-authorized annually.

Providing Clarity of the Quality of Care Information Protection Act: Ontario is revoking O. Reg 297 and O. Reg. 330 under the *Quality of Care Information Protection Act, 2004* since that Act was repealed in 2016 and replaced by the *Quality of Care Information Protection Act, 2016* and related new regulations. This will remove duplication to ensure ongoing clarity for health care providers with no impact for the public.

Repealing the University Health Network Act: Ontario is proposing to repeal the *University Health Network Act* which is no longer needed as University Health Network has been operating under Ontario's *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* since March 1, 2024. University Health Network continues to provide publicly funded health care services as usual.

Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI)

Centralizing the Broader Real Estate Authority: Ontario is taking the next step in its plan to establish a framework to improve the management of the province's real estate, by proposing to realign the realty authority of various provincial entities and/or proposing to centralize some entities' authorities under the Minister of Infrastructure. As part of the Centralization of Broader Real Estate Authority

initiative, the Ministry of Infrastructure is proposing legislative changes that would remove/limit or modify the realty authority of 12 entities to acquire, control, hold or dispose of real property interests.

Advancing Digital Twins: Ontario is piloting digital modelling tools, known as digital twins, to help deliver key infrastructure projects such as hospitals, highways and transit on time and on budget. Digital twins are virtual models of physical objects that can help to identify potential risks and challenges before construction begins. This helps to predict – and avoid – costly and dangerous utility conflicts, thereby improving worker safety, saving money and ensuring projects are completed on time.

Updating the Legislative Assembly Act: Ontario is proposing legislative changes to the *Legislative Assembly Act* (LAA) that would allow the planning and procurement work on the Queen’s Park Restoration Project to be under the purview of the Minister of Infrastructure.

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

Establishing the Ontario Payroll Burden Reduction Consultative Forum: Ontario is creating a new consultative forum to provide expert advice and recommendations on reducing administrative payroll burden for Ontario businesses. The Ontario Payroll Burden Reduction Consultative Forum will provide government with feedback on new policy decisions, ensuring that unintended payroll consequences are addressed early as we continue to modernize the regulatory environment for Ontario employers.

Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC)

Streamlining and Improving the Health Assessment Form: Ontario is streamlining and improving the Health Assessment Form by removing irrelevant and clarifying questions, improving the form’s layout and updating requirements to align with current best practices. These updates aim to create a less burdensome and less confusing process for those seeking long-term care, making it more accessible for Ontario’s most vulnerable populations.

Ministry of Mines (MINES)

Updating Service Standards in the Mining Act: Ontario is proposing a legislative amendment to the *Mining Act* to provide the Minister of Mines with new regulation-making authority to set service standards. The Minister would have the flexibility to respond to developments in the industry as well as to include new service

standards, as required. This would provide mining proponents that seek to explore and develop mining claims with transparent, clear, and predictable information which will reduce administrative burden. If the amendment is approved and passed, the Ministry of Mines would consult on proposed service standards that would exercise this authority.

Modernizing the Mining Act for Recovery of Minerals: Ontario is proposing to put forward new regulatory provisions under the *Mining Act* to allow for interested proponents to recover residual metals and minerals from tailings and mine wastes at operating, closed, or abandoned mine sites in the province, which is necessary to support their adoption of modern mining and processing technologies and movement to a low-carbon economy to protect the environment.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)

Streamlining Qualifications Process for Building Officials: Ontario is proposing regulatory changes to make it easier for building officials to work across provincial boundaries. This change would allow building officials in Manitoba to practice in Ontario, helping to address current shortages of municipal building officials in Kenora and other communities in Northern Ontario.

Removing Barriers to Building Additional Residential Units: Ontario is standardizing rules and removing barriers to give homeowners more flexibility and design options for building a variety of additional residential units, including garden suites, laneway homes, and basement apartments. The proposed regulation would reduce or eliminate the need for landowners to obtain a rezoning or minor variance prior to construction. This could result in direct cost and time savings on a project-by-project basis and ultimately support the creation of more homes throughout the province.

Engineering and Architecture Stamps: Ontario is exploring opportunities and will be engaging stakeholders to streamline discretionary municipal third-party review of engineer and architect stamped designs for building permit applications.

Enabling Wider Use of Pay-on-Demand Surety Bonds: Ontario is helping enable wider use of pay-on-demand surety bonds for home builders to secure municipal obligations that are conditions of land-use planning approvals. The increased use of pay-on-demand surety bonds will help to unlock funding for home builders to invest in new housing projects while still offering municipalities the assurance of timely access to funds, similar to a Letter of Credit. This change will also ensure local governments have the financial security they need to approve new housing-enabling infrastructure.

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

Amending the Algonquin Forestry Authority Act: Ontario is proposing to amend the *Algonquin Forestry Authority Act* to give the Algonquin Forestry Authority's Board of Directors the authority to appoint a general manager, replacing the current process which requires an Order-in-Council. Replacing an appointment process with an application/hiring process will reduce administrative burdens and attract a larger range of applicants to the position.

Ministry of Northern Development (MND)

Northern Services Boards Act (NSBA) Modernization: Ontario is proposing to address feedback from Local Service Boards (LSBs) to cut red tape, including reducing burdensome administrative processes, improving language clarity in the act, increasing the current Board term from one to three years, allowing LSBs to provide fire protection services outside of their geographical boundaries and changing the requirement of an annual financial audit to an annual financial review engagement.

Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement (MPBSDP)

Addressing Illegal Selling of New Homes: Ontario is proposing to amend the *Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act* to clarify Tarion's regulation-making authority so it can help address illegal new home builders who are taking advantage of Tarion's guarantee fund. The proposed amendment would enable Tarion to make future changes to regulation to help identify illegal builders, better manage Tarion's deposit protection liability and ensure the sustainability of its guarantee fund. This will ensure fair treatment of legal builders who pay into the fund and crack down on illegal builders who are cutting costs by not paying into the fund. Early identification of illegal builders will also help to protect Ontarians buying a new home so they can make their purchase with more confidence.

Updating the Land Titles Act: Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Land Titles Act*. The amendments would improve language in the Act to clarify criteria and requirements for making a claim to the Land Titles Assurance Fund and remove a duplicative compensation provision. These amendments would also remove a frequently misunderstood consumer-initiated application to withdraw land from the Act, while maintaining the Director's ability to withdraw land if necessary. These changes will benefit the people of Ontario by providing clear criteria, ensuring that individuals no longer waste time and money preparing ineligible applications. If passed, this will reduce cost, effort, legal fees and time for Ontarians, as well as reduce the frequency of unnecessary Tribunal hearings.

Streamlining the Dedicated Locator Model/Supporting Broadband

Expansion: Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012* to expedite the locates process and reduce costs and administrative burden so that vital infrastructure such as broadband can be built more efficiently, while also maintaining public safety. These amendments will offer infrastructure project owners and underground infrastructure owners/operators more options in the selection of the locates vendor. These changes will also allow underground infrastructure owners the opportunity to complete their own locates under specific circumstances.

Ministry of Red Tape Reduction (MRTR)

Burden Reduction for Individuals: Ontario is proposing amendments to the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act* to introduce requirements for government ministries to measure and report on government activities that reduce burden on individuals. This change will facilitate government-wide reporting on burden reduction for individuals.

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA)

Remove an outdated regulatory reference under the Retirement Homes Act: Ontario is proposing amendments to Ontario Regulation 166/11 under the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* (RHA) to replace the reference to the “Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative” with the “Homelessness Prevention Program”. This will correct the outdated name of a Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing program prescribed as being exempt from the RHA definition of a “retirement home” and will clarify the accountability framework for these beds/suites.

Ministry of Sport (SPORT)

Amending the Combative Sports Act: Ontario is proposing changes to the *Combative Sports Act, 2019*, to allow for the latest versions of related documents to be incorporated in regulations, such as the World Anti-Doping Agency’s List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, and the technical rule sets of Provincial Sport Organizations, to ensure the Act is aligned with the latest rules and standards in combative sport to keep competition fair and safe for athletes.

Ministry of Transportation (MTO)

Updating Electronic Logging Device (ELD) Exemptions for RVs: Ontario has amended the *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) to exempt commercial motor vehicle drivers who sell, lease or transport recreational vehicle (RV) trailers from provincial electronic logging device (ELD) requirements. Under this amendment, these drivers

are now allowed to maintain a Record of Duty Status in an alternate format to an ELD when driving in Ontario. This change to the HTA aligns Ontario with Canadian and U.S. exemptions for the RV towaway sector, making it easy for operators to deliver RVs from the U.S. into Ontario.

Extending Semitrailer Program: Ontario has introduced special vehicle configuration permits that allow approved commercial vehicle operators (also known as carriers) to use extended semitrailers to transport lighter, bulkier cargo. This reduces the number of trucks on Ontario's highways and roads — as well as the number of trips required — helping carriers save fuel and reducing the costs of goods for families and business.

Simplifying RV Definitions and Licence Requirements: Ontario is proposing to amend the Highway Traffic Act to give more drivers the opportunity to operate motor homes that exceed 11,000 kilograms gross weight or registered gross weight without having to take a knowledge and road test to get a Class D licence. Instead, drivers can take a new Motor Home Learning Module that educates them on how to operate motor homes safely instead.

Freezing Driver Testing Fees: Ontario is amending the *Highway Traffic Act* to freeze fees for knowledge and road tests at their current levels. This change will make it more affordable for Ontario drivers and driver trainees to complete knowledge and road testing.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Cutting Red Tape to Further Reduce Costs for People and Businesses](#)
- [Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package](#)

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Business and Economy

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Returning Over \$2.5 Billion to Workers and Businesses Through Fee Reductions and WSIB Rebates

Province putting more money back into workers' pockets while keeping costs down for employers

November 21, 2024

[Office of the Premier](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is keeping costs down for workers and businesses by giving back over \$2.5 billion by rebating [Workplace Safety and Insurance Board](#) (WSIB) surpluses to hundreds of thousands of safe employers, reducing business premium rates and investing in keeping workers healthy and safe. These ground-breaking measures will pump billions of dollars back into the economy, helping to rebuild Ontario's economy and support workers.

"We're laser focused on keeping costs down for workers and businesses in Ontario, putting more money back into people's pockets and helping create better jobs and bigger paycheques," said Premier Doug Ford. "The rebates and support for safe workplaces being announced today will help keep Ontario's economy competitive as we continue to compete for and attract game-changing investments."

Ontario is putting more money back into workers' pockets, keeping costs down for safe businesses and investing in health and safety by:

- Returning \$2 billion in surplus funds to Ontario businesses through the WSIB thanks to the agency's new approach to strong financial management. Eligible employers will receive their one-time rebate starting in February 2025 if they are a safe employer, which includes not having been convicted more than once under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act* or *Occupational Health and Safety Act* since 2020. For a small construction business with 50 employees, this could mean receiving \$46,000 to reinvest in new jobs, enhanced health and safety programs and bigger paycheques.
- Cutting the average premium rate for Ontario businesses from \$1.30 to \$1.25 per \$100 of insurable payroll through the WSIB starting in 2025, without reducing benefits. This is the lowest rate in half a century and will save Ontario businesses about \$150 million annually starting in 2025 when compared to the

2024 rate. Over the past decade, the WSIB has cut the average premium rate by more than 50 per cent, resulting in cumulative savings for businesses of approximately \$18.6 billion since 2017.

- Unlocking \$400 million to invest in health and safety programs for workers and employers developed by the WSIB, focusing on mental health, preventative and chronic injury care and recovery to ensure workers have the supports they need to return to work safely and quickly. This will include expanding the WSIB's mental health care programming to partner with 11 public hospitals and their networks of community-based service providers across Ontario to ensure workers have the care they need, when and where they need it.
- Removing the \$150 fee for apprentices taking their first [Certificate of Qualification](#) exam, making it easier for more people to start their career in the skilled trades. When combined with other fee reductions and removals that the province has implemented since 2019, Ontario is saving each apprentice at least \$330, putting almost \$3.6 million back into the pockets of nearly 11,000 apprentices.
- Launching a new Safe Business Bonus with an additional \$1,000 bonus to eligible employers who create a new workplace health and safety action plan approved through the [WSIB's Health and Safety Excellence](#) program, starting in 2025. Over 4,600 businesses are currently enrolled in the WSIB Health and Safety Excellence program. Since the program's launch in 2019, members have received total rebates of over \$68 million, including \$15 million in additional incentives for smaller businesses that participated in 2023-2024.

"Under Premier Ford's leadership, we're creating a competitive climate for businesses to grow and workers to succeed," said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "Previous governments taxed the trades to the brink of extinction. Our government recognizes that by putting more money back into workers' pockets and promoting the trades as a viable career, we are building a stronger workforce. Keeping costs down for businesses and investing in workers' occupational and mental health is key to building a stronger Ontario for everyone."

These changes are part of a larger package that will expand on the ground-breaking actions introduced in the five previous Working for Workers Acts since 2021, which will be unveiled in the coming weeks to grow Ontario's workforce, keep costs down for workers and businesses and support the well-being of workers and

their families. These changes are another way the government is building a brighter future for all Ontarians and ensuring our province remains the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Quick Facts

- The [Workplace Safety and Insurance Board](#) (WSIB) helps injured workers, providing services and support that includes access to health care and recovery services as well as providing income protection for those who are off work because of their injury or illness.
- Over 280,000 businesses may be eligible for the WSIB surplus rebate. Learn more at wsib.ca/rebate.
- Businesses up to date with their premium payment and reporting will be able to [request a cheque online](#) to receive payment for any credits on their account. If a business's mailing address has recently changed, they can [update their address online](#) now to ensure the WSIB has the most up to date contact information.
- The WSIB's sector-by-sector business premiums can be found at wsib.ca/2025premiumrates.
- The WSIB is investing \$25 million to expand the Mental Health Specialized Care with 11 public hospital partners to deliver coordinated and enhanced health care services for work-related mental health injuries to enable a health and safe return-to-work, including for first responders. This will include Ottawa, Peterborough, Penetanguishene, Barrie, Hamilton, Woodstock, London and the GTA. This program will ensure care coordination and navigation through a client's care journey and return-to-work across a full continuum of services inclusive of intensive outpatient and residential care.
- The WSIB is also investing an additional \$55 million every year through the Community Mental Health Program to deliver mental health services closer to home, giving clients access to psychological assessment and evidence-based, outcome-focused treatment.
- Nearly 11,000 apprentices take Ontario's [Certificate of Qualification](#) exams each year through Skilled Trades Ontario (STO), for cumulative savings of approximately \$1.6 million annually.
- Since April 2019, Ontario and STO have been keeping costs down for apprentices and journeypersons, including cutting registration fees.
- To keep costs down for businesses, Ontario is creating an Ontario Payroll Burden Reduction Consultative Forum to provide expert advice and recommendations on reducing administrative payroll burden for Ontario businesses. The Ontario Payroll Burden Reduction Consultative Forum will

recommend changes that could affect Ontario payroll-related legislation, such as the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*, *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act* and *Employer Health Tax Act*, among other statutes.

Quotes

"Our government is continuing to make record investments to connect more people to the care and support they need, when and where they need it. Through this investment, we are not only strengthening the support services available to Ontario's workers, but also recognizing the extraordinary dedication of our health care professionals by ensuring they can connect to the comprehensive care they need for both their physical and mental health."

- **Sylvia Jones**
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

"I'm proud that our strong financial position is allowing us to help businesses and contribute to the economic prosperity of Ontario while also investing \$2.5 billion every year to help people recover and return to work by covering health care costs and income replacement."

- **Jeff Lang**
WSIB CEO

"We're thrilled to hear the Ontario government's announcement this morning waiving Certificate of Qualification exam fees for apprentices. Since inception, Skilled Trades Ontario has focused on removing barriers to the apprenticeship pathway and today's announcement is yet another step in the right direction. In increasing numbers, individuals are turning to skilled trades as one of the most attractive career choices available."

- **Michael Sherrard**
Board Chair, Skilled Trades Ontario

"We thank the Ontario government for listening and acting on our WSIB recommendations. The WSIB is funded by employers, so returning extra money to the eligible business owners who originally paid it and lowering their premiums are the right things to do. Businesses of all sizes will benefit – especially those struggling with high debt and low demand – without risking workplace safety, or the WSIB's strong financial health. Many businesses have been hit hard over the past year and will welcome the positive news to get their new year off to a great start."

- Julie Kwiecinski

Director of Provincial Affairs for Ontario, Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB)

"Today's announcement is an important one for our industry. Removing fees for various apprentice programs, and providing more mental health support to workers, these decisions will help sustain and enhance key skilled trade labour to build Canada's most important infrastructure."

- Stephen Chaplin

SVP Health Safety & Environment, EllisDon

"RESCON fully supports the significant investments made in health and safety by Minister Piccini and Premier Ford. This announcement will create direct investments in on-site safety, protect workers and lower costs for purchasers. It will help build the homes Ontarians need."

- Andrew Pariser

Vice President, RESCON

"Lowering the cost of doing business is critical to safeguard Ontario's manufacturing turnaround. With today's bold action, Ontario helps each employer focus resources where they matter most – keeping workers safe, healthy and preserving competitiveness to protect their jobs for the long-term."

- Dennis A. Darby

President and CEO, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

"ORBA commends Premier Ford and Minister Piccini's leadership on achieving this important milestone with a fully funded, stable and effective WSIB. Today's announcement strikes the right balance between protecting injured workers and ensuring our members remain viable and can continue to build much needed roads, bridges and transportation infrastructure across Ontario, as well as reinvesting in health and safety excellence and innovations."

- Walid Abou-Hamde
Chief Executive Officer, ORBA

"On behalf of the farmers of Ontario, I would like to thank Premier Ford, Minister Piccini and the Ontario government for their commitment to supporting the Ontario business community, including farms and agri-businesses. The return of \$2 billion in surplus WSIB funds and an ongoing reduction in premium rates brings dollars back into the hands of businesses, allowing them to reinvest in their operations, drive innovation and contribute to the growth of our sector and the province as a whole. This is good news for Ontario agriculture."

- Drew Spoelstra
President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

"The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) welcomes the expansion of the WSIB's Mental Health Specialty Program to 11 public hospital partners. This initiative will better enable injured workers to access treatment, improve their health and eventually, return to work safely. Expanding access to mental health services ensures that more people will get the care they need closer to home, coordinated throughout their full care journey."

- Anthony Dale
President and CEO, Ontario Hospital Association

"On behalf of Agnico Eagle, we extend our appreciation to Minister Piccini and the ministry for its commitment to fostering meaningful programs that empower businesses and support economic growth. The reduction in WSIB premiums, reinvesting funds for operating a safe business and providing easier pathways to qualified skilled trades are all important elements to creating a thriving and competitive business environment in Northern Ontario. As the largest gold miner in Ontario, we also commend the hard work of Ontario employees whose efforts to make their workplaces safer has made these changes possible."

- Andre Leite

Vice President, Ontario Operations, Agnico Eagle

Additional Resources

- [Workplace Health and Safety Excellence Program](#)
- [Skilled Trades Ontario](#)
- [Working For Workers Five Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Four Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2022](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2021](#)
- [Ontario Appoints New CEO for Skilled Trades Ontario](#)
- [Ontario Cutting Red Tape to Further Reduce Costs for People and Businesses](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Cancer Coverage for Firefighters

Expansion would make it easier to access benefits through the WSIB

November 22, 2024

[Office of the Premier](#)

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

HAMILTON – The Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that, if passed, will expand presumptive coverage for firefighters in the case of primary-site kidney cancer by reducing the required duration of service from 20 to 10 years, which would be the lowest duration of service in Canada. The province will also propose to remove the requirement that a firefighter’s primary-site colorectal diagnosis must be made before the age of 61. These changes will ensure firefighters, including wildland firefighters, and fire investigators can access benefits through the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) faster and easier.

“Firefighters and investigators make major sacrifices to keep our communities, property and families safe and we owe it to them to always have their backs,” said Premier Doug Ford. “We’ve already expanded presumptive cancer coverage to reflect the long-term risks firefighters take on as part of their job every day and we’re building on that progress to help our frontline heroes get the coverage they deserve.”

Firefighters die of cancer at a rate up to four times higher than the general population. Presumptive coverage under the WSIB streamlines the assessment of certain firefighter WSIB claims by presuming the worker’s injury or occupational disease is work-related, making it faster and easier for firefighters to access WSIB benefits and services.

The new proposals build on the government’s nationally-leading measures to protect frontline heroes that were contained in the previous Working for Workers packages since 2021. These include:

- Expanding presumptive occupational cancer coverage for firefighters and fire investigators to include primary site thyroid and pancreatic cancers.

- Reducing the required duration of service for primary-site esophageal cancer from 25 to 15 years, which is the lowest requirement in Canada.
- Including wildland firefighters and investigators under the same presumptive coverage for occupational cancers, heart injuries and PTSD as municipal firefighters and reducing the required duration of service for primary-site skin cancer from 15 to 10 years, which is the lowest requirement in Canada.

“While some people run away from danger, firefighters, investigators and volunteers run towards it. These heroes keep our families and communities safe and they deserve a government that values their service and sacrifice,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “Our government is serving those who serve by expanding presumptive coverage for kidney and colorectal cancer. I would like to thank the OPFFA, OAFC, FFAO and the firefighting community for their leadership, advocacy and partnership throughout our Working for Workers bills – because these heroes have earned stronger, more expansive coverage.”

These changes are part of a larger package that will expand on the groundbreaking actions introduced in the five previous Working for Workers Acts since 2021, which will be unveiled in the coming weeks to grow Ontario’s workforce, keep costs down for workers and businesses and support the well-being of workers and their families. These changes are another way the government is building a brighter future for all Ontarians and ensuring our province remains the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Quick Facts

- Approximately five million workers and 325,000 employers are covered by the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB).
- Nineteen types of cancer are currently included under WSIB presumptive coverage.
- There are over 12,000 full-time professional firefighters in Ontario, over 500 part-time personnel and over 18,000 volunteer firefighters.
- Over 1,000 people worked as wildland firefighters and wildland fire investigators during the 2023 wildland fire season.
- To strengthen the province’s wildland fire program, Ontario is investing [\\$64 million](#) to hire and train key personnel and fund the purchase of new support equipment and technology, including fuel systems, tankers, trucks and software systems.
- The province is investing more than [\\$10 million](#) to train more than 28,000 firefighters by building five new state-of-the-art training facilities, which will help

to meet the emergency response needs of growing communities across Ontario and allow local firefighters to get the training they need closer to home.

- In March 2024, the government launched [new incentive pay](#) for wildland firefighting staff. More than \$5 million will be provided to attract and retain these critical employees.

Quotes

"This year has been pivotal for firefighter presumptive coverage legislation in Ontario. I am thrilled that today, the government announced legislative amendments addressing kidney cancer and colorectal cancer. On behalf of the OPFFA, I extend heartfelt thanks to Premier Ford and his government for these impactful changes. Reducing the required duration of employment from 20 to 10 years for kidney cancer and eliminating the 61-year age limit on presumptive eligibility for colorectal cancer are significant milestones. These important revisions are seminal and ensure that all firefighters who develop these occupational cancers while safeguarding Ontarians, will have better access to the support and coverage they need."

- Greg Horton

President, Ontario Professional Firefighters Association

"The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (OAFC) applauds the Ontario Government through the leadership of Premier Ford and David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for their proposed improvement to the presumptive coverage for firefighter occupational cancers. Last month, seventy-three more firefighters were inscribed on the Ontario Fallen Firefighter Memorial. A memorial that honours firefighters who have died in the line of duty and by occupational illness and now houses more than 1,000 names. This government's commitment to the early detection and prevention of firefighter occupational cancer; and taking care of firefighters who have been diagnosed, or sadly succumbed to occupational illness, is incredibly commendable. It stands for a sincere desire to take care of those who took on the mission of taking care of others."

- Deputy Chief Rob Grimwood

President, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs

"Firefighters put service over self each day, stepping into dangerous situations to protect their communities. We commend the Ontario provincial government for recognizing the unique risks faced by firefighters. By introducing legislation to amend colorectal cancer presumption eligibility and kidney cancer presumption eligibility, they are taking significant steps to enhance the safety, health and wellness of our dedicated firefighters and fire investigators. These changes reflect a commitment to supporting those who selflessly serve our province."

- Robert Rutherford
President, Fire Fighters Association of Ontario

"Our firefighters deserve to be treated with the greatest respect and concern and that is exactly what we are doing. This announcement is further demonstration of how we are working to protect the fire service and ensure they are not faced with lasting challenges after putting their lives on the line for our province."

- Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General

"Wildland firefighters protect our communities and natural resources. Their selfless service often comes at a high cost, with increased risks of cancer due to exposure to harmful toxins. We are committed to ensuring these brave individuals receive the support they deserve by expanding cancer coverage, recognizing the unique challenges they face in the line of duty."

- Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources

"Firefighters face unique dangerous exposures that can have long-term health consequences. With new scientific evidence highlighting the associations between these exposures and health conditions, this expanded coverage ensures comprehensive support for those who risk their lives for our communities. Equally important, it reinforces our commitment to prevention by acknowledging the need for enhanced safety measures and monitoring to mitigate the risks throughout a firefighter's career."

- Dr. Joel Moody
Ontario Chief Prevention Officer

"These heroes do courageous work and we want take care of them as best we possibly can if they get sick. These changes would mean we are able to help faster with even more benefits and support. Our firefighting heroes are there when we need them and we're going to be there for them when they need us."

- Jeff Lang
WSIB CEO

"I'm proud to be part of a government that listens to the unique needs of Ontario's firefighters. As an active-duty volunteer firefighter with the County of Brant Fire Service, I greatly appreciate that our government is expanding coverage for firefighters and know how it will mean so much to the many firefighters fire investigators, and volunteers in my community, across Ontario and to their families."

- Will Bouma
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Northern Development

"Our firefighters face unimaginable risks to protect our communities. I applaud the announcement today here in Hamilton and across Ontario that will expand WSIB coverage and stand up for the people who are on the front lines for us every day. This is about giving back to those who give everything for Ontario."

- Neil Lumsden
MPP for Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

"As a volunteer firefighter and representative for a community with so many brave firefighters, I've seen first hand the sacrifices they make to keep us safe. Our government's Working for Workers bills have a proven record of delivering for Ontario's workers. By expanding WSIB presumptive coverage for occupational cancers, we're answering the call of our firefighting community and reinforcing our commitment to safeguarding the health, dignity and livelihoods of those who serve. I commend Minister Piccini and Premier Doug Ford for their standing commitment to our frontline heroes."

- Steve Pinsonneault
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Rural Affairs

Additional Resources

- [Working for Workers Five Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Four Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2022](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2021](#)
- [The Workplace Safety and Insurance Act.](#)
- Information on [Workplace Exposure and Illnesses](#)
- [Prevention Works – Ontario's 2021-2025 Occupational Health and Safety Strategy.](#)
- [WSIB Scientific Advisory Table on Occupational Disease](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Increasing Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund to \$600 Million

\$100 million increase will support 390 municipalities across the province

November 22, 2024

[Finance](#)

UXBRIDGE — As part of the provincial government's historic increase to financial support for Ontario municipalities, the province is increasing the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) by \$100 million over two years, bringing the total funding envelope to \$600 million by 2026. The OMPF is the province's main general assistance grant to municipalities.

The 2025 OMPF grant includes an immediate increase of \$50 million to provide \$550 million in unconditional funding to 390 municipalities. The \$50 million enhancement has been targeted to small, Northern and rural municipalities and those with a limited property tax base, with the aim of assisting municipalities so they can provide critical municipal services to people across the province.

"We have heard from small, Northern, and rural municipalities that they need more support to meet the financial challenges they face in delivering services to their communities and that's exactly what this significant increase to OMPF, which is being delivered through our recent Fall Economic Statement, will help them do," said Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy. "Municipalities are critical partners in delivering important local services and we will continue working together to build more homes, support economic growth and strengthen Ontario's communities in a way that is sustainable and responsible."

Ontario has been steadily increasing support to municipalities. From 2019–2023, key provincial support to municipalities grew by over 45 per cent. In 2023 alone, the government provided almost \$10 billion to Ontario municipalities through key transfers. This includes increasing the Homelessness Prevention Program to \$654 million annually, as well as enhanced support for Northern and rural communities, such as the introduction of the \$15 million Northern Ontario Resource

Development Support (NORDS) program in 2021 and the investment of an additional \$1 billion for the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) over five years, starting in 2022.

“We will not leave any part of the province behind as we work together with our municipal partners to create stronger communities,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “By increasing our infrastructure investments for small, Northern and rural municipalities, we are helping lay the groundwork for more homes for the hardworking people of Ontario.”

“Today’s announcement continues to demonstrate our government’s commitment to rural and Northern municipalities,” said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs. “We have created a stand-alone ministry dedicated to rural affairs and we are listening and taking action as well as building supports that will enable small towns and rural communities to thrive and prosper. Increased funding through the OMPF will ensure small, rural, and Northern Ontario municipalities receive additional base funding needed to address local priorities.”

Quick Facts

- The OMPF is a formula-based program that incorporates annual data updates to ensure the program is responsive to changing municipal circumstances.
- As the enhancement to the program is phased-in, all core grant recipients will receive 100 per cent or more of their 2024 OMPF allocation in 2025.
- Beginning this winter, Ontario will consult with municipalities on their priorities for the OMPF as well as the implementation of a reporting framework to gain a better understanding of how the OMPF is supporting local communities.
- The province is working with municipalities to support building more homes for people and families. Ontario is investing nearly \$2 billion in housing-enabling infrastructure through the [Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#) and [Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#), complementing support already being provided through the Building Faster Fund.
- Investing in key local infrastructure through programs like the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund and the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program is part of the province’s capital plan of more than \$191 billion over 10 years to build critical infrastructure and get more homes built faster to support growing communities and lay a strong foundation for future generations.

Quotes

"Municipal fiscal sustainability is under pressure across Ontario. AMO welcomes this enhancement to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund as an important step in addressing these challenges. We look forward to working with the province to get our communities back on track as the drivers of Ontario's economy and quality of life."

- Robin Jones

President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Mayor, Westport

"Small and Northern municipalities depend on the OMPF to deliver the services that people and businesses rely on every day. These enhancements will help rural communities to keep pace with growing needs like housing affordability, aging infrastructure and homelessness that require new approaches and resources. ROMA thanks Minister Bethlenfalvy for responding to rural municipalities' concerns and looks forward to ongoing conversations to build sustainable, thriving communities."

- Christa Lowry

Chair, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Mayor, Mississippi Mills

"The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) is thrilled to learn of the announcement by the Minister of Finance regarding the upcoming increase to Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF). NOMA has been a long-time advocate for a permanent increase to the OMPF and we greatly appreciate that the Minister understands the importance of this fund specifically for small, rural, and Northern municipalities. These municipalities greatly rely on this funding, and the additional \$50 million in 2025 and \$50 million in 2026 which will amount to a total increase of \$100 million over the next 2 years, will be vital to our small, rural, and Northern communities. The Minister's commitment to create a consultation group with municipalities in the winter of 2025 to discuss OMPF shows the province is dedicated to understanding municipal needs and ensuring we can work together to guarantee this fund meets the needs of the small and rural municipalities across Northern Ontario."

- Wendy Landry

President, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association

"The Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus would like to thank the Provincial Government for the significant increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), supporting small and rural communities. OMPF is a critical funding source that empowers our rural communities to deliver essential services and address unique local priorities. This funding ensures that smaller municipalities have the resources to maintain infrastructure and invest in long-term development, fostering economic resilience and quality of life for our residents."

- Glen McNeil

Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

"On behalf of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, I thank Minister Bethlenfalvy for the increased investment in the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund highlighted in the 2024 Fall Economic Statement. This \$100 million boost signifies the government's recognition of the unique challenges faced by our 103 rural and small-urban communities. The funding will bolster essential services and also foster growth and resilience across our region."

- Peter Emon
Chair, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

Additional Resources

[2025 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund](#)

[2024 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building Ontario for You](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Supporting Women and Families in the Trades

Proposals would create new parental leave to include adoption and surrogacy, create job-protected leave for serious illnesses and require properly fitting PPE for women in all trades sectors

November 26, 2024

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

ETOBICOKE — The Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that, if passed, will support families and help more women enter and remain in the skilled trades by creating a new job-protected parental leave for adoptive parents and parents through surrogacy. The government would also create a new 27-week job-protected leave for workers with serious illnesses and support women in the trades by requiring all sectors to have properly fitting personal protective clothing and equipment (PPE) for women.

“Our government has a clear mission: ensure Ontario continues to be the very best place to live, work, and raise a family,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “That means making sure Ontarians never have to choose between being a worker or a parent, and that if a worker gets sick with a critical illness they can take the time to recover without worrying about their job. We’re also promoting and protecting tradeswomen as an essential part of our workforce in every sector: we see you, we value you, and we can’t build Ontario’s future without you.”

The province’s upcoming legislation will propose a new 16-week job-protected leave under the *Employment Standards Act* for adoptive parents and parents through surrogacy, to ensure they have adequate time to meet the demands of the adoption or surrogacy process, attach and welcome their child into their new home. This would also align with upcoming federal changes to create employment insurance (EI) benefits for adoption.

The government also intends to propose a new 27-week long-term illness leave for employees unable to work due to a serious medical condition as defined by a medical practitioner, such as cancer, multiple sclerosis or Crohn’s. If passed, this

would be one of the longest provincial leaves in Canada and would ensure workers with a serious medical condition have the time away from work they need to get treatment and recover, without risking their jobs.

To bring more women into the trades and grow Ontario's trades workforce, the government will also propose expanding the explicit [requirement for properly fitting PPE](#) for women in the construction sector that was included in the [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#) to include all sectors.

The government is also ensuring workers have access to [clean washrooms](#) by proposing specific requirements on employers that will increase accountability and transparency with washroom cleaning records. This would build on the new duties for employers and constructors related to clean washrooms that were passed under the *Working for Workers Five Act*.

These changes are part of a larger proposed package that will expand on the ground-breaking actions introduced in five previous Working for Workers packages since 2021, which will be unveiled in the coming weeks, to grow Ontario's workforce, keep costs down for workers and businesses, and support the wellbeing of workers and their families. These proposed changes are another way the government is building a brighter future for all Ontarians and ensuring our province remains the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Quick Facts

- In 2023, 374,600 women were employed in a skilled trades-related occupation in Ontario, representing 29 per cent of the 1.3 million Ontarians who were employed in a skilled-trades related occupation.
- According to [recent research published](#) by the Canadian Standards Association, 50 per cent of women surveyed noted their PPE does not fit properly, 43 per cent said it is uncomfortable to wear and 35 per cent said the selection of women-specific PPE is inadequate.
- Half of respondents to the Ontario Building and Construction Tradeswomen 2022 survey cited better washroom facilities as something needed to make construction more appealing to women.
- Ontario has introduced five Working for Workers Acts since 2021, with groundbreaking measures which are already helping millions of people. The province will continue to expand its initiatives to support workers.
- The Ontario government is investing [\\$150 million](#) over two years to expand the Ontario Fertility Program to cut waitlists and triple the number of families

connecting to government-funded fertility services in hospital and community clinic settings.

Quotes

"For years, women like me have had to adapt to tools, equipment, and policies that weren't designed with us in mind. Ontario's initiative to ensure properly fitting PPE and better workplace conditions sends a strong message: we see you, we value you, and we're building a future where women in the trades can excel safely and confidently. When we make the trades more inclusive—through properly fitting PPE, clean facilities, and parental leave—we're not just supporting women, we're transforming the entire industry. These changes show that Ontario values both the worker and the parent in every person, creating a stronger, safer, and more welcoming workforce for everyone."

- Natasha "Nash" Ferguson
Founder & Principal, Ethelfox Construct Group | City Modular Inc. | A Women's Work Support Centre

"Ontario's new leave for adoptive and intended parents demonstrates this government's commitment to all Ontario families, no matter how they are built. We are so pleased to see that the nearly 700 families in Ontario who welcome a child through surrogacy and adoption each year will now have the same time off work to bond with their new child as any other parents."

- Zane Colt
Board Chair, Conceivable Dreams, father by surrogacy

"As a parent by surrogacy, supportive policies like these show me that the government cares about my experience. The impact of this new leave is twofold: not only does it support families in accessing crucial time off to bond with their new child, it also signals to families like mine who have struggled with infertility that we are no different than anyone else."

- Baden Colt
CEO of Not My Tummy, mother by surrogacy

"Nearly 40 per cent of people diagnosed with cancer are in their working years, ages 20 to 64. That means cancer often comes at a time when expenses are high, and others are depending on you. There are already enough worries that come with a cancer diagnosis; wondering if you have a job to come back to shouldn't be one of them. The Government of Ontario is demonstrating strong leadership for expanding job protection for those with serious illnesses to 27 weeks. We know that cancer doesn't wait – but your job should."

**- Andrea Seale
CEO, Canadian Cancer Society**

"Women are more than capable to lead successful careers in the skilled trades. The increased need for skilled tradespeople in Ontario calls for an intentional recruitment of more women to the sector. At Humber Polytechnic, we are committed to breaking down barriers that women may face as they build a future in the skilled trades. Today's announcement by the Ontario government is an important step toward that goal and will help set women up for success in a career that is vital to our province's economy."

**- Dr. Ann Marie Vaughan
President and CEO, Humber Polytechnic**

"The importance of properly fitting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) can be easily overlooked when you can go to virtually any retailer and easily find PPE that fits your body and keeps you safe. The proposed measures and the requirement of properly fitting PPE for women is poised to create a transformative ripple throughout the construction industry and marketplace. By prioritizing safety inclusively, we not only encourage more women to join the sector but also clearly communicate they are not merely present in construction—they are essential and embraced."

**- Jennifer Khan
Vice President, Inclusive Diversity, EllisDon**

"The Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment is pleased to see the new measures for women's maternity leave, PPE, expanded job-protected leave for injury or illnesses and the commitment to expanding mental health research and access in Ontario. These measures are a step in the right direction to protect the job security of women and all workers. We look forward to further expansion of these measures into paid job-protected leave for all employees in Ontario. Women and all workers require the financial security that comes from paid leave in case of injury, illness or mental health. We look forward to continuing to work with the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development to protect and empower workers."

- Niha Shahzad

Senior Director, Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment

"To be empowered to succeed, women need to know they are welcomed and supported at the workplace. These changes are another example of how we are helping empower women to build their careers and achieve financial success to support themselves and their families. By protecting parental leave and long-term illness leave for more workers who need it, we can help keep more women from having to choose between their careers and their families or health."

- Charmaine Williams

Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity

"Our government is building a stronger, fairer Ontario. Under the continued leadership of Premier Ford and Minister Piccini, we are proposing measures to support adoptive parents and those through surrogacy by providing more time to meet unique demands. By mandating properly fitting protective equipment for women in all sectors and introducing a 27-week job-protected leave for workers with serious illnesses, we are advancing inclusivity, safety, and worker protections."

- Andrea Khanjin

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

"Thanks to Premier Ford's leadership, our government is strengthening the skilled trades industry by promoting workforce stability, family values, and lifelong job security for workers, making skilled trades some of the most sought-after careers in Ontario. However, women currently represent just 29 per cent of the skilled trades workforce, and we know that more can be done to ensure women feel valued, protected, and optimistic about pursuing a career in the skilled trades. This legislation would encourage more women to enter the skilled trades workforce to build a successful career and a stronger province for generations to come."

**- Kinga Surma
Ontario Minister of Infrastructure**

"Through the leadership of Premier Ford and the hard work of Minister Piccini, our government is making sure that women know that they have the ability to be heroes at home and at work. The people of Ontario deserve to know their government is working hard to build our province and economy while still instilling strong family values."

**- Natalia Kusendova-Bashta
Ontario's Minister of Long-Term Care**

"Under Premier Ford, our government is building a stronger Ontario for everyone, getting shovels in the ground on housing that families can call home, on the highways and roads that connect our communities, and the clean energy powering our economy. That means we need all hands on deck – but when women represent less than a third of Ontario's skilled trades workforce, and less than 10 percent of construction workers it's tying one hand behind our backs. That's why our government is introducing first-in-Canada changes to encourage women to start a career in the skilled trades and reach their full potential. Because an economy that doesn't work for women, doesn't work at all."

**- Patrice Barnes
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training
and Skills Development**

"These proposed measures are critical in recognizing the contributions of skilled trades professionals and addressing the challenges they face, particularly for women. We fully support Ontario's efforts to create safer, more inclusive workplaces where no parent has to choose between their career and their family."

**- Candice White
CEO and Registrar, Skilled Trades Ontario**

"The Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario appreciate the progressive steps forward announced today to improve the lives of working people. From clean washrooms and proper fitting PPE, to parental leave and a notable investment in mental health over the next five years, we look forward to working with the government to implement these changes in a way that makes a real impact on workers."

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

"Women's PPE, like the right tools for any job, is designed to protect, support, and stand strong—just like the women who wear it. The right workwear ensures safety, comfort, and confidence, empowering women to tackle any job!"

**- Dianne Finnigan
Founder and Owner of The Dirty Seahorse Workwear**

"Ontarians with Crohn's and colitis who've experienced a disruption in their employment due to flares or surgery want to be able to return to their jobs once they're able. The proposed law will make it easier for them to take the time off they need without fear of losing their employment. We're grateful for the government's leadership in creating a new job-protected leave that aligns with the federal sickness benefit."

**- Lori Radke
President and CEO, Crohn's and Colitis Canada**

"Diabetes Canada supports today's announcement by the Government of Ontario, ensuring workers who have to be off work for extended periods of time can do so without the added burden of worrying about their job security. In Ontario, 31 per cent of people live with diabetes or prediabetes—these folks are over three times more likely to be hospitalized with cardiovascular disease, 12 times more likely to be hospitalized with end-stage renal disease, and almost 20 times more likely to be hospitalized for a non-traumatic lower limb amputation. This legislation would allow workers to prioritize their health without jeopardizing their livelihood or financial well-being."

- Maria Campbell

Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy, Diabetes Canada

Additional Resources

- [Guide to the Occupational Health and Safety Act](#)
- [Working For Workers Five Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Four Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2022](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2021](#)
- [Ontario Helping More People Start and Grow Their Families](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario to Introduce Sixth Working for Workers Act

Legislation would improve workplace safety, lower costs for workers and grow Ontario's skilled trades workforce

November 27, 2024

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

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government will introduce the [Working for Workers Six Act, 2024](#), which would build on the previous five *Working for Workers* acts with a suite of proposed measures to protect the health and wellbeing of workers, bring more people into the skilled trades and keep costs down for Ontario workers.

In addition to previously announced proposed measures, including [creating a new parental leave and long-term illness leave](#), [expanded cancer coverage for firefighters](#) and [WSIB changes](#) that will give more money back to Ontario workers and businesses, this package would support workplace safety by cracking down on bad actor employers, with mandatory minimum fines of \$500,000 for corporations convicted of repeated offences within a two-year period under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The government is also proposing to expand existing roadside safety laws under the *Highway Traffic Act* to require motorists to slow down and move over for roadworkers, such as highway maintenance workers.

"As our government continues to bring back better jobs and bigger paycheques to Ontario, we are keeping workers healthy and safe no matter where they work: On a highway, a job site, or the shop floor," said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "Our government's proposed sixth Working for Workers bill will introduce game-changing measures to grow Ontario's workforce by bringing more women into the trades, cracking down on bad actors who exploit newcomers and harm workers, and introducing nation-leading cancer protections for firefighters."

The proposed sixth *Working for Workers Act* and its related regulatory changes, if passed, would:

- **Enhance safety for roadside workers** by expanding existing requirements for drivers to slow down and move over when passing emergency vehicles and tow trucks under the *Highway Traffic Act* to also include prescribed work-related

vehicles at roadside with flashing amber lights activated (excluding construction zones with posted speed limits).

- [Support the safety and wellbeing of workers and their families](#) by creating a new parental leave for parents through adoption and surrogacy so people never have to choose between being a worker or a parent; create a new 27-week job-protected long-term illness leave for workers with a serious medical condition which would be one of the longest provincial leaves in Canada; and require properly-fitting PPE for women in all sectors to bring more women into the trades. The province is also unlocking [\\$400 million](#) to invest in worker health and safety, including mental health and recovery, through the [Workplace Safety and Insurance Board](#) (WSIB)
- [Improve cancer coverage for firefighters, investigators, and volunteers](#) by removing the requirement that a firefighter's primary-site colorectal diagnosis must be made before the age of 61, and lowering the required duration of service for primary-site kidney cancer from 20 to 10 years – the lowest duration of service in Canada.
- [Grow Ontario's workforce](#) by investing up to \$1.4 billion through the Skills Development Fund to train over 1 million workers in every corner of the province, and attract more health care workers to Ontario by expanding immigration pathways for qualified health care workers.
- [Keep costs down for workers and businesses](#) by giving back over \$2.5 billion through rebating WSIB surpluses to hundreds of thousands of safe employers, reducing business premium rates to the lowest average level in half a century, and putting more money back into workers' pockets by waiving the fee for apprentices taking their first [Certificate of Qualification](#) exam. Under Premier Ford, Ontario has cut or reduced fees for each apprentice by \$330, putting almost \$3.6 million back into the pockets of nearly 11,000 apprentices.
- **Honour workers** by celebrating the contributions the Golden Generation of Skilled Tradespeople who built our province into what it is today, and who are passing on their wisdom and expertise to the next generation of workers to shape Ontario's future, by creating a new Skilled Trades Week during the first week of November.
- [Crack down on bad actors that exploit newcomers and harm workers](#) by introducing new standards, fines and lifetime bans for fraudulent immigration representatives that exploit newcomers.

The proposed *Working for Workers Six Act, 2024* builds on the game-changing actions across five previous Working for Workers Acts since 2021 to grow Ontario's workforce, keep costs down for workers and businesses and support the wellbeing

of workers and their families. These proposed changes are another way the government is building a brighter future for all Ontario workers and their families and ensuring our province remains the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Quick Facts

- In October, Ontario appointed Candice White as the [new Chief Executive Officer](#) of Skilled Trades Ontario, effective November 25. Ms. White will continue to deliver on the agency's mandate to grow Ontario's skilled trades workforce, promote the trades as a career of choice and modernize services to Ontario's over 1.3 million skilled tradespeople and apprentices.
 - Ontario will launch the second round of its [Skills Development Fund \(SDF\) Capital Stream](#) on 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 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) allows the province to nominate individuals for permanent residence who have the skills and experience that will contribute to Ontario's economy. The federal government makes the final decision on reviewing and approving applications for permanent residence.
 - To address health system capacity, Ontario has [expanded pathways](#) through the OINP for health care workers by exempting internationally educated nurses who are registered with the College of Nurses of Ontario from being required to provide a bachelor's degree to qualify for the OINP Express Entry Human Capital Priorities and French-Speaking Skilled Worker streams.
 - In 2023, Ontario nominated 2,045 health care workers, including physicians, nurses, and PSWs, through the OINP.
-

Quotes

"Our government has a \$28 billion plan to build roads and highways, and keep our province moving. By expanding slow down, move over rules to include construction vehicles with amber lights flashing, we're protecting the men and women building a stronger province for all of us."

- Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

"The introduction of Working for Workers 6 is a significant step forward in elevating the safety of Ontario's frontline road workers. These measures demonstrate a strong commitment to protecting those who work tirelessly to build and maintain our province's critical infrastructure. ORBA commends Ministers Piccini and Sarkaria and looks forward to continuing our collaboration with the Ontario government to ensure every worker returns home to their families at the end of a workday."

**- Walid Abou-Hamde
CEO, Ontario Road Builders Association**

"This year has been pivotal for firefighter presumptive coverage legislation in Ontario. I am thrilled that today, the government announced legislative amendments addressing kidney cancer and colorectal cancer. On behalf of the OPFFA, I extend heartfelt thanks to Premier Ford and his government for these impactful changes. Reducing the required duration of employment from 20 to 10 years for kidney cancer and eliminating the 61-year age limit on presumptive eligibility for colorectal cancer are significant milestones. These important revisions are seminal and ensure that all firefighters who develop these occupational cancers while safeguarding Ontarians will have better access to the support and coverage they need."

**- Greg Horton
President, Ontario Professional Firefighters Association**

"The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) applauds the Ontario Government through the leadership of Premier Ford, and David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development, for their proposed improvement to the presumptive coverage for firefighter occupational cancers. Last month, seventy-three more firefighters were inscribed on the Ontario Fallen Firefighter Memorial, a memorial that honours firefighters who have died in the line of duty and by occupational illness and now houses more than 1,000 names. This government's commitment to the early detection and prevention of firefighter occupational cancer, and taking care of firefighters who have been diagnosed, or sadly succumbed to, occupational illness is incredibly commendable. It stands for a sincere desire to take care of those who took on the mission of taking care of others."

**- Deputy Chief Rob Grimwood
President, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs**

"Firefighters put service over self each day, stepping into dangerous situations to protect their communities. We commend the Ontario government for recognizing the unique risks faced by firefighters. By introducing legislation to amend colorectal cancer presumption eligibility and kidney cancer presumption eligibility, they are taking significant steps to enhance the safety, health and wellness of our dedicated firefighters and fire investigators. These changes reflect a commitment to supporting those who selflessly serve our province."

**- Robert Rutherford
President, Fire Fighters Association of Ontario**

"The importance of properly fitting personal protective equipment (PPE) can be easily overlooked when you can go to virtually any retailer and easily find PPE that fits your body and keeps you safe. The Working For Workers Six Act and the requirement of properly fitting PPE for women is poised to create a transformative ripple throughout the construction industry and marketplace. By prioritizing safety inclusively, we not only encourage more women to join the sector but also clearly communicate they are not merely present in construction—they are essential and embraced."

- Jennifer Khan
Vice President, Inclusive Diversity, EllisDon

"For years, women like me have had to adapt to tools, equipment and policies that weren't designed with us in mind. Ontario's initiative to ensure properly fitting PPE and better workplace conditions sends a strong message: we see you, we value you, and we're building a future where women in the trades can excel safely and confidently. When we make the trades more inclusive—through properly fitting PPE, clean facilities, and parental leave—we're not just supporting women, we're transforming the entire industry. These changes show that Ontario values both the worker and the parent in every person, creating a stronger, safer and more welcoming workforce for everyone."

- Natasha Ferguson
Founder, A Woman's Work

"As a parent by surrogacy, supportive policies like these show me that the government cares about my experience. The impact of this new leave is twofold: not only does it support families in accessing crucial time off to bond with their new child, it also signals to families like mine who have struggled with infertility that we are no different than anyone else."

- Baden Colt
CEO of Not My Tummy, mother by surrogacy

"Ontario's new leave for adoptive and intended parents demonstrates this government's commitment to all Ontario families, no matter how they are built. We are so pleased to see that the nearly 700 families in Ontario who welcome a child through surrogacy and adoption each year will now have the same time off work to bond with their new child as any other parents."

- Zane Colt

Board Chair, Conceivable Dreams, father by surrogacy

"The Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario appreciate the progressive steps forward announced today to improve the lives of working people. From clean washrooms and proper fitting PPE, to parental leave and a notable investment in mental health over the next five years, we look forward to working with the government to implement these changes in a way that makes a real impact on workers."

- Marc Arsenault

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

"We commend Minister Piccini and the Government of Ontario for their steadfast commitment to supporting immigrants through these much-needed and long-overdue legislative measures. By establishing stronger regulations and a robust compliance regime, this proposed legislation has the potential to protect immigrants from exploitation and foster a more just and equitable immigration system that respects and values the contributions of newcomers."

- Sara Asalya

Executive Director, Newcomer Women's Services Toronto

"Foreign workers are essential to Canada's economy, driving growth and filling critical labour shortages. Integrating immigration protections into the Workers for Workers Six Act is a commendable initiative by Ontario leaders. Safeguarding foreign workers and employers from unscrupulous immigration practices not only protects workers but also supports businesses and maintains the integrity of Ontario's immigration system."

- Nick Simone
President and CEO, Pace LAW

"Under Premier Ford, our government is building a stronger Ontario for everyone, getting shovels in the ground on housing that families can call home, on the highways and roads that connect our communities, and the clean energy powering our economy. That means we need all hands on deck – but when women represent 29 per cent of workers in the skilled trades, it's tying one hand behind our backs. That's why our government is introducing first-in-Canada changes to encourage women to start a career in the skilled trades and reach their full potential. Because an economy that doesn't work for women, doesn't work at all."

- Patrice Barnes
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

"These proposed measures are critical in recognizing the contributions of skilled trades professionals and addressing the challenges they face, particularly for women. We fully support Ontario's efforts to create safer, more inclusive workplaces where no parent has to choose between their career and their family."

- Candice White
CEO and Registrar, Skilled Trades Ontario

"The strength and future of Ontario relies on a skilled, safe and productive workforce. These are the men and women who power our energy sector, build public infrastructure, connect communities and move our economy forward. The new Working For Workers Six Act continues to exemplify a commitment to investing in Ontario's skilled workforce with a focus on policy that impacts LiUNA members and their families. We welcome the leadership of Minister Piccini and the Ford government to keep costs low for workers and business, continued empowerment for women in skilled trades, immigration accountability and a focus on improved worker safety including expanding the existing Slow Down Move Over within the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. We look forward to continue working together to build, connect and strengthen the province of Ontario."

- Joseph Mancinelli
Vice President and Canadian Director, LiUNA International

"Ontario's prosperity depends on creating private sector jobs, ensuring a diverse, skilled talent pipeline and helping small businesses scale up. That's why the Ontario Chamber shares the government's focus on lowering the cost of doing business, removing barriers to employment and rewarding organizations that create the safe, healthy environments for their people. We look forward to the debate on this important legislation, and appreciate the commitment to collaboration with businesses and workers."

- Daniel Tisch
President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce

"The Working for Workers Six bill is a testament to the Ontario government's commitment to a fair and just workplace. By strengthening protections for vulnerable immigrants, expanding leave options, prioritizing worker safety, and reforming pre-employment practices, Premier Ford and Minister Piccini are leading the way in creating a more equitable and prosperous future for all of Ontario's working class."

- Nole Coutrouzas
VP & Business Representative, UBC Millwright Local 1916

"Nearly 40 per cent of people diagnosed with cancer are in their working years, ages 20 to 64. That means cancer often comes at a time when expenses are high and others are depending on you. There are already enough worries that come with a cancer diagnosis; wondering if you have a job to come back to shouldn't be one of them. The Government of Ontario is demonstrating strong leadership for expanding job protection for those with serious illnesses to 27 weeks. We know that cancer doesn't wait – but your job should."

- Andrea Seale
CEO, Canadian Cancer Society

Additional Resources

- [Working For Workers Six Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Five Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Four Act, 2024](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#)
- [Working for Workers Act, 2022](#)
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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing \$1 Billion to Help Municipalities Build More Homes

New loan program will help expand drinking water, wastewater and stormwater capacity

November 28, 2024

[Infrastructure](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing up to \$1 billion in loans to provide municipalities with more financing options for water infrastructure projects that enable the construction of more homes. The new Housing-Enabling Water Infrastructure (HEWI) lending stream, under [Infrastructure Ontario's \(IO\) Loan Program](#), will support the construction, expansion and rehabilitation of drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects that enable new homes. Infrastructure Ontario will begin accepting applications from municipalities on December 2, 2024.

“We continue to hear from our municipal partners that one of the greatest barriers to building more homes is the need for new and expanded drinking water, wastewater and stormwater management facilities,” said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. “I know there are communities across the province that want to get new homes built but need to expand their water capacity first. This new flexible financing option will help more municipalities get shovels in the ground on much-needed water infrastructure projects and more homes.”

The new IO HEWI lending stream complements existing provincial programs, such as the [Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#), and delivers on the government's commitment outlined in the [2024 Ontario Budget](#) to improve flexibility on loans for water infrastructure projects. The lending stream will provide municipalities, including small, rural and northern municipalities, with more flexible loan options during both the construction and repayment phases of the project. Municipalities will be able to take advantage of flexible borrowing terms that allow them to defer interest payments during the construction phase until projects are substantially complete, select longer debenture repayment terms of up to 40 years, choose more flexible repayment terms and incur lower administration costs.

“The affordable, long-term financing available to municipalities through IO’s lending program has supported the modernization and renewal of public infrastructure in 335 municipalities across the province,” said Michael Lindsay, President and CEO, Infrastructure Ontario. “We look forward to working with our municipal partners to realize the potential of this lending stream, ultimately to enable the construction of more housing to benefit the people of Ontario.”

The government is also investing nearly \$2 billion in housing-enabling infrastructure funding through the [Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#) and the [Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#), in addition to the provincial [Building Faster Fund](#), to help municipalities deliver the core infrastructure needed – such as roads, bridges, drinking water and wastewater facilities – to build more homes across the province. This investment is part of the most ambitious capital plan in Ontario’s history, with more than \$191 billion over the next decade to build and improve transit, highways, hospitals, schools, long-term care facilities and other critical public infrastructure, while strengthening the economy for the future.

Quick Facts

- The [Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program](#) helps municipalities and other public sector partners to build and renew public infrastructure by providing short-term construction financing and long-term fixed interest-rate loans at affordable interest rates. As of October 2024, the program has supported over 3,800 local infrastructure projects valued at more than \$22 billion.
 - Under the first intake of the \$1.22 billion Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund, the province is investing \$970 million in 54 water infrastructure projects across 60 municipalities that will help enable the construction of approximately 500,000 new homes.
 - Ontario is also providing \$400 million in funding to municipalities under the Housing-Enabling Core Servicing stream of the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program to build, maintain and repair core assets such as municipal roads, bridges and culverts that will enable the construction of new homes.
-

Quotes

"Our government has been making significant investments in housing-enabling infrastructure so that as interest rates start to come down, municipalities have enough serviced land to build the family-sized homes their communities need. Through our \$3-billion plan to get water and wastewater infrastructure in the ground, we are untangling a mess created by the previous government and getting more homes built faster."

- Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

"This new provincial financing program for housing-enabling water systems complements existing investments in municipal water systems, providing a new tool for municipalities of all sizes to build essential infrastructure. Investing in drinking water, stormwater and wastewater infrastructure lays a path to progress towards Ontario's ambitious housing targets."

- Robin Jones
AMO President and Mayor of Westport

"The OSWCA welcomes the Ontario government's investment of up to \$1 billion in housing-enabling infrastructure. This funding will provide an additional boost to help municipalities continue to build their water, wastewater, and stormwater capacities to support growing populations, maintain their assets in a state of good repair, and build new homes for thousands of families."

- Stephanie Bellotto
Manager of Government Relations and Communications, Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA)

"We're pleased to see the Ontario government's continued commitment to investing in critical infrastructure to support housing growth. This innovative approach, expanding access to credit for municipalities for water infrastructure, will help communities grow and modernize their systems to meet Ontario's long-term housing and economic needs."

- Nadia Todorova
Executive Director, Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario
(RCCAO)

"OHBA applauds the Ontario government's announcement to offer new financing options for water infrastructure that supports new housing. The Housing-Enabling Water Infrastructure (HEWI) lending stream should prove crucial to developing the supportive infrastructure necessary to build more homes and combat the housing crisis in Ontario."

- Scott Andison
CEO, Ontario Home Builders Association

Additional Resources

[2024 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building Ontario for You](#)

[Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program](#)

[Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#)

[Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Offsetting OPP Cost Increases for Small and Rural Municipalities

Provincial investment would support police and community safety

November 29, 2024

[Solicitor General](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is proposing to provide over \$77 million in financial relief to municipalities to help offset the increased cost of municipal police services provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). This investment will help these predominantly small and rural communities address the budget impacts resulting from the collective bargaining agreement that was reached between the province and the Ontario Provincial Police Association (OPPA) in July 2024.

“Our government is working closely with our municipal partners and our women and men in uniform to keep communities across Ontario safe,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “The financial relief we are proposing will help municipal leaders balance their budgets and invest in their communities while ensuring no change to the policing provided by the OPP that keeps families and businesses safe.”

The Ontario government’s proposal would support small and rural municipalities by offsetting the 2025 impacts of OPP salary increases. This includes:

- A 3.75 per cent bill reduction on 2023 total reconciled costs,
- A 44 per cent bill reduction on 2023 reconciled overtime costs, and
- A 10 per cent bill reduction on amounts invoiced for 2025 policing costs.

In addition to these changes, the Government of Ontario is continuing its annual \$125 million Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Transfer Payment Program for the 2025 calendar year.

The province will also be examining options for reviewing the OPP billing model to ensure that it meets the needs of communities across the province.

Quick Facts

- The OPP provides municipal policing services to 330 municipalities across Ontario.
- The OPPA and the provincial government ratified a new uniform and civilian collective agreement in July 2024 that included general salary increases for 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Quotes

"AMO is pleased that the government has listened to concerns about the increase in Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) billing recovery costs with this proposal. Without the provincial action, the rise in OPP costs would have significantly impacted small, rural, and northern communities serviced by the OPP. Municipal fiscal sustainability is under pressure across Ontario, and municipalities struggle to balance their budgets. This proposition is an important recognition of this challenge and will help support quality of life for residents across the province."

- Robin Jones

President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

"ROMA welcomes provincial action to reduce the impact of increasing Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) costs on rural municipalities. In the context of inflation, infrastructure pressures, and a growing homelessness crisis, rural municipalities simply cannot afford a 20% increase in OPP costs. This provincial investment acknowledges the escalating fiscal challenges municipalities face. We look forward to ongoing partnership to put rural municipalities on a sustainable path."

- Christa Lowry

Chair of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and Mayor of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills

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NEWS RELEASE

Seniors Community Grant Program Applications Now Open

Community organizations can apply for funding to help deliver programs and services benefiting Ontario's seniors

November 29, 2024

[Seniors and Accessibility](#)

TORONTO — Applications are now being accepted for the 2025-26 Ontario [Seniors Community Grant Program](#) which supports local community groups and not-for-profit organizations to deliver programs and learning opportunities for Ontarians aged 55+.

"Our government is committed to improving the well-being of Ontario's seniors by providing learning opportunities and social and physical activities in their communities," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "That's why we're proud to support the Seniors Community Grant Program, which gives so many people the opportunity to learn new skills, socialize and take part in community life."

Every year, the Ontario government provides hundreds of [Seniors Community Grants](#) ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 for projects that help older adults live independently, ensure their safety and security, connect them to their community, and help them achieve greater financial security and social connections.

The 2025-26 Seniors Community Grants Program will focus on the following three key priority areas:

- Providing opportunities for older adults to stay active and connected in their communities, such as weekly physical activities and social engagements.
- Developing technology and digital solutions to support seniors' social engagement and access to programs and services.
- Increasing access to information and supports for health prevention and promotion.

Organizations can apply online through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) until January 16, 2025.

Since 2018, the government has invested over \$34 million in the Seniors Community Grants Program, supporting over 1,800 grassroots projects that help seniors stay socially and physically active in their communities.

Quick Facts

- The Seniors Community Grant Program is dedicated to promoting health, community engagement and well-being for Ontarians aged 55+.
 - Applications are open now and will be accepted until 5 p.m. on January 16, 2025.
 - Seniors are Ontario's fastest growing demographic.
 - Eligible organizations must apply for a Seniors Community Grant through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#).
-

Additional Resources

- [Find more information about applying for a Seniors Community Grant](#)
 - [View a list of past Seniors Community Grant recipients](#)
 - [A guide to programs and services for Seniors](#)
 - [Age-Friendly Communities Planning Guide](#)
-

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Access to Primary Care in Renfrew County

\$3.9 investment will build new primary care clinic for the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization

November 29, 2024

[Health](#)

PIKWÀKANAGÀN — The Ontario government is investing up to \$3.9 million to support the construction of a new, permanent primary care clinic for the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization (IPCHO), to make it easier and faster for more people to access the care they need, in their community.

“Our government is taking action and making record investments to ensure everyone who wants a primary care provider can connect to one, no matter where they live,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “While there is more work to do, a new site for the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization will give thousands more people the opportunity to connect to care, close to home, for years to come.”

Located on the Pikwàkanagàn Reserve on Golden Lake and Bonnechere River in Renfrew County, the IPCHO’s new site will add more accessible space for care, connecting over 1000 people to primary care with improved access to community-based, responsive services, including:

- Primary care
- Walk – in clinic services
- Referrals to specialists
- Lab services
- Prenatal and postnatal assessment and care
- Health promotion and chronic disease management

Pikwàkanagàn IPHCO is also partnering with Algonquin College and the University of Ottawa to offer clinical placements for Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, and Registered Practical Nurses. Practical training gives students crucial real-world experience to develop critical skills and understand patient care dynamics.

Students who complete clinical placements are also more likely to return for employment opportunities or practice in similar settings, creating a pipeline of healthcare workers to support local primary care teams for years to come.

"This is wonderful news for the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, access to primary health care is a top priority for our government," said John Yakabuski, MPP for Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke. "This nearly 4 million dollars investment for the construction of a permanent site will deliver on our commitment to the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn to improve access for their citizens to primary health care."

As a next step, the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn IPCHO is working to secure a construction partner. Once a successful bidder has been selected, construction is expected to begin by spring 2025.

Through [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), the Ontario government has been making steady progress to connect everyone to high quality primary care where and when they need it by closing the remaining 10 per cent gap of people who do not have a regular healthcare provider.

Quick Facts

- The Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn is an Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization, a type of interprofessional primary care team composed of physicians, nurse practitioners and nurses working together under one roof to deliver to deliver primary care.
- Interprofessional primary care teams support managing day-to-day health while relieving pressures on emergency departments and walk-in clinics.
- There are 25 Indigenous Primary Health Care Organizations (IPHCOs) across Ontario to address the physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental well-being of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and communities being served in a culturally appropriate manner.
- The Ontario government is [investing \\$110 million to expand access to interprofessional primary care teams connecting 328,000 more people to primary care. This includes over 73,000 more people in Eastern Ontario.](#)
- Starting in 2026, the government is investing an estimated \$88 million over three years to expand Learn and Stay grants for 1,360 eligible undergraduate students that commit to practice family medicine with a full roster of patients once they graduate. This will connect an additional 1.36 million people to primary care based on average attachment rates for family doctors.
- Ontario is investing up to \$1 million in 2024-25 to expand the [Indigenous Primary Health Care Council's \(IPHCC\)](#) Indigenous Cultural Safety Program to

deliver more cultural training sessions to health care organizations so they can better understand the specific needs of connect First Nations, Métis, Inuit and urban Indigenous communities across the province.

- As part of the [2024 Ontario Budget](#), through an additional \$546 million over three years, the province is creating new and expanded primary care teams to connect approximately 600,000 people to team-based primary care.

Quotes

"Building a permanent primary care clinic for the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn marks a pivotal step in ensuring culturally appropriate care is available when and where patients need it. Indigenous families can feel confident knowing that healthcare is close to home, providing improved health outcomes and greater peace of mind. Today's investment reflects our commitment to delivering high-quality care that honours traditions, respects cultural needs, and supports the well-being of Indigenous peoples."

- Greg Rickford

Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation

"The Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn are grateful for the continued efforts of the provincial government to recognize the health care needs and commitment to the well-being of our First Nation. The new construction of the Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization facility will provide larger space improving accessibility for our patients. This new facility will further enhance functionality for our primary health care team and collaboration with visiting health care professionals and medical/health students. We extend acknowledgement to the Health Services Management and clinical team, Ministry of Health staff and Critchley Hill Architect."

- Chief Greg Sarazin

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation

Additional Resources

- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Ontario Connecting Over 300,000 People to Primary Care Teams](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Connecting People to Dementia Care and Supports for Caregivers

Province proposing new legislative changes to expand supports for seniors and caregivers

December 02, 2024

[Long-Term Care](#)

[Health](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that, if passed, will better connect seniors and their caregivers to complex care supports, including enhanced dementia supports, as well as increasing access to community and social programs that help seniors stay fit, active and healthy in their communities.

"Our government is putting forward bold, innovative changes to ensure Ontario's seniors receive the best possible care," said Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. "That's why we will soon be taking further steps to support and protect seniors living with dementia and the loved ones that take care of them, whether they are living in their family homes, congregate settings or long-term care."

As part of the [Your Health](#) plan to conveniently connect people in Ontario to the care they need, when and where they need it, the government is introducing proposed changes that invest almost \$80 million over three years to improve dementia care and supports to improve the well-being of seniors, their caregivers and families, including:

Improving Dementia Care in Ontario

- Requiring all long-term care homes to have a dementia program, with an investment of \$9 million over three years to launch a new program to train staff in emotion-based models of care that prioritize relationships and empathy in a culture of dignity and respect when caring for residents living with dementia. The new program is expected to train staff in up to 15 long-term care homes in its first year, serving more than 1,800 residents.

- \$15 million over two years to launch Community Access to Long-Term Care that will give seniors still living in their own homes access to certain services in long-term care homes, such as personal care, clinical services, and recreational and social programming. In the first year, the pilot is expected to launch at up to three sites
- \$9 million over three years to continue support of the Alzheimer Society of Ontario's First Link program and the Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County's Dementia Care Coaches. These programs connect people diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia to advisors who can connect them with a range of supports, including home and community care services, behavioural supports, and adult day programs.
- \$6 million over three years to continue support for GeriMedRisk, which provides telemedicine consultation and education services for clinicians in Ontario.

Supports for Seniors, Families, and Caregivers

- \$20 million over three years to expand adult day programs, which offer social programming and peer connections, helping reduce isolation for seniors, including those with dementia.
- \$20 million over three years to expand access to respite services, to support the caregivers of people living with dementia. Respite services provide those living with dementia recreational activities, adult day programs, or substitute living arrangements, to allow their caregivers to have a much-needed break.

"Our government is continuing to take action to ensure that Ontarians have access to the health care and services they need, at every stage of life," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "This investment will improve access to high-quality dementia care across the province, allowing more seniors and their loved ones to connect to the compassionate services and supports they need, in their community."

These changes are part of a larger proposed package that will take actions to meet the needs of Ontario's aging population and better support the people who care for seniors by improving and expanding supports for seniors living in long-term care, congregate settings and in the community.

Quick Facts

- By 2046, there will be [1.7 million more seniors](#) living in Ontario.
- According to the Alzheimer Society of Canada, the number of people living with dementia is [expected to triple by 2050](#).

- As part of its plan to fix long-term care and address sector waitlists, the government is building 58,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds across the province.
- Ontario is offering [incentives of up to \\$25,400](#) to students and recent graduates of personal support worker education programs to launch careers in long-term care homes and in the home and community care sector.
- The Ontario government is investing up to \$4.9 billion to create thousands of new positions for personal support workers and nurses in long-term care.

Quotes

"Supporting initiatives that strengthen our community and enhance the lives of seniors remains a top priority for our government. This investment will significantly improve the care and treatment of seniors living with dementia and provide vital support to their caregivers and families in Ontario."

- Lorne Coe

MPP for Whitby and Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier

"AdvantAge Ontario applauds today's landmark investments by the provincial government. For years we have been asking for measures to support older adults with dementia. Today the government made it clear they are listening. Ontario seniors, their families and those who care for them will benefit from the transformational investments in emotion-focused care, which is a game-changing approach for those with dementia. Older adults will also benefit from significant investments in community access to care by leveraging long-term care homes. Taken together, these coordinated investments by three ministries are commendable and worth celebrating."

- Lisa Levin

CEO, AdvantAge Ontario

"With this further support from the Ontario government our Adult Day Programs can get seniors out of their homes and enrich their well-being and quality of life in a welcoming atmosphere. These investments will help give caregivers a critical break, giving them time to recharge or attend to other responsibilities, knowing their loved ones are in good hands. Investments in these programs will help reduce our waitlists, support seniors, their families, and caregivers, providing relief and peace of mind."

- James Meloche
CEO, Community Care Durham

Additional Resources

- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [2023 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building a Strong Ontario Together](#)

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Ontario Continuing to Build a More Connected and Convenient Health Care System

New legislation will strengthen governance and transparency, enhance patient care and improve service delivery

December 02, 2024

[Health](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government introduced the *More Convenient Care Act, 2024*, which would, if passed, take the next step in the province's plan to provide more people with the right publicly funded care, in the right place by building healthier communities, and bolstering the province's health care workforce today and in the future.

"With the *More Convenient Care Act*, our government is taking the next steps to improve how the health care system connects people to high-quality care, at every stage of life," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "With this legislation, we are continuing to bring forward bold actions and innovative solutions to create a stronger, more connected health care system."

Included in the package of proposed initiatives, the government would deliver on its commitment to support the voluntary mergers of nine Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) into four new entities. These mergers will address long-standing issues in Ontario's public health sector, such as capacity limitations, organizational performance inconsistencies and challenges with staff recruitment and retention of health care staff. The province is also working with public health partners to clarify the roles and responsibilities of public health units to build healthier communities across the province.

Other legislative and regulatory changes being proposed in order to connect more people to convenient care, close to home, include:

Strengthening Governance and Transparency

- Creating a transparency framework for staffing agencies that operate in the hospital, long-term care and community health sectors, to disclose

administrative mark-up rates to the government through the new *Health Care Staffing Agency Reporting Act, 2024*.

- Enhancing hospital governance by working with the sector to define best practices, ensuring providers across the province have access to the tools and resources they need to deliver high-quality care.

Enhancing Patient Care

- Modernizing the provincial electronic health record (EHR) as the next step to being able to provide eligible Ontarians with safe, secure and direct access to their personal health information online through Health811 next year.
- Allowing nurse practitioners to complete and sign mandatory blood testing forms to expand access to care for people submitting applications, including victims of crimes, correctional officers, members of the College of Nurses of Ontario, medical or nursing students, and paramedics.
- Exploring options that would support consistent and quality mental health and addiction services by better understanding the variety of services provided by this workforce.
- Reviewing the ambulance vehicle and equipment standards to enhance patient safety and make it faster for paramedics to access the tools they need to deliver emergency care.

Improving Service Delivery

- Strengthening the authority of the Chief Medical Officer of Health to promote greater alignment, and consistency when issuing orders to local Chief Medical Officers of health across different health regions.
- Updating public health regulations for public pools, zoonotic diseases, and diseases of public health significance to reduce burden and align with best evidence.

If passed, the [More Convenient Care Act, 2024](#) builds on the [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), to connect Ontarians to the care right care, where and when they need it.

Quick Facts

- The voluntary mergers of nine LPHAs into four will include:
 - Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit
 - Brant County Health Unit and Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit
 - Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and Peterborough County-City Health Unit

- Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit and Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit
- Last year, the Ontario government released [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#) to bring more convenient care options closer to home while shortening wait times for key services across the province and growing the health care workforce for years to come.
- Since [expanding the role of registered nurses to prescribe medications](#), 291 registered nurses have completed the required training and are authorized to prescribe.
- The province also continues to expand the scope of practice for nurse practitioners, [recently announcing new changes](#) to make it faster and more convenient to connect people to the care they need, when they need it. Ontario is investing \$743 million over three years to continue to address immediate health care staffing needs, as well as to grow the workforce for years to come.
- Across government and in collaboration with the Ontario Medical Association, the government is reviewing key forms to streamline and simplify them, minimize any duplication, and identify opportunities for digital solutions, while helping doctors put [patients before paperwork](#).

Quotes

"We are taking bold, government-wide action to modernize service delivery and strengthen systems that Ontarians rely on every day. The passage of our Ministry's Bill 194 last week reinforces our government's commitment to protecting personal information and ensuring the responsible use of data in hospitals, schools, and public institutions. These measures align closely with the goals of the More Convenient Care Act, which builds a more connected and transparent health care system. Together, we are creating a future where technology, data security, and innovative solutions come together to enhance government services, strengthen public trust, and support better health care for all Ontarians."

- Todd McCarthy

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement

"The proposed changes will strengthen Ontario's long-term care sector and ensure transparency. Our government understands the challenges facing the health care sector and is working to ensure Ontario's investments result in the highest quality of care for residents."

**- Natalia Kusendova-Bashta
Minister of Long-Term Care**

"The Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) supports the move by this government to review the vehicle and equipment standards for paramedic services. This will reduce weight in paramedic bags as well as waste due to expiring medications. Reviewing the vehicle standards will allow for smaller ambulances and open up more options for paramedic services to take advantage of new vehicle design and technology."

**- Greg Sage
President, Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC)**

"The Police Association of Ontario supports the Ministry of Health's decision to expand the Mandatory Blood Testing Act to include nurse practitioners in authorizing mandatory blood tests. This change enhances the efficiency and accessibility of a critical process that protects first responders, including police officers, who may be exposed to potentially infectious and/or communicable diseases. It reflects a modern, collaborative approach to healthcare and ensures timely interventions that safeguard our members' health and well-being."

**- Mark Baxter
President, Police Association of Ontario**

"Addiction counsellors work with people during an extremely vulnerable period in their lives. CACCF applauds the Ontario Government's initiative to consult stakeholders to ensure that Addiction Counsellors are well-trained, certified, credentialled, and up-to-date with emerging trends and treatments. This important step towards developing a regulatory framework aligns with CACCF's 40-year mission to advocate for professional excellence while prioritizing public safety and trust."

- Doug Brewer
Executive Director, Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification
Federation

Additional Resources

- [More Convenient Care Act, 2024](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Ontario Expanding Learn and Stay Grant to Train More Health Care Workers](#)
- [New "As of Right" Rules a First in Canada to Attract More Health Care Workers to Ontario](#)
- [Ontario Reducing Wait Times for Surgeries and Procedures](#)
- [Ontario Exploring More Ways to Expand Role of Pharmacists](#)

Related Topics

Government

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

[Learn more](#)

Health and Wellness

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

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**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

RELEASE DATE:

November 22, 2024

Starter Company Plus Autumn 2024 Grant Recipients

Pembroke, (ON): Enterprise Renfrew County is excited to announce the Starter Company Plus Autumn 2024 grant award recipients.

The Starter Company Plus program provides entrepreneurs with mentoring and training over three months supporting business plan and cash flow projection development. At the end of the program there is an opportunity for participants to compete, by pitching their business plan, for a grant of up to \$5,000 to be applied to their business operations.

With 13 dedicated entrepreneurs fast-tracking development of their business, marketing, and financial plans during the training, Enterprise Renfrew County is excited to announce the following individuals successfully earned grant awards totalling \$38,000:

Tyler Cormack of BSure Home Services located in the City of Pembroke, Patricia Daly of Devine Philautia Crystals located in the Township of Whitewater Region, Jennifer Daniels of Corvus Financial Consulting Inc. located in Renfrew, Scott Fawcett of Ottawa Valley Air Paddle located in Arnprior, Jessica Gibson of Handmade Herbology located in the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty, & Richards, Samantha MacFarlane of Ottawa Valley Wellness located in the Township of Whitewater Region, Laura McKay of Laura Ashley Medical Aesthetics located in Deep River, Deidre Myler of Fresh Start by Deidre located in Petawawa, and Tammara Smith of Be Empowered located in the City of Pembroke.

“The Company Starter Plus program, led by Enterprise Renfrew County, was an incredible learning experience and opportunity. It provided me with the clarity I needed to take the steps required to meet my goals. With being new to entrepreneurship, the program greatly improved my understanding of business and finances, with ongoing support as I developed a business plan” states Laura McKay, owner of Laura Ashley Medical Aesthetics. She adds that valuable knowledge, skills, and mental clarity on business directions were gained that wouldn’t have been achieved otherwise. “This program has accelerated my next steps and I am excited about the future of my business, thanks to the dedicated trainers at Starter Company Plus!”

Jessica Gibson, owner of Handmade Herbology shares “Participating in Enterprise Renfrew County’s Starter Company Plus program has been an incredibly valuable experience. The program’s well-organized structure provides businesses with an abundance of resources culminating in a comprehensive business plan and cash flow projections. Thanks to the guidance and support from the program lead and trainers, my business is now poised to expand to a storefront location. I’m deeply grateful for the opportunity this program provided and highly recommend Starter Company Plus to any entrepreneur seeking step-by-step guidance on the path to success”.

The next available training session will be offered in the spring of 2025. For program guidelines and to join the contact list to receive an invitation to an information session in April, visit www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/starter-company-plus

To discuss your business start up or growth idea in a confidential consultation appointment, contact Heather Inwood-Montrose, Small Business Advisor, at Hinwoodmontrose@countyofrenfrew.on.ca.

Enterprise Renfrew County is a non-profit organization funded by the Government of Ontario, County of Renfrew, Town of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke. Its mandate is to encourage and contribute to the enterprising spirit and economic development of Renfrew County by assisting entrepreneurs with the development of new or existing companies. Enterprise Renfrew County: Inspiring Entrepreneurship!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Heather Inwood-Montrose | Small Business Advisor | 613-735-8224 |
| Tina Peplinskie | Media Relations Coordinator | 613-735-7288 |



STARTER COMPANY PLUS



MEDIA RELATIONS

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**PUBLIC SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT**

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 25, 2024

County of Renfrew declares Significant Weather Event

In response to the Environment Canada alert of a freezing rain warning in effect in our area, the County of Renfrew has declared a Significant Weather Event that will impact travel and services throughout the municipality. This declaration is made pursuant to Ontario Regulation 239/02, *Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways*.

A Significant Weather Event means an approaching or occurring weather hazard with the potential to pose a significant danger to users of the highways within the municipality. This declaration suspends the standard timelines required for municipalities to meet their winter maintenance objectives until the municipality declares the Significant Weather Event has ended. In each case, during a declared Significant Weather Event, the standard for addressing winter maintenance is to monitor the weather and to deploy resources to address the issue starting from the time that the municipality deems it appropriate to do so. When the municipality has declared the event has ended, the standard timelines for winter maintenance activities will resume.

The County of Renfrew wishes to note that the declaration of a Significant Weather Event is not notice of a reduced level of service or a road closure. The declaration is to notify the public that due to the current or forecasted conditions, caution is to be observed when travelling on Renfrew County roads and that it may take longer than usual to bring the condition of the roads back to a state of repair due to the freezing rain.

A notice will follow once the Significant Weather Event declaration has ended.

ENVIRONMENT CANADA FREEZING RAIN WARNING:

Freezing rain expected late tonight and possibly into Tuesday morning.

Hazards: Freezing rain. Slippery roads and surfaces Power outages

Description: Freezing rain and some snow will develop tonight as a low-pressure system approaches the lower Great Lakes. The freezing rain may be heavy at times overnight and will transition to rain or snow early Tuesday morning. Some ice accretion is possible on surfaces, possibly 2 to 4 millimetres of ice accretion.

Surfaces such as highways, roads, walkways and parking lots will become icy, slippery and hazardous. Utility outages may occur. Take extra care when walking or driving in affected areas. Freezing rain warnings are issued when rain falling in sub-zero temperatures creates ice build-up and icy surfaces.

Please continue to monitor alerts and forecasts issued by Environment Canada at <https://bit.ly/3JUEwR8>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Lee Perkins | Director, Public Works and Engineering | 613-732-4353 |
| Tina Peplinskie | Media Relations Coordinator | 613-735-7288 |

County Council Summary

November 27, 2024

Below you will find highlights of the County of Renfrew County Council meeting November 27, 2024.

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

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

[November meeting](#) YouTube link.

Warden's Address

Key highlights

- November was a quieter month for Warden Peter Emon as he underwent hip surgery and spent time in the hospital recovering. During his hospital stay, he did host a meeting to kick off the Mesa Warming Centre project. This project is something to be proud of, as it has brought many agencies and neighbouring municipalities together to provide a positive impact to the County. The goal is to have the [Warming Centre](#) open in early December.
- He thanked members of County Council and staff for their ongoing support as he recovers. The Warden specifically thanked County Councillor Dan Lynch for representing him at a meeting for community leaders at Garrison Petawawa on November 19.

Delegations

- Warden Peter Emon presented the 2024 [Warden's Community Service Awards](#) to the following recipients in their respective categories:
 - Individual: Dan Poole of Whitewater Region;
 - Non-profit: Paddler Coop, Palmer Rapids with Ryan O'Connor accepting;
 - For-profit: The Valley Gazette, Madawaska Valley, with publisher Michel Lavigne accepting.
- Pascal Genevieve and Mark Brillon, CCG - Ainsworth presented the County of Renfrew's Climate Change Action Plan, providing a summary of the greenhouse gas inventory, proposed targets for reducing emissions by 2050, and outlining priorities and objectives going forward. Next steps are outlined in the report from the Development & Property Committee.
- CAO/Deputy Clerk Craig Kelley provided the annual report care on the County's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, highlighting achievements of the past year under the identified priorities of financial sustainability, workforce development, community wellness and health care, shared services and resources, attainable housing and infrastructure and environmental resiliency.

Announcements

- County Council recommended that staff submit delegation request(s) at the upcoming Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference that are consistent with the 2023-2026 County of Renfrew Strategic Plan, the 2024-2026 Economic Development Strategy, other current initiatives that require further advocacy, and previous delegations that addressed funding shortfall(s); and that the Chair of the appropriate Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegation meetings. A full list can be provided upon request of the CAO or the Clerk.

Operations Committee

Presented by: Glenn Doncaster, Chair

- The Road Rationalization Study, which was completed as part of the Transportation Master Plan, was presented to County Council. More information can be obtained by contacting the CAO or the Clerk, or by speaking to the Director of Public Works & Engineering.
- County Council adopted a by-law to finalize the transfer of County Structure C339 (Lynch Road Culvert) in the Township of Admaston/Bromley, which was reconstructed this year, to the County Road System effective December 1, 2024.
- County Council approved that the County of Renfrew section of the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail, the Algonquin Trail, become part of the Trans Canada Trail Network. The acceptance of the Algonquin Trail into the TCT network provides a large number of funding opportunities as well as greater overall promotion for the County's recreational trail. The Algonquin Trail is the County of Renfrew's portion of the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT). The entirety of the OVRT, from Smith Falls to Mattawa, is being accepted into the TCT network. TCT is in contact with the other OVRT partners, County of Lanark and Township of Papineau-Cameron regarding their sections. This is a significant development for the County of Renfrew, and its partners along the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail, as they have been working collectively on this designation since 2017.
- Council discussed the Operations Committee's direction to staff that Contract PWC-2025-45, the rehabilitation of County Structure B145 (Combermere Bridge), located on County Road 62 (Combermere Road), in the Township of Madawaska Valley, would be re-scoped to span over a two-year construction period and retendered, after project costs came in much higher than originally estimated due, in part, to the condensed proposed project timeline.

Community Services Committee

Presented by: Anne Giardini, Chair

- The County of Renfrew has been awarded the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association's (OMSSA) 2024 Local Municipal Champion Award in recognition of the leadership and vision in implementing the region's Mesa wellness initiative. This award celebrates significant contributions to advancing excellence in human services integration and service system management throughout the Province, often involving collaboration between municipal staff and community organizations. The County of Renfrew has been invited to present on Mesa at the OMSSA 2025 Exchange Conference, showcasing key highlights of community achievements. The OMSSA Exchange Conference will be taking place from May 13-14, 2025 in Toronto.

Development & Property Committee

Presented by: James Brose, Chair

- The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA) has been in discussions with the Town of Petawawa regarding potential implementation of a Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) and naming the OVTA as the eligible tourism entity. The Town is proposing to implement, effective January 1, 2025, a rate of 3%. Draft agreements from the City of Pembroke and Town of Petawawa have been presented to the OVTA Board of Directors. The projected annual combined MAT revenues shared with the OVTA from both communities is approximately \$298,500.
- County Council passed a resolution to support the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association's request that Statistics Canada reinstate tourism data reporting at the census level for communities in Ontario. In 2016, Statistics Canada stopped providing tourism data at the census level, creating a gap in the availability of information at the local level. Destination Ontario and Destination Canada provide tourism data, but the information is only available at the regional tourism organization level.
- County Council received the Climate Action Plan as presented and resolved that an Ad Hoc Climate Action Committee be formed to review the recommendations of the plan and provide possible implementation recommendations to Committee.
- In September 2024, County Council adopted By-law 133-24 that entered the County into a Co-Ownership Agreement with the Town of Deep River for the shared opportunity to purchase the discontinued Keys Public School in Deep River for the purpose set out in the terms and conditions respecting the ownership, development and management of the asset. The Renfrew County District School Board has formally accepted the revised terms and conditions outlined in the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for Keys Public School. This agreement signifies the mutual consent of all involved parties to proceed with the transaction, ensuring that all stipulated provisions have been reviewed and agreed upon.
- County Council adopted a by-law to execute an agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for funding through the Electric Vehicle (EV) ChargeON Program – Community Site Stream for the installation of six Level 2 EV charging ports to be located at the County Administration Building, 9 International Drive, Pembroke, Ontario, and six Level 2 EV charging ports to be located at Renfrew County Place, 450 O'Brien Road, Renfrew, Ontario. More information will be forthcoming in 2025.
- County Council adopted a by-law authorizing the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a short-term lease agreement, with options to renew, with the Ontario Addiction Treatment Centre, Pembroke (OATC), located at 156 John Street, Pembroke, Ontario, for space to be used as a Mesa Warming Centre; and that funds from the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) and Municipal contributions be dedicated towards this initiative.

Health Committee

Presented by: Michael Donohue, Chair

- County Council adopted a by-law to authorize the Service Agreement between the County of Renfrew and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) for renewal of the 9-1-1 Primary Public Safety Answering Point (P-PSAP) Service Agreement.

- County Council adopt a by-law to authorize the Fire Services Agreement for the provision of communication (call-taking, call alerting and/or dispatching) services to local fire services within the City of Pembroke and County of Renfrew by the Renfrew Central Ambulance Communications Centre for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2025. The County of Renfrew Emergency Services Department is responsible for the contract for call-taking and fire dispatching. The Public Works and Engineering Department is responsible for the maintenance of call-taking and dispatching radio and notification equipment and technology.

Finance & Administration Committee

Presented by: **Jennifer Murphy, Chair**

- County Council supported the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolution – Calling for Investment in Municipal Infrastructure for Eastern Ontario's Small and Rural Communities. The Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew joins the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the Federal and Ontario Governments to immediately and sustainably partner with Municipal Governments by investing in both the new and ongoing maintenance and repairs of municipal infrastructure in Eastern Ontario's small rural municipalities. The resolution asks that the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately review data and work together to implement solutions based on the [EOWC's Municipal Infrastructure Policy Paper](#) in partnership with small rural municipalities.
- County Council supported a resolution requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding. The request is that the redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs.
- County Council adopted a by-law to govern the proceedings of council and committees of the County of Renfrew. This new Procedural By-law follows discussions during a special meeting of County Council in October and further discussions during the November Finance and Administration Committee. The most significant change is to the committee structure, whereby County Council will move to Committee of the Whole in January 2025 with a realignment of the committees to Joint Services – Health, Joint Services – Community Services, Corporates Services, Development and Property and Operations. There will now be two meeting days per month; the second and fourth Wednesday, as per the published calendar.
- County Council approved amended Corporate Policies: Short-Term Disability Plan; Long-Term Disability Plan; Employee Incident/Accident/Near Miss Reporting; Workplace Safety and Insurance Board; Return to Work/Stay at Work; and the newly developed Corporate Policies: Accommodations; Accommodating Disabilities; Non Work-Related Illness/Injury; and Personal Time Off. For more information on these policies, please contact the HR department.

Additional Information

Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk

613-735-7288



Medical Officer of Health Report to the Board

Tuesday, November 26th, 2024

Health Promotion

Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy

Progress Updates:

The Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy (RCDDS) steering committee did not meet in October; however, work continued in alignment with the preliminary recommendations of each of the pillars and in preparation for the meeting on November 14th, 2024.

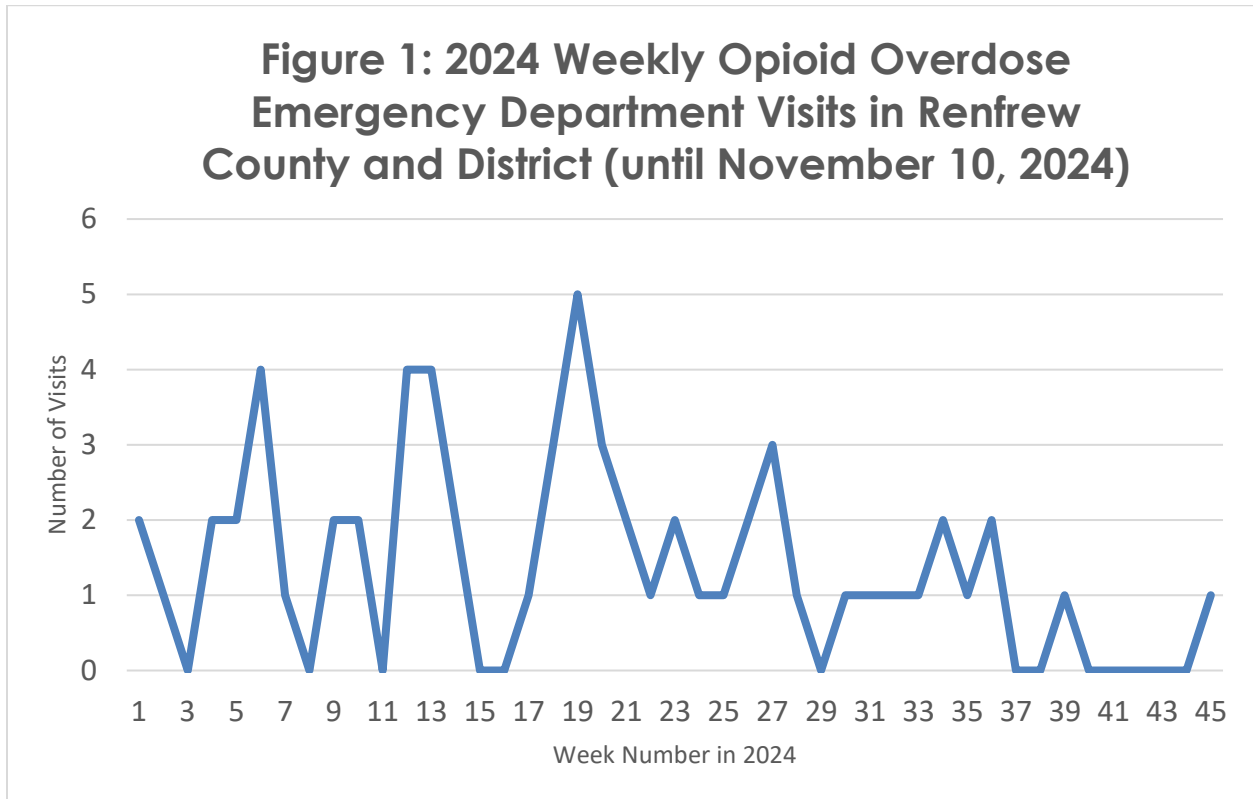
Several partners from the treatment pillar collaborated on the proposal to the Ontario Ministries of Health; Municipal Affairs and Housing; Children Community and Social Services; and Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to support the creation of a Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub for Renfrew County and District. If successful, the HART Hub will offer critical services, co-located in same physical space, offering integrated referral pathways to other local and regional supports for individuals with complex service needs.

A comprehensive Harm Reduction report and accompanying priorities was provided in draft to the steering committee for their review and consideration of the structure's adaptability for other pillars. Additionally, a Community Engagement Plan and Evaluation Framework were developed for consideration by the steering committee at the November meeting.

In support of the anti-stigma recommendation that is interwoven throughout all pillars, the communication working group released a series of messages on social media to educate the community on the importance of compassion and the negative effect that stigma has on people who use drugs, including their ability to access care and treatment. The communication working group also developed a campaign in support of the Harm Reduction Pillar's recommendation of promoting the remote overdose detection service [Brave](#) to those who use drugs alone.

RCDDS Substance Use Harms Indicators:

There have been 25 drug-related deaths across RCD so far this year, which is fewer than the number at this point last year. Additionally, there have been 78 opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits so far in 2024, which is a little more than the same time last year. However, the rate of opioid-related ED visits has been decreasing notably as the year has progressed, with only 2 ED visits in the most recent 9 weeks (see Figure 1).



Source: National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS).

In all of 2023 there were 41 drug-related deaths and 69 opioid-related ED visits. While there have still been far too many deaths in 2024, there is some indication that the number is decreasing relative to last year.

It's not possible to attribute these trends to any one intervention, and there can be substantial month-to-month or year-to-year variation, particularly in a smaller health unit such as RCDHU. An essential aspect of the RCDDS is continuing to broaden our evaluation framework and monitor indicators to determine the impact of the strategy priorities. However, there has been substantial progress through the work of mesa, strong collaborative efforts from all partners addressing drug-related harms, working

together on the Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy, continuing to onboard new partners to increase naloxone distribution, and numerous other initiatives.

Harm Reduction Program Update

In alignment with the RCDDS, harm reduction staff have continued to promote and increase access to naloxone, a medication that can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and prevent opioid-related deaths. RCDHU and our Ontario Naloxone Program partners have already distributed 3466 naloxone doses this year, more than the 2796 in all of 2023 and more than any other year. Furthermore, the team has doubled the number of naloxone distribution partners from 7 in 2023 to 14 currently.

In addition to naloxone distribution, the team continues its work to reduce bloodborne infections in the community both through the syphilis point-of-care rapid testing and immediate treatment evaluation (SPRITE) program and the provision of sterile substance use equipment and proper disposal methods. Harm reduction staff provide regular training to partners and individual clients on naloxone and safe sharps disposal. RCDHU has provided 172 training sessions so far this year.

Across RCD, harm reduction clients have accessed services through RCDHU and our partners 1901 times so far in 2024, compared to 1494 visits over the same time period last year. Additionally, RCDHU's harm reduction team has amplified its impact through a new outreach program that began in June. About 110 or 16% of the team's harm reduction visits have happened offsite so far this year. Furthermore, nearly all of the outreach visits supported a different individual (rather than returning clients), demonstrating the increased reach of the program.

You're the Chef

You're the Chef (YTC) is a school food literacy program geared for students in grades 5-8 that offers components of food safety and hands-on-cooking skills through experiential learning, while linking to the curriculum.

The Youth Wellness Hub has received their YTC certification and has been successfully offering the program in the Renfrew and Pembroke locations. This month, an additional three schools have also registered to obtain training to run the program. RCDHU is offering multiple additional training opportunities this fall related to the increased interest.

Health Protection

Immunization Program

COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination:

As of November 6th, RCDHU had administered 1544 doses of COVID-19 vaccine and 1374 doses of influenza vaccine through community-based clinics, or through mobile vaccination services to retirement homes and congregate care settings. RCDHU has dispensed a total of 18 820 doses of influenza vaccine and 1096 doses of COVID-19 vaccine to health care partners across RCD. Pharmacies continue to be an active channel for the public to receive both COVID-19 and influenza vaccine. As of mid-November, pharmacies in RCD had administered approximately 5264 doses of COVID-19 vaccine and 7883 doses of influenza vaccine. So far this season, approximately 26% of COVID-19 doses administered in RCD have been through RCDHU, with about 67% administered by pharmacies and 7% by other partners.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccination:

RCDHU has hosted 3 community-based immunization clinics to support the new infant and high-risk children RSV program. Healthcare providers' offices and Pembroke Regional Hospital have also received their first shipments of the new passive immunization agent for infants, nirsevimab (also known as Beyfortus®). RCDHU will continue to offer appointment-based community immunization clinics throughout the RSV season for eligible infants. So far, RCDHU and Pembroke Regional Hospital have administered 61 doses of nirsevimab to eligible infants and children, while an additional 314 doses have been dispensed to primary care physicians.

Grade 7 School Based Immunization Clinics:

The first round of Grade 7 school immunization clinics for Hepatitis B (HB), Meningococcal, and human papilloma virus (HPV) have been completed. In total, 40 school-based clinics were hosted across RCD with approximately 1100 students being eligible for immunizations. In total, 648 doses of HPV vaccine, 633 doses of HB vaccine, and 723 doses of Meningococcal vaccine were administered at these school-based clinics. Students may also choose to be vaccinated through their healthcare provider or by booking an appointment at an RCDHU routine immunization clinic. The second round of grade 7 school immunization clinics will start in the spring of 2024.

Healthy Environments

Vector Borne Disease Surveillance and Control:

The second phase of active surveillance for ticks (tick dragging) was completed in October. This resulted in two additional confirmed risk areas near Petawawa and Eganville, as well as one potential new risk area near Pembroke. Current risk areas are Arnprior, Cobden and Calabogie. The additional risk areas will be communicated more broadly in the spring of 2025 ahead of next year's tick season and after the species of the ticks collected have been confirmed by the National Microbiology Laboratory.

Through our passive tick surveillance program, a total of 50 ticks from a human host have been submitted for analysis as of November 5th. Out of 40 ticks analyzed so far, 38 are black-legged ticks and six are positive for the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease.

Health Hazard Response:

November is radon awareness month. Radon is a radioactive gas found naturally in the environment. It is colourless and odourless. When radon enters an indoor space, such as a home, it can build up to high levels and pose a health concern to the people living there, including increased risk of lung cancer. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. RCDHU is working with our schools and municipalities to spread the word about how to check for and address high levels of radon gas in buildings. Social media messaging on this subject has also been shared to raise awareness. See <https://takeactiononradon.ca/learn/radon-action-month/> to learn more.

Emergency Response Program

Throughout 2024, RCDHU has led several internal and external tabletop exercises and simulations to prepare for emergencies. This work included a 2023-24 respiratory illness season debrief, a large opioid overdose incident response simulation, and a 2024-25 respiratory illness season preparedness tabletop exercise with partners. After each session a summary of learnings was compiled and distributed to the group to inform preparedness work.

A collaborative presentation with Ottawa Public Health was delivered at the Emergency Management Ontario Capital sector meeting, providing valuable education on public health roles during emergencies and potential community supports. Approximately 60 attendees, including Community Emergency Management Coordinators from regions served by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, Ottawa Public Health, and Renfrew County and District Health Unit, participated. This event fostered collaboration and improved knowledge sharing among key emergency response partners.

In October, staff participating in RCDHU's public health grand rounds received an orientation on the RCDHU emergency management program, enhancing their understanding of the health unit's role during emergencies and maintaining our agency's overall emergency preparedness.

Infectious Diseases

Respiratory Illness Activity:

In October, respiratory outbreak activity was sustained, averaging two new outbreaks per week. COVID-19 was the primary pathogen, accounting for approximately 78% of cases. COVID-19 test positivity rates in RCD remain high, correlating with increased outbreaks, and higher than the province's overall moderate COVID-19 test positivity.

So far in the 2024-25 respiratory season, no influenza cases have been reported to RCDHU and influenza activity remains low provincially. The rate of RSV infection has started to increase across Ontario.

Hospital bed occupancy for respiratory illness has remained high and respiratory-related emergency department visits have increased, making up 11%-14% of total visits, which indicates high to very high activity levels.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough):

Pertussis cases have increased in RCD and the rest of the province over the past 6 months. So far this year, 11 whooping cough cases have been reported to RCDHU, marking a notable increase after no cases from 2019 to 2023. Approximately 82% of these cases involved children aged 0-19 years. RCD's whooping cough rates are similar to those of Ontario, which is experiencing its highest year-to-date counts and rates since 2007.

RCDHU staff diligently follow-up on each case to provide education, trace contacts, and recommend prophylactic antibiotics when required.

The best way to protect against whooping cough is immunization. Whooping cough is part of the routine immunization schedule, and one of those required for attending school under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*. RCDHU staff provide regular immunization clinics where this vaccine can be accessed, and it is also available through healthcare providers. For more information on getting vaccinated or to check if immunizations are up to date, residents are asked to call their healthcare provider, visit <https://www.rcdhu.com/healthy-living/immunization/>, or call RCDHU.

Thanking our Director of Health Protection

After many years of dedicated service, RCDHU's Director of Health Protection, Vicki Benoit, will be retiring as of the end of this month. We express our gratitude for Vicki's immense contributions to RCDHU over the years, including playing a pivotal role in leading our local response to COVID-19, directing the successful rollout of many new vaccination programs, and recently helping to increase our public health outreach efforts. All the while, Vicki's focus has always been on mentoring and supporting her teams to thrive, enabling them to provide public health programs and services of the highest quality. Thank you Vicki and we wish you a happy and fulfilling retirement!

Submitted by: Dr. Jason Morgenstern
Medical Officer of Health
Renfrew County and District Health Unit



November 21, 2024

- Human Rights AI Impact Assessment tools.
- OMAFA webinar on land-use siting for energy projects.
- ERO posting on changes to excess soils regulations.
- ERO posting on proposed changes to energy legislation.
- ERO Posting on changes to electricity system connection infrastructure.
- Integrated Energy Resource Plan Consultation.
- Intake announcement - Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund.
- ROMA Conference: *Rural Routes* - Program updates.
- ROMA Conference: *Rural Routes* - Request your delegation meetings.
- ROMA Pre-conference workshop January 18 - Two Keys to Municipal Success.
- ROMA Conference: *Rural Routes* - Exhibit Hall is almost sold out!
- Foundations in Planning & Advanced Land Use Planning - winter workshops.
- Indigenous Community Awareness, February 2025 workshop.
- NEW! Apathy to Action: Building Resilient Communities through Managing Assets workshop.
- NEW! Equity, Inclusion and Innovation in Municipalities, March 25 workshop.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official, March 2025 workshop.
- Disability Inclusion, March 27 virtual workshop .
- Managing Communications through Crisis, April 2025 workshop.
- Canoe webinar: Leveraging Stakeholder Relationships for Procurement Success.
- Use Canoe for easy budget pricing.
- Plan for your 2025 road need study now.
- Blog: Fortifying Your Municipality Against Cyber Threats.
- Enbridge Gas Integrated Resource Planning webinars - Register TODAY!
- New Where to Recycle map.
- OAITH Wrapped in Courage campaign.
- *HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up - Transforming Housing.*
- AdvantAge Annual Seniors' Housing Forum.
- Careers and RFP.

Provincial Matters

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 Agriculture, Food, and Agri-Business are hosting [a webinar](#) with the IESO on November 21 to provide information and answer questions about renewable energy project siting.

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.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) on proposed regulatory changes that will shift the cost and risk burden of funding new distribution infrastructure from first-movers. Comments are due December 7.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) to inform the development of a provincial energy plan to guide the transition to a clean, reliable, affordable energy supply. Comments are due December 13.

Federal Matters

The \$6 billion Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund launches with \$1 billion for direct municipal and Indigenous infrastructure projects supporting housing-enabling infrastructure. Visit the [CHIF website](#) for [application details](#) and upcoming webinars.

Education Opportunities

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[Conference today.](#)

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

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.

The ROMA conference exhibit hall connects with over 1,500 attendees from rural Ontario municipalities. With the exhibit hall almost sold out, book your trade show booth today. Download the [exhibitor package](#) today.

[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.

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.](#)

Planning your 2025 budget? The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) makes it easy to get pricing for the goods and services you plan to purchase next year. Provide Council with accurate numbers and avoid unpleasant surprises when the time comes to buy. [Contact Sarah](#) to learn more.

Is a [Road or Sidewalk Assessment](#) part of your 2025 plan? [Contact Tanner](#) to learn more and get a no-obligation quote for a high-quality service with LAS partner Streetscan. Get better data to make better decisions.

According to the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, [ransomware is the most disruptive form of cybercrime](#) currently impacting North America. These cyber-attacks not only disrupt services but can also lead to significant financial losses and an erosion of public trust.

Municipal Wire*

Enbridge Gas' Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) webinars will provide an overview of what IRP is, their

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[region](#).

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 *Wrapped in Courage* [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.

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 and RFPs

[Request for Proposals for the provision of Assertive Street Outreach Services - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: December 16, 2024.

[Director of Operations and Development - Town of Tillsonburg](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Foreperson, District Parks - City of Brampton](#). Closing Date: November 25, 2024

[Town Manager/Clerk - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Director of Public Services - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Treasurer - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Senior Project Manager - Ministry of Transportation](#). Closing Date: December 10, 2024.

[Director of Public Works - Oxford County](#). Closing Date: December 15, 2024.

[Manager of Public Works - Township of Lanark Highlands](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Public Works Operations Supervisor - Township of Lanark Highlands](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Waste Collection Program Co-Ordinator - City of Greater Sudbury](#). Closing Date: December 10, 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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[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

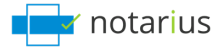
[ONE Investment](#)

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November 28, 2024

- Municipal Access Agreement Light Template webinar.
- Cyber Security Ontario launches Tabletop Exercise in a Box.
- ERO Posting on changes to electricity system connection infrastructure.
- Integrated Energy Resource Plan Consultation.
- Health Canada webinars on the overdose crisis.
- Intake announcement - Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund.
- ROMA Program - Check out the *Rural Routes* programming.
- ROMA Pre-conference workshop January 18 - Two Keys to Municipal Success.
- AMO is here to support your leadership - 2025 Workshops.
- Canoe - your municipal sector partner.
- Blog: Turning the Tables on Food Waste.
- HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: *Levelling Up - Transforming Housing*.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

AMO and Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) are [hosting a webinar](#) on December 3 to introduce a template to help small/medium municipalities negotiate broadband projects with Internet Service Providers.

Provincial Matters

Developed by Ontario's Cyber Security Centre of Excellence, [Tabletop Exercise \(TTX\) in a Box](#) is a free and on-demand tool designed for broader public sector organizations.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) on proposed regulatory changes that will shift the cost and risk burden of funding new distribution infrastructure from first-movers. Comments are due December 7.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) to inform the development of a provincial energy plan to guide the transition to a clean, reliable, affordable energy supply. Comments are due December 13.

Federal Matters

Health Canada is holding two 1.5 hour webinars at 1pm on December 3 and 10 about community-level responses to the overdose crisis. Email opioidresponse-interventionopioides@hc-sc.gc.ca to reserve your spot.

The \$6 billion Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund launches with \$1 billion for direct municipal and Indigenous infrastructure projects supporting housing-enabling infrastructure. Visit the [CHIF website](#) for [application details](#) and upcoming webinars.

Education Opportunities

The 2025 ROMA Conference program is jammed full of top-notch sessions. Sessions are designed from the rural perspective, highlighting solutions and innovation for rural communities. Check out the program [here](#). [Register for the ROMA Conference today](#).

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. Register [here](#).

AMO continues to advance its education programming. [Here is a list](#) of what is on the calendar so far for 2025. Watch for new workshops including strategic asset management, equity, inclusion and innovation in municipalities, unlocking opportunity through human rights based planning and more.

LAS

The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) was built by municipalities for municipalities. As a not-for profit, they are your key buying partner offering products you use everyday - from Aggregates to Zambonis. Take a minute to see how Canoe will work for you. [Contact Sarah](#) today.

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seem like just another item on a long list of concerns. However, it's a critical issue that intersects with many broader municipal priorities. Read more [here](#).

Municipal Wire*

[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.

Careers

[Building Engineer/Architect - City of Windsor](#). Closing Date: December 12, 2024

[Fire Chief / Chief Building Official - Township of Dubreuilville](#). Closing Date: December 18, 2024

[Municipal Integrity Commissioner - County of Prince Edward](#). Closing Date: December 9, 2024

[Manager, Communications & Public Relations - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: December 22, 2024

[Manager, Strategic Project Management Office - Ontario Securities Commission](#). Closing Date: December 6, 2024

[Chief Administrative Officer - City of Greater Sudbury](#). Closing Date: December 20, 2024.

[Fleet Data Analyst - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: December 9, 2024.

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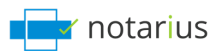
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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2024 6:46 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – NDP Motion on Municipal Fiscal Sustainability, Mental Health and Addictions, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure



AMO Policy Update – NDP Motion on Municipal Fiscal Sustainability, Mental Health and Addictions, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure

NDP Motion Calling for a New Deal with Ontario’s Municipalities

Yesterday, the NDP [tabled a motion](#) calling on the provincial government to reach a new deal with Ontario municipalities to address downloaded provincial costs in areas such as housing and healthcare.

AMO welcomes this acknowledgement that the current provincial-municipal fiscal framework does not support sustainable communities or the quality of life of their residents. AMO has been calling for a [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#) to update our fiscal relationship. Municipalities need a provincial partner that will:

- **Sustainably invest in public infrastructure** to support growth, improve transportation, and prepare for the impacts of climate change.
- **Reduce the province's continued reliance on municipal revenues** to fund provincial programs, like health and social services, so municipal tax dollars can go toward supporting thriving communities.

- **Take action on the root causes of homelessness** through investments in mental health and addictions programming and improved income security that allows people to keep a roof over their heads.

Response to Provincial Bike Lanes Legislation

Yesterday, AMO's Executive Director Brian Rosborough presented [remarks](#) to the legislature highlighting concerns with Bill 212, *the Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act*.

AMO views the provincial proposal to remove and block bike lands in specific locations as misguided and an ineffective way of addressing congestion. The development of a balanced transportation network that includes a broad mix of roads, cycling paths, sidewalks, and public transit options is an exercise best left to municipalities, based on their in-depth understanding of municipal infrastructure, community needs, and long-term growth plans.

AMO also submitted written [comments](#) to the Committee calling on the province to abandon the proposal.

Bill 223, *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act*

Minister Kerzner tabled [Bill 223, *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act*](#), which includes previously announced changes to supervised consumption sites in Ontario. The legislation would:

- Prohibit any supervised consumption site from operating within 200 metres of a school, childcare centre, or EarlyON centre. This change would close 10 sites currently operating in Ontario.
- It would also require municipalities to seek provincial approval before requesting federal approval or renewal of supervised consumption site or funding for safer supply programs. This means that supervised consumption sites not currently impacted by the 200m limit could be impacted once provincial approval for renewal is required.
- Municipalities would also require provincial approval to publicly support, including through by-laws or resolutions, any other organization seeking to open a supervised consumption site or safer supply program.

As outlined in AMO's July Report, [The Opioid Crisis: a Municipal Perspective](#), tackling a problem as complex as the opioid crisis requires a comprehensive approach, including harm reduction supports that make sense for local communities. Municipalities – in collaboration with health, police, and other partners – are best positioned to decide whether supervised consumption sites are right for their communities.

Ontario Expanding Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel

As employers of first responders, municipalities are faced with the financial obligations associated with work-related mental health injuries. AMO was pleased to see a \$32 million investment through a new Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel program and the creation of an Anti-Stigma Strategy for first responders and public safety personnel.

The program will include a web portal to access core services, access to a 24/7 call-line and other trauma-informed mental health services. Grants for employers will also be provided to help subsidize the costs of these additional programs and services. A call for applications, inviting organizations to apply for funding under the grant, will be rolled out in early 2025.

Proposed Integrated Energy Plan for Ontario

AMO [presented to the legislature](#) in support of Bill 214, *Affordable Energy Act*, that makes progress on a plan to grow clean and affordable electricity capacity in Ontario. Key priorities include:

- Urging to the province to commit to a 2050 net-zero emissions target;
- Endorsing community benefit agreements between municipalities and energy proponents as part of procurement processes related to generation, storage and transmission projects;
- Ensuring the costs and risks of new last mile energy infrastructure are not transferred to municipalities or local distribution corporations.

AMO also [submitted comments](#) supporting enhanced funding to municipalities and local distribution corporations (LDCs) to implement local energy efficiency measures.

Cyber Security and MFIPPA

AMO [submitted comments](#) to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy on Bill 194, *Strengthening Cyber Security and Building Trust in the Public Sector Act*. The bill proposes changes that would establish a cyber security framework for broader public sector entities including municipalities, school boards, and hospitals.

AMO highlighted the need to balance strong data and privacy protection with the flexibility needed to allow municipalities to put systems in place, and act quickly when cyber-threats are identified. AMO also commented on the long-standing need to update MFIPPA, particularly around frivolous and vexatious requests.

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

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2024 1:36 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – 2024 Housing Targets in Ontario



AMO Policy Update – 2024 Housing Targets in Ontario

Ontario is in a housing crisis and municipalities are doing everything in their power to increase housing supply and affordability while working towards the province’s ambitious target of building 1.5 million homes over 10 years. This year’s housing starts are predicted to be lower than provincial government targets and many may blame municipalities. AMO knows this is not true and has [defended against](#) reports or associations that have blamed municipal approval timelines and development charges as key issues in explaining declining housing starts.

As 2024 numbers are finalized, it will be important to remember that Ontario’s housing market is complex and under pressure from unanticipated population growth, interest rates, labour shortages and inflation that has outstripped wages. AMO has produced a [resource](#) to help lay out myth from reality to show that the solution to the housing affordability crisis will be found through collaboration between the province, municipalities, the development industry, and through industry innovation.

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

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 29, 2024 4:15 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – OPP Billing, Bills



AMO Policy Update – OPP Billing, Bills

AMO and municipalities across Ontario have loudly advocated for provincial action to address the unmanageable increase in Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) costs for next year. AMO is proud to have worked closely with the government to address these concerns raised by municipalities. Today, the provincial government proposed more than \$77 million in 2025 to provide municipal budget relief and invest in Ontario’s communities.

The majority of Ontario's municipalities proudly partner with the Ontario Provincial Police to keep their communities safe. Ontarians already pay the highest policing costs in the country, and these additional costs were beyond municipal fiscal capacity to absorb. While AMO appreciates the provincial action to address this specific issue, a broader solution to the weakening foundations of municipal fiscal sustainability is critically needed. AMO continues to call on the province for a comprehensive review of the municipal-provincial fiscal framework that helps provide the services that Ontarians rely on every day, including policing.

AMO looks forward to continuing to work closely with the provincial government as they look forward to reviewing the OPP billing model to ensure it continues to meet the needs of communities across the province.

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PROTECT YOUR FLOCK FROM DISEASE AND KEEP YOUR BIRDS SAFE

REINFORCE

LIMIT EXPOSURE

- ✓ Limit exposure to visitors, especially other bird owners.
- ✓ Limit travel with your birds to sales, shows, swaps, and fairs.
- ✓ Segregate and monitor new or returning birds for 2-4 weeks.
- ✓ Wash hands before and after handling birds.

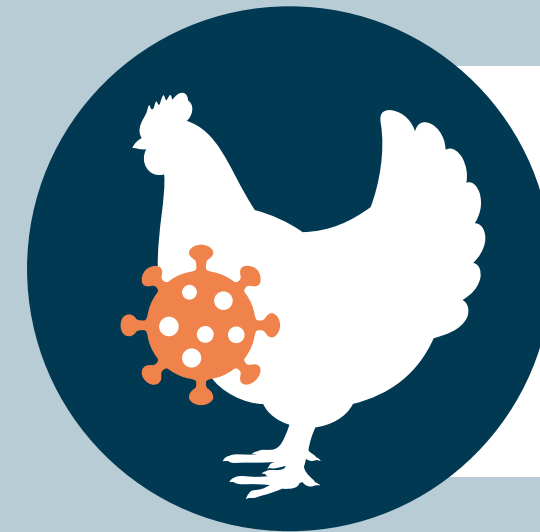
CREATE A SAFE SPACE

- 1 Use fencing.
- 2 Clean up feed spills and standing water to detract wild birds who carry disease.
- 3 Keep feed contained and in the coop/barn.
- 4 Use designated boots and sanitize when removing boots from yard/barn.
- 5 Thoroughly clean and disinfect coop/barn and equipment regularly especially between flocks.



RECOGNIZE

SPOT THE SIGNS OF DISEASE



Remember viruses can persist in the environment for a long time.

Symptoms may include:

- Lack of energy, movement or appetite
- Decreased egg production
- Swelling around the head, neck and eyes
- Coughing, gasping for air or sneezing
- Diarrhea
- Nervous signs, tremors or lack of coordination
- Sudden death

IN THE KNOW

Sudden, unexplained increase in flock mortality is a sign that your flock may be infected with a serious disease.

Isolate sick birds immediately and report to a veterinarian, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency or the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

REPORT



For information on how and who to report to, visit:

SmallFlockOntario.ca

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW....

High Path Avian Influenza

HPAI



PART OF THE ONTARIO
SMALL FLOCK EDUCATION HUB

Protecting your flock starts with good information!

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How Avian Influenza Spreads6

HPAI is a Reportable Disease7

HPAI Has Been Confirmed on Your
Property. What Comes Next?8



HPAI



ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE CHECKLIST



I know what HPAI is and understand why it is such a big deal.



I know how to spot the signs of HPAI and what to do if I suspect my birds are infected.



I have proper quarantine facilities and know how to lock down my coop if signs of disease appear.



I know what role my visitor log book plays in biosecurity and I have one that is used regularly.



I know when and how to humanely euthanize my birds.



I practice proper mortality management.



I have a veterinarian I can contact if I need assistance or know where to find one.



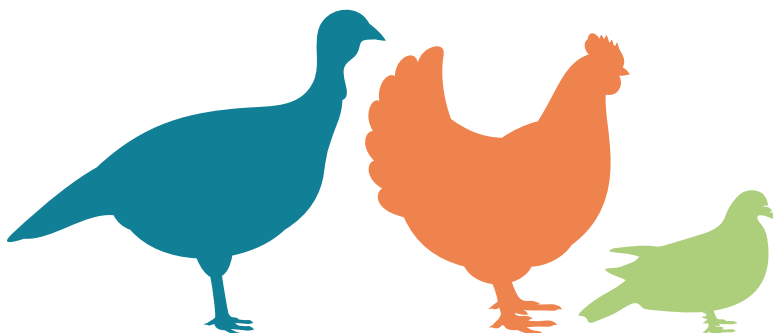
I know what the role of the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is in responding to HPAI.



I understand what happens when a flock gets infected with HPAI and how it impacts the commercial food industry.



I know where to find more information about active control zones.

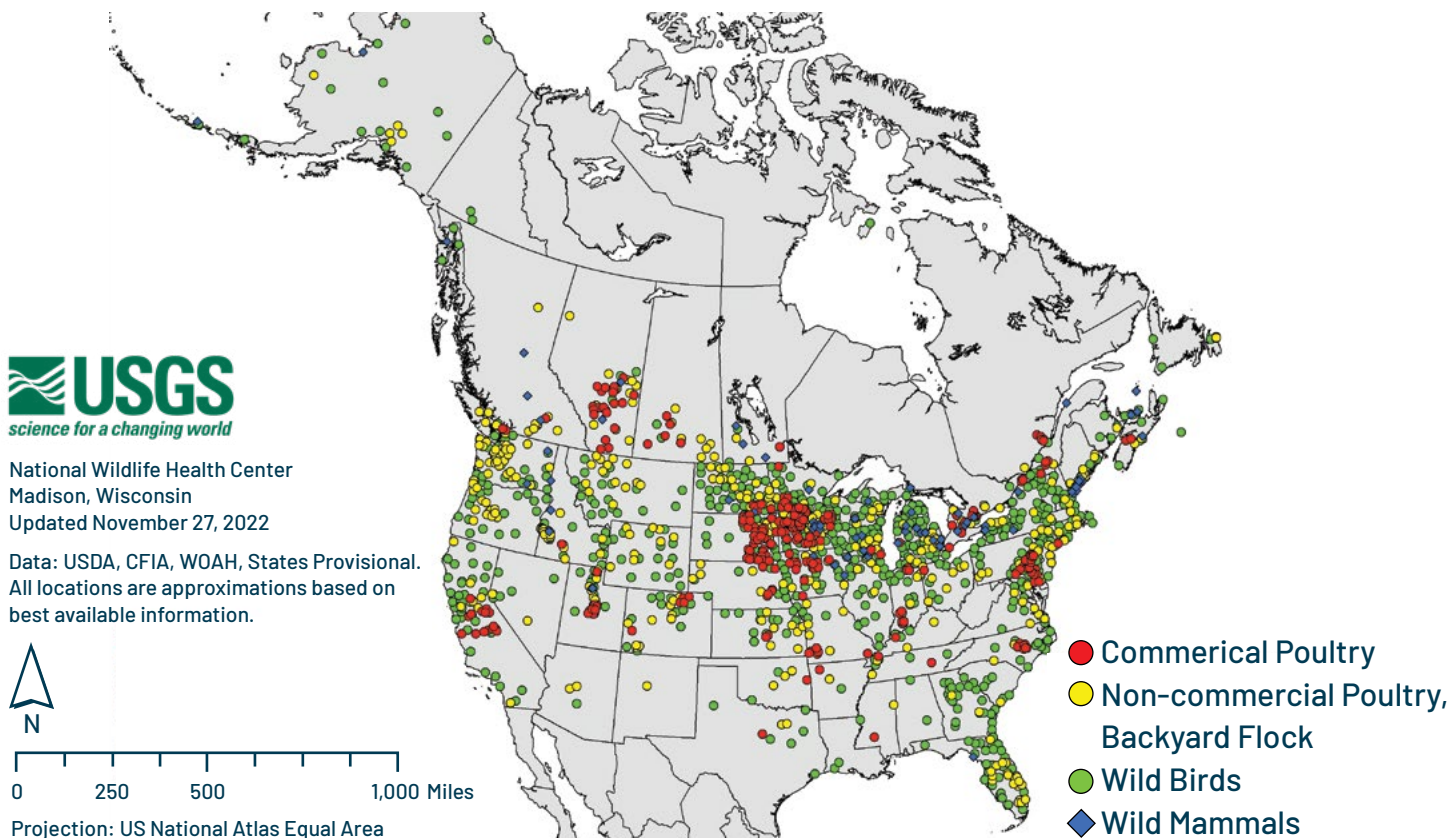


What is the Big Deal About Bird Flu?

High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), commonly known as “bird flu,” is a highly contagious viral infection that can infect domesticated and wild birds including: chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ducks, geese, pigeons and guinea fowl.

Waterfowl and wild birds often carry the virus without showing signs of illness, yet HPAI is rapidly fatal for commercial poultry with a mortality rate of **90 to 100%**.

DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA H5 AND H5N1 IN NORTH AMERICA, 2021/2022



HPAI has had major global impacts causing serious economic, social and mental health issues for all types of bird owners. In Canada, HPAI is creating long lasting impact on commercial food production and trade. During the 2022-2023 migratory seasons, CFIA reported an estimated 7,688,000 infected birds were euthanized (non wild birds/waterfowl) on 291 infected premises.

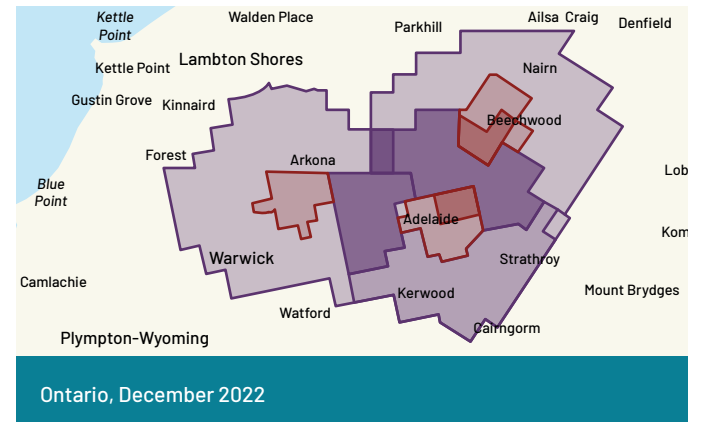
To prevent the spread of HPAI, the CFIA establishes primary control zones (PCZ) in areas where the disease has been detected. Within a PCZ, and around an infected premise (IP), certain movements of birds, their products and by-products are controlled by the use of permits.

The ripple effects of one infected flock are significant not only to farmers within the “control zone” but also the commercial industry personnel who work in and around active control zones.

From 2022 to spring of 2023, CFIA placed 188 controlled zones in Canada.

To determine if you’re in a zone, where zones are currently active, whether you need a permit to move your products and for all other up to date information, visit the CFIA website on Avian Influenza: inspection.canada.ca.

EXAMPLE OF CFIA CONTROL ZONE MAP



Based on the advice of the Chief Veterinarian for Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), can enact an Order of the Minister. A Minister’s Order is issued to restrict commingling of birds during high risk HPAI periods. This is to curtail such activities as bird auctions/sales, bird displays at fairs, pigeon racing and petting farms, to name a few to help prevent the spread of disease.

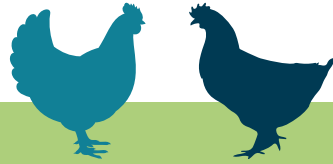
Stay informed by registering for the Small Flock Ontario e-blasts and checking the OMAFRA and CFIA websites regularly.



**IN THE
KNOW**

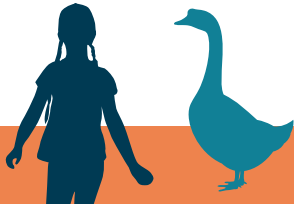
Your flock is at a higher risk of catching HPAI during spring and fall wild bird migration.

How Avian Influenza Spreads



Bird to Bird

- Direct contact between infected and susceptible birds.
- Contaminated feces.
- Indirect contact through viral droplets in the air.



Person to Bird

- People to bird infection happens when people act as a vector for the disease, spreading it through: shared tools, clothing, vehicles and equipment as well as by visiting other premises with infected birds.
- If visitors have flocks themselves, consider keeping them away from your flock.

Note: Your pets can also spread disease, so keep them away from your birds also.



KNOW THE SYMPTOMS:

- Lack of energy, movement or appetite
- Decreased egg production
- Swelling around the head, neck, and eyes
- Coughing, gasping for air or sneezing
- Diarrhea
- Nervous signs, tremors or lack of coordination
- Sudden death



ONCE YOU OBSERVE CLINICAL SIGNS OF DISEASE:

- Immediately isolate sick birds
- Do not sell or trade birds or move them off the property
- Do not introduce new birds
- **Lock Down:** use signs or other readily visible indicators to stop visitors from entering your coop
- Most importantly contact a veterinarian



DON'T HAVE A VETERINARIAN? Go to cvo.ca.thentiacloud.net/webs/cvo/register

HPAI is a Reportable Disease

Upon discovering sick or dead birds, consult with your veterinarian or with CFIA directly before disposing of them, as they may wish to collect samples for laboratory diagnosis. Your veterinarian will assist you in reporting it to the CFIA if necessary.

WHY IS HPAI SUCH A BIG DEAL ANYWAY?

Reportable diseases are usually of significant importance to human or animal health or to the Canadian economy because of trade. CFIA is the regulatory body that leads the national response to reportable disease such as Avian Influenza.

Bird owners are legally responsible to notify authorities if they suspect their flock is infected with HPAI. Reporting a disease helps track diseases and protects the whole poultry population and food chain. Your veterinarian is the best resource to determine if you have a significant disease issue that should be investigated further.

If your flock is discovered to have HPAI a few things will happen next...



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza is one of several reportable diseases in poultry. It is important to know the signs and symptoms of commonly found diseases. Learn more by visiting the **CFIA website**.



**IN THE
KNOW**

Anyone who finds a sick or dead wild bird is encouraged to contact the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative at

1-866-673-4781

HPAI Has Been Confirmed on Your Property. What Comes Next?



Each scenario is different depending on the property and movement of birds and poultry products, but in general the process involves the following steps:

1



Movement restrictions
and quarantine

2



Sample submission
for testing

3



Site assessment of birds,
movement and property

4



Humane euthanasia
and disposal

5



Cleaning and disinfecting

6



Restocking

SMALL FLOCK ONTARIO



LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION? Visit us online at SmallFlockOntario.ca



REINFORCE
Good biosecurity practises.



RECOGNIZE
Symptoms of disease.



REPORT
Signs of illness to your veterinarian.



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership



Poultry Industry Council

Ontario 

Canada 

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przedziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail:
Sylvia.Przedziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 24-CC23.1**

(Sent by Email)

November 18, 2024

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:**Subject: New Business Item 23.1
Respecting Local Democracy and Cities (Ward All)**City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, considered [Item CC23.1](#) and a copy is attached for your information or appropriate action.

for City Clerk

S. Przedziecki/wg

Attachment

c. City Manager

City Council

New Business - Meeting 23

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|---------|--|-----------|
| CC23.1 | ACTION | Amended | | Ward: All |
|--------|--------|---------|--|-----------|

Respecting Local Democracy and Cities

City Council Decision

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted the following:

1. City Council express its opposition to the proposed amendments to Part XII of the Highway Traffic Act contained in Bill 212, and any related proposed regulations, both of which contradict the stated purpose of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, to allow the City to determine what is in the public interest of the city.

2. City Council request the Province to work collaboratively with cities to address congestion and road safety, and accordingly withdraw the proposed amendments to Part XII of the Highway Traffic Act contained in Bill 212.

3. City Council direct the City Solicitor to review Bill 212 and any accompanying regulations, once in force, and to report to City Council with a summary of the legislation and regulations and the potential for commencing litigation to challenge Bill 212 or the regulations.

4. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, or designates, to appear before the Ontario Legislature’s Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure, and Cultural Policy as part of public hearings regarding Bill 212 to give testimony in accordance with the position outlined in this item.

5. City Council request the City Manager to submit written comments to Ontario’s Regulatory Registry and Environment Registry of Ontario that reflect the City’s positions outlined in this item, including the City's opposition to any requirement of the City to provide support in the removal of City Infrastructure approved by its democratically elected City Council.

6. City Council adopt the position that no costs associated with the amendments to Part XII of the Highway Traffic Act should be incurred or paid by the City of Toronto, including staff time, planning, design, construction, and traffic management as a result of the congestion created by the removal.

7. City Council forward this item to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Leader of the Official Opposition, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Big City Mayors, and all Ontario municipalities and include City Council's commitment to the right of municipalities to govern their own affairs and represent the interests of their residents and electors.

8. City Council request the Ministry of Transportation to permit the publication of the results of the Transportation Tomorrow Survey 2022 as soon as possible to facilitate the use of the study in informing collaborative consultations with cities regarding options for addressing congestion and road safety.

9. City Council direct the City Manager to report back on the feasibility of placing signs on City roads where there are traffic delays resulting from the Provincial mandate to remove bike lanes from Toronto roads and that these signs would read "This road congestion and traffic delay is the result of Premier Ford's Bill 212".

10. City Council direct that Confidential Attachment 1 to the supplementary report (November 13, 2024) from the City Manager remain confidential in its entirety, as it contains information explicitly supplied in confidence to the City of Toronto as a partner municipality in the Transportation Tomorrow Survey 2022, conducted by a consultant retained by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario as part of a cooperative effort by local and provincial government agencies to collect information about urban travel in southern Ontario, until such time as the Transportation Tomorrow Survey 2022 is authorized to be published by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.

Confidential Attachment 1 to the supplementary report (November 13, 2024) from the City Manager remains confidential in its entirety in accordance with the provisions of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, as it contains information explicitly supplied in confidence to the City of Toronto as a partner municipality in the Transportation Tomorrow Survey 2022, conducted by a consultant retained by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario as part of a cooperative effort by local and provincial government agencies to collect information about urban travel in southern Ontario, until such time as the Transportation Tomorrow Survey 2022 is authorized to be published by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.

Summary

The recent provincial Bill 212 seeks to overturn the decisions and work of our locally elected Toronto City Council. If passed, the Bill means one government would, at tremendous cost to the taxpayer and without collaboration, undo another government's work.

As Mayor, it is my responsibility to stand up for the decision-making authority of City Council and the expertise of our professional public service which supports that decision-making. As such, I am working with City Staff to review the City's options and will provide recommendations on this item prior to the City Council meeting on November 13, 2024.

Background Information (City Council)

(November 5, 2024) Report from the Mayor on Respecting Local Democracy and Cities (CC23.1)

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-250054.pdf>

(November 13, 2024) Supplementary report and Attachments 2 to 5 from the City Manager on Respecting Local Democracy and Cities - Supplemental Report: Impact of Bill 212 Bike Lanes Framework (CC23.1a)

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-250545.pdf>

Confidential Attachment 1

Communications (City Council)

(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Matthew Freedlander (CC.Supp)

(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Adam Rodgers (CC.Supp)

(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Derek van Vliet (CC.Supp)

(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Beverley Yu (CC.Supp)

(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Santiago Pacheco Perez (CC.Supp)

(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Genessa Radke (CC.Supp)
(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Jesse Knapp (CC.Supp)
(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Ernest Tam (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Keyondre Young (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Adam Rodgers (CC.Supp)
(November 7, 2024) E-mail from Bryn Kennedy (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Lilia Kazberuk (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Aaron MacLean (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Conrad Heidenreich (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Jack Wynne (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Omar Khan (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Arkady Arkhangorodsky (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Debbie Green (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Mike D'Agostino (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Darren Donahue (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Stacy Kennedy (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from Isabel Reid (CC.Supp)
(November 8, 2024) E-mail from David Eddison (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Zachary Davis (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Susan Ye (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Robert J A Zaichkowski (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Michael Ross (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) Letter from Cathie Macdonald, President and Richard Steele, Board member, Deer Park Residents Group (CC.Supp)
(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184523.pdf>)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Loudon Young (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Justin EJ Sharp (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) Letter from Alison Stewart, Bicycle Mayor of Toronto (CC.Supp)
(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184527.pdf>)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from David Safran (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Caitlin Walsh (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Catherine Clark (CC.Supp)
(November 9, 2024) E-mail from Alex Bonenfant (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Cameron MacDonald (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Holly Reid (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from M. Kalocilja (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Leona Laird (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Kenneth Brown (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Jenny Sin (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Jane Auster (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Elizabeth Osborne (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Geoff Hodgson (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Brian Dunfield (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from John Oyston (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Sean Cooper (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Fernando Gonçalves (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Gillian Bogden (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Siobhan Fitzmaurice (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Steve Cooke (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Susan Raphael (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Lee Giles (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Melinda Rawn (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Hamish Wilson (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Shelly Nixon (CC.Supp)

(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Kerry Scott (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Amanda Parcher (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Elizabeth Hallerman (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Ralph Callebert (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Ryan Mumby (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Gray E Taylor (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Alexander Saxton (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Lisa Bonney (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from David Nash (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Tim Morawetz (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from James Deutsch (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Linda Rowe (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Michael Chung (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Kathy Chung (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Harold Smith (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Dawn Scarrow (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Steve Clayman (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from David Johnson (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Jan Gould (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Emily Tate (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Rebecca Southgate (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Hamish Wilson 2 (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Charlotte Graham (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Elizabeth Hallerman, BeRationalTO (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from JJ. Fueser (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Linda Brett, President, Bloor Street East Neighbourhood Association (CC.Supp)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184636.pdf>
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Cait and Ty (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Yuen Chua (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Karen Wyler (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Noreen Jamal (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Piotr Sepski (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Lauren McVittie (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Alice Baujet (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Linh Tran (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Theresa Campbell (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Filip Matovina (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Greg Kozma (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Steven Fistell (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Jenna Blumenthal (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Barbara Captijn (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Hamish Wilson (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Kevin Harris (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) Letter from Mary Helen Spence and Arlene DeJardins, The Avenue Road Safety Coalition (CC.Supp)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184646.pdf>
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Sharon Pel (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Arushi Nath (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Joe Power (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Edward Knapp (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Janet Lin (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from John Shea (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Alexis Venerus (CC.Supp)

(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Lois Pike (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Christine Bear (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Vanessa Brown (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Bruce Novakowski (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Daphne Jackson (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Patrick DeRochie (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Rachael Vuong (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Mike Kurz (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Alex Pletsch (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from David Simmons (CC.Supp)
(November 10, 2024) E-mail from Dana Snell (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Betty De Groot (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Kevin McIntosh (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Frank Siciliano (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Parker Bloom (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from John Lloyd (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Peter Osborne (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Alina Iordache (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Robert Fuller (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Charles Kime (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Barbara Captijn (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Susan Stock (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Chad Mohr (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Ive Viksne (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Nelson Torres De Miranda (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Michael Dawn (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Ilana Newman Hernandez (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Erin Marchak (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Lauri Lintott (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Joseph Pauker (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Lisa Kristensen (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Kevin Carmona-Murphy (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Tim Lynch (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Felix Whitton (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Julia M Swiggum (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Elizabeth Chrumka (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Lola Landekic (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from John Hallerman (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Prasann Patel (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Dan Reisler (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from David Townley (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Virginia Trieloff (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Caitlin Walsh (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Caitlin Walsh (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Angela Zehr (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Jay D Gould (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Jan Gould (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Grant Oyston (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Carol Gray (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) Letter from Isaac Berman, Co-Chair, Palmerston Residents' Association (CC.Supp)
(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184683.pdf>)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Frances Gallop (CC.Supp)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Cameron Tedford (CC.Supp)

(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Candace Hart (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Patrick Dias (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Emelia Zamidar (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Tyler McGraw (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) Letter from Michael Longfield, Executive Director, Cycle Toronto (CC.New)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184728.pdf>
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Barry Pickford (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from L. Spring (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Sandra Dosen (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Luis Ledesma (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from John Leeson (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Kimberly Hinton (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Linda Nicolson (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Donna Patterson (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Michael Szego (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) Letter from Marjorie Nichol, On behalf of Yonge4All (CC.New)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184725.pdf>
(November 12, 2024) Letter from Lee Scott, on behalf of the Steering Committee, Walk Toronto (CC.New)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184753.pdf>
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Ingrid Doucet (CC.New)
(November 11, 2024) E-mail from Arushi Nath (CC.Supp)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Pamela Hardie (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Pamela Hardie 2 (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) Multiple Communications from 2,139 Individuals (CC.New)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184764.pdf>
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Peter Lindley (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Norman Di Pasquale (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Hilary Stone (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Angela Dale (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from John Shea (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Aaron Matthews (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Aleksuei Riabtsev (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Diana Arteaga (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Maria Boyad (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Jay Scott (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Laura Lindberg (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Heather Hatch (CC.New)
(November 12, 2024) E-mail from Peter Low (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Rosalie Lam (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Edik Zwarenstein (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Darren Donahue (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Tom Henheffer (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Jeff Wintersinger (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Katherine Sawicka (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Billy Leung (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Stewart Ellis (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Andrew Hurlbut (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Paromita Nakshi (CC.New)
(November 13, 2024) E-mail from Jennifer Dickie (CC.New)
(November 14, 2024) Letter from Geoff Kettel and Cathie Macdonald, Co-Chairs, FoNTRA (CC.New)
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/cc/comm/communicationfile-184819.pdf>



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

November 19, 2024

Minister of Health Sylvia Jones
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Jones,

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held on Monday September 16, 2024, the following resolution was put forth by Councillor Chris Dube and was passed.

Re: Ambulance Shortages and Healthcare System Issues

Resolution 266-2024

Moved by: Councillor Johnson

Seconded by: Councillor Dube

WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay is gravely concerned about the ongoing shortages and staffing challenges facing Superior North EMS (SNEMS);

WHEREAS, the provincial funding for ambulance services, currently at 50%, along with the city's 50% contribution, has been falling short, leading to financial strain on municipalities and regional partners, including the City of Thunder Bay;

WHEREAS, the rolling shortages of paramedics and EMS personnel in the region present a significant risk to public safety and healthcare services in northern communities, which are disproportionately affected by the province-wide shortage of paramedics;

WHEREAS, recruitment and retention issues, including insufficient wages and benefits, lack of mental health supports, frequent exposure to traumatic experiences, and inadequate recovery time between work periods, are causing high turnover rates and burnout among EMS workers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Honorable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, be requested to take immediate action to address the funding shortfalls and structural challenges in the delivery of EMS services in northern communities, including:

1. Increasing provincial funding to support EMS services and reduce the financial burden on municipalities;
2. Implementing incentives such as "learn and stay" grants to encourage paramedics to live and work in northern Ontario;
3. Enhancing support systems for EMS workers, including improved wages, benefits, and mental health resources.



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 **Fax:** (807) 825-9576

AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to Minister Sylvia Jones, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

J. Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:
AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

November 19, 2024

Honorable Anita Anand,
President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transportation
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Via Email: Anita.anand@parl.gc.ca

Her Worship Mayor Olivia Chow
Office of the Mayor
City Hall, 2nd Floor
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Via Email: mayor_chow@toronto.ca

Dear Minister Anand and Mayor Chow,

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held on Monday October 21, 2024 the following resolution of support was passed.

Re: NOMA Letter re Billy Bishop Airport Support

Resolution 293-2024

Moved By: Councillor St. Louis

Seconded By: Councillor Adduono

WHEREAS Billy Bishop Airport serves more than 2 million passengers per year, making it the 9th-busiest airport in Canada, 5th-busiest serving the US market, 3rd busiest airport in Ontario, and making it a critical component of the national and regional air transportation system; and

WHEREAS the airport provides daily connections to the North with service to Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins and Sudbury, and enables access to many other neighbouring communities;

and WHEREAS Billy Bishop Airport is a critical access point for Northern communities for economic opportunities, tourism, social connectivity and critical medical care located in downtown Toronto;

WHEREAS the airport operates under a Tripartite Agreement among the City of Toronto, Transport Canada and PortsToronto, and that agreement is set to expire in 2033; and

WHEREAS the airport is seeking to secure its long-term future through a process to modernize and extend the Tripartite Agreement to drive sustainable growth and enhanced access and connections for passengers and the communities it connects to;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association is seeking urgent action from the City of Toronto, PortsToronto and Transport Canada to commence a process and conclude it by the end of 2025 to modernize the current Tripartite Agreement and secure the future of Billy Bishop Airport.



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be sent to Hon. Anita Anand - President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport, Mayor Olivia Chow – Toronto City, Hon. Soraya Martinez Ferrada - Minister of Tourism, Government of Canada, Hon. François-Philippe Champagne - Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry - Government of Canada, Hon. Arun Thangaraj - Deputy Minister of Transport Canada - Government of Canada, John D. Elvidge - City of Toronto – Clerk, Paul Johnson - City of Toronto - City Manager, Jag Sharma - City of Toronto - Deputy City Manager, RJ Steenstra - President and CEO - Ports Toronto, Sandra Papatello – Chair of Board of Directors - Ports Toronto, Neil Pakey - President and CEO - Nieuport Aviation, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria - Minister of Transportation - Government of Ontario, Hon. Vic Fedeli - Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade - Government of Ontario, MP Patty Hajdu (Thunder Bay - Superior North), MP Marcus Powlowski – Thunder Bay-Rainy River, MP Eric Melillo – Kenora, MPP Greg Rickford, (Kenora – Rainy River), MPP Kevin Holland, (Thunder Bay - Atikokan), MPP Lise Vaugeois, (Thunder Bay - Superior North), and all NOMA member municipalities - CAOs and Clerks.

Sincerely,

J. Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:

Minister of Tourism – Soraya Martinez Ferrada Soraya.martinezferrada@parl.gc.ca
Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry – Francois-Philippe Champagne francois-philippe.champagne@parl.gc.ca
Deputy Minister of Transport Canada – Arun Thangaraj arun.thangaraj@tc.gc.ca
City of Toronto Clerk -John D. Elvidge jelvidge@toronto.ca
City of Toronto Manager – Paul Johnson paul.r.johnson@toronto.ca
City of Toronto Deputy Manager – Jag Sharma
Ports Toronto President and CEO – RJ Steenstra and Ports Toronto Board of Directors Chair – Sandra Papatello chair@portstoronto.com
Nieuport Aviation President and CEO – Neil Pakey neil@nieuport.com
Minister of Transportation – Prabmeet Sarkaria prabmeet.sakaria@pc.ola.org
Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade – Vic Fedeli vic.fedelico@pc.ola.org
MP Patty Hajdu patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca
MP Marcus Powlowski marcus.powlowski@parl.gc.ca
MP Eric Melillo eric.melillo@parl.gc.ca
MPP Greg Rickford greg.rickford@pc.ola.org
MPP Kevin Holland kevin.holland@pc.ola.org
MPP Lise Vaugeois lvaugeois-qp@ndp.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



Representing the Districts of Kenora, Rainy River and Thunder Bay
P.O. Box 10308, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T8
www.noma.on.ca
p. 807.683.6662 e. admin@noma.on.ca

October 7, 2024

Honourable Anita Anand
President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6
Via Email: Anita.Anand@parl.gc.ca

Her Worship Mayor Olivia Chow
Office of the Mayor
City Hall, 2nd Floor
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Via Email: mayor_chow@toronto.ca

Re: The Future for Billy Bishop Airport Requires Urgent Action and a Modern Governing Agreement

Dear Minister Anand and Mayor Chow,

I am writing to you to express my support for the sustained operation and development of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. As the President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, I am extremely concerned to learn that the Tripartite Agreement that governs operations at the Airport expires in 2033 – less than 9 years from now.

Billy Bishop Airport provides a critical service and point of connection for the North. Many of my community members rely on Billy Bishop airport to visit family, connect through to other destinations for work, travel and tourism or to access critical medical services, the convenience and ease of Billy Bishop Airport cannot be matched. It has been reported widely that Northern Ontario communities have experienced drastic reductions in air service coming out of the COVID pandemic. Reliable air connectivity available through Billy Bishop Airport is an important economic and social lifeline for my community.

We were pleased to see the Federal Government's investment in a US Customs and Border Patrol preclearance facility, which is expected to open in 2025. This is welcomed news for communities in Northwestern Ontario as it will enable more and better connections through Billy Bishop Airport and amplify the airport's already strong economic contribution. We viewed this investment in the airport's long term future as recognition of the very important role the airport has come to play for the communities it connects including Northwestern Ontario – very much at odds with an agreement that expires in a matter of years.

To that end, we would implore you, as signatories to the Tripartite Agreement, to commence a process to modernize the Tripartite Agreement and secure the long-term future of Canada's 9th-busiest airport and 3rd-busiest in Ontario. My community members rely on this service, and we

want to see even more connections and expanded services to the North. As elected leaders, we have a responsibility to think past our own front doors, reflect the needs of all of our constituents and those beyond our communities who are impacted by our decisions. Certainty about the airport's long-term future should not be something we as leaders should need to think long about. **The time is now for the parties of the agreement to move forward with urgency to ensure this vital piece of transportation infrastructure and the important connections it facilitates are sustained.**

Sincerely,



Wendy Landry
President, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association
Mayor, Municipality of Shuniah

Cc:

Hon. Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Minister of Tourism, Government of Canada
Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Government of Canada
Hon. Arun Thangaraj, Deputy Minister of Transport Canada, Government of Canada
John D. Elvidge, City of Toronto, Clerk
Paul Johnson, City of Toronto, City Manager
Jag Sharma, City of Toronto, Deputy City Manager
RJ Steenstra, President and CEO, Ports Toronto
Sandra Papatello, Chair, Board of Directors, Ports Toronto
Neil Pakey, President and CEO, Nieuport Aviation
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Government of Ontario
Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Government of Ontario
MP Patty Hajdu (Thunder Bay - Superior North)
MP Marcus Powlowski – Thunder Bay-Rainy River
MP Eric Melillo – Kenora
MPP Greg Rickford, (Kenora – Rainy River)
MPP Kevin Holland, (Thunder Bay - Atikokan)
MPP Lise Vaugeois, (Thunder Bay - Superior North)
All member municipalities - CAOs and Clerks



City of Hamilton
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West, 1st Floor
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5
www.hamilton.ca

Hamilton

November 19, 2024

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

Re: Opposing the Proposed Provincial Initiative that Seeks to Restrict or Limit the Autonomy of Municipalities in Implementing Road Safety Measures

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, passed the following resolution:

7.1 Opposing the Proposed Provincial Initiative that Seeks to Restrict or Limit the Autonomy of Municipalities in Implementing Road Safety Measures

(Kroetsch/Cassar)

WHEREAS, the safety of all road users, including cyclists, is a paramount concern and a fundamental responsibility of both provincial and municipal governments;

WHEREAS, crashes involving motor vehicles pose significant risks to cyclists, pedestrians, and other vulnerable road users, leading to serious injuries and fatalities;

WHEREAS, the implementation of safe road infrastructures, such as bike lanes, is a proven measure to enhance the safety and accessibility of roadways for cyclists, promoting healthier and sustainable transportation options;

WHEREAS, the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario ("OCC") conducted the Cycling Death review, which was the most comprehensive death review into the causes of cycling deaths in Ontario;

WHEREAS, the OCC made its primary recommendation to the province the adoption of "Complete Streets" which emphasize the need for comprehensive planning and design of roadway infrastructure to safely accommodate all users, including through the installation of more cycling networks including bike lanes;

WHEREAS, municipal governments have the local knowledge and contextual understanding necessary to effectively address specific community transportation needs, including the development and maintenance of safe cycling infrastructure within their cities;

WHEREAS, any provincial initiative that seeks to prevent or preclude municipalities from implementing necessary road safety measures, such as bike lanes, undermines local governance and the ability of municipalities to protect the well-being of their residents and ensure compliance with their obligations that roadways are reasonably safe for all users; and

WHEREAS, this resolution expresses the City of Hamilton's commitment to supporting municipal autonomy in enhancing road safety and emphasizes the importance of integrating protective measures for cyclists through locally tailored infrastructure solutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Hamilton City Council formally oppose any proposed provincial initiative that seeks to restrict or limit the autonomy of municipalities in implementing road safety measures, including the establishment and or removal of bike lanes or bike infrastructure;
- (b) That Hamilton City Council supports the empowerment of municipal road authorities to independently assess and recommend the best methods to ensure the safety of all road users within their jurisdictions and responsibilities; and
- (c) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Paul Calandra, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the area MPPs and MPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities.

Sincerely,



Matthew Trennum
City Clerk

cc. Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Area MPPs and MPs,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



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

November 19, 2024

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

RE: Support Resolution – OPP Annual Billing Statement

Please be advised that at its meeting held on November 18, 2024, Council of the Township of Clearview passed the following resolution regarding the OPP Annual Billing Statement:

Moved by Councillor Broderick, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Whereas current police services within the Township of Clearview are provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP);

And Whereas the Township and the local OPP detachment have worked in a positive, collaborative and effective manner for decades; and

And Whereas historical increases in OPP Annual Billing Statements have trended around 2%;

And Whereas the OPP submitted their 2025 Annual Billing Statement to the Township on October 4, 2024, that identifies an approximate \$0.5 M (22.7%) increase from 2024 to 2025 that will translate to an approximate 2.57% tax rate increase, on top of what the Township was contemplating for the residents of Clearview Township;

And Whereas communication from the Township of Essa as well as other municipalities serviced by the OPP has been received by Clearview Township, seeking support;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that Council of the Township of Clearview, hereby requests that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced to an approximate 2% increase that is more manageable for the Township and in line with historical trends;

1. Name of the person
2. Address
3. City
4. State
5. Zip

6. Telephone
7. E-mail

8. Date of birth
9. Sex
10. Marital status

11. Education
12. Occupation

13. Income
14. Assets

15. Liabilities
16. Net worth

17. Social Security Number
18. Driver's License Number

19. Other identification
20. Signature

21. Date
22. Initials

23. Remarks
24. Comments

25. Other information

And Further That any increase above 2% be absorbed by the province as the additional costs are directly the result of collective bargaining that was within the control of the OPP and should have been known to be financially unsustainable for the municipalities that now need to pay the bill;

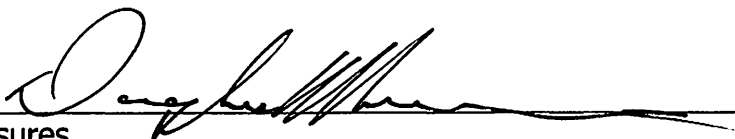
And Further That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, MPP Brian Saunderson, Simcoe-Grey and all 329 municipalities serviced by OPP. Motion Carried.

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

Sincerely,



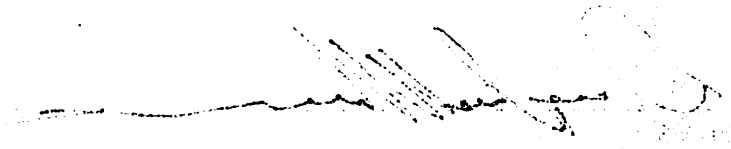
Sasha Helmkey-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Service



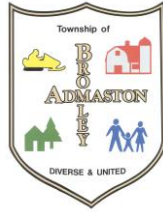
Doug Measures
Mayor

cc: Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
MPP Brian Saunderson, Simcoe-Grey
Municipalities Serviced by the OPP

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Township of Admaston/Bromley



477 Stone Road
Renfrew ON, K7V 3Z5

November 28, 2024

Mayor Lisa McGee
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin St. W.
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8
lmcgee@arnprior.ca

Your Worship Mayor McGee:

On Thursday November 21, 2024 I appeared as a delegation before the Renfrew Detachment Police Services Board to present information on alternatives for the cost allocation of the Board budget (attached). You will note all charts indicate substantial variance to an equal one-seventh share allocation.

I am respectfully requesting the Town of Arnprior endorse and adopt a weighted cost share allocation by property counts – this is the basis by which the OPP invoices each municipality for their respective policing costs – as per the chart provided by the Board Chair in the preamble of the Budget Information Package sent to all participating municipalities (attached).

I understand that you have already supported the Renfrew Detachment Police Services Board budget and an equal cost share, and I respectfully request that you reconsider in regards to the allocation of the costs of the Board.

Yours truly,

Michael Donohue

Michael Donohue
Mayor
mayordonohue@admastonbromley.com

cc: Rob Tripp, Chair - Renfrew Detachment Police Services Board

1 -- Allocation by Properties as Percentage of 2025 Total

(As provided in Renfrew OPP Detachment Board Preamble)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2025 PROPERTIES | 2025 PERCENT OF TOTAL PROPERTIES | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED BY PERCENTAGE | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED EQUALLY | DELTA |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | 5,062 | 22.28% | \$ 25,541 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 9,164 |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | 4,330 | 19.06% | \$ 21,848 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 5,470 |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | 1,495 | 6.58% | \$ 7,543 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 8,834 |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | 2,946 | 12.97% | \$ 14,865 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 1,513 |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | 1,607 | 7.07% | \$ 8,108 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 8,269 |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | 3,423 | 15.07% | \$ 17,272 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 894 |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | 3,858 | 16.98% | \$ 19,466 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 3,089 |
| TOTAL | 22,721 | | \$ 114,644 | \$ 114,644 | |

2 -- Allocation As Percentage of 2023 Municipal OPP Contract

(All data extracted from 2023 FIR, except MB which has not yet filed. MB data is extracted from 2025 billing statement)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2023 POLICING COST BY MUNICIPALITY | 2023 PERCENT OF TOTAL COST | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED BY PERCENTAGE | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED EQUALLY | DELTA |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | \$ 1,665,181 | 23.63% | \$ 27,096 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 10,718 |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | \$ 1,943,853 | 27.59% | \$ 31,630 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 15,252 |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | \$ 390,977 | 5.55% | \$ 6,362 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 10,016 |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | \$ 706,311 | 10.02% | \$ 11,493 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 4,885 |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | \$ 421,411 | 5.98% | \$ 6,857 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 9,521 |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | \$ 915,780 | 13.00% | \$ 14,901 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 1,476 |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | \$ 1,002,046 | 14.22% | \$ 16,305 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 73 |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,045,559 | | \$ 114,644 | \$ 114,644 | |

3 -- Allocation As Percentage of 2022 Assessment

(All data extracted from 2022 FIR as MB has not yet filed 2023)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2022 ASSESSMENT | 2022 PERCENT OF TOTAL ASSESSMENT | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED BY PERCENTAGE | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED EQUALLY | DELTA |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | \$ 1,027,289,300 | 18.47% | \$ 21,180 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 4,803 |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | \$ 734,897,300 | 13.22% | \$ 15,152 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 1,226 |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | \$ 467,104,300 | 8.40% | \$ 9,631 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 6,747 |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | \$ 829,231,800 | 14.91% | \$ 17,097 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 719 |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | \$ 456,970,800 | 8.22% | \$ 9,422 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 6,956 |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | \$ 1,017,454,100 | 18.30% | \$ 20,978 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 4,600 |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | \$ 1,027,533,100 | 18.48% | \$ 21,185 | \$ 16,377.71 | -\$ 4,808 |
| TOTAL | \$ 5,560,480,700 | | \$ 114,644 | \$ 114,644 | |

4 -- Allocation on Per Capita Basis

(2021 Census - Statistics Canada)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2021 POPULATION | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED BY POPULATION PERCENTAGE | 2025 PSB COST PER CAPITA | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED EQUALLY | 2025 PSB COST PER CAPITA | DELTA PER CAPITA |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | 9,629 | \$ 26,487.84 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 1.70 | -\$ 1.05 |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | 8,190 | \$ 22,529.38 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 2.00 | -\$ 0.75 |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | 2,995 | \$ 8,238.77 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 5.47 | \$ 2.72 |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | 2,864 | \$ 7,878.41 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 5.72 | \$ 2.97 |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | 3,182 | \$ 8,753.17 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 5.15 | \$ 2.40 |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | 7,591 | \$ 20,881.63 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 2.16 | -\$ 0.59 |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | 7,225 | \$ 19,874.82 | \$ 2.75 | \$ 16,377.71 | \$ 2.27 | -\$ 0.48 |
| TOTAL | 41,676 | \$ 114,644 | | \$ 114,644 | | |

5 -- OPP Policing Cost Per Capita by Municipality

(2021 Census - Statistics Canada)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2023 MUNICIPAL OPP POLICING COST | 2021 POPULATION | 2025 PSB COST PER CAPITA |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | \$ 1,665,181 | 9,629 | \$ 172.93 |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | \$ 1,943,853 | 8,190 | \$ 237.34 |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | \$ 390,977 | 2,995 | \$ 130.54 |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | \$ 706,311 | 5,800 | \$ 121.78 |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | \$ 421,411 | 3,182 | \$ 132.44 |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | \$ 915,780 | 7,591 | \$ 120.64 |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | \$ 1,002,046 | 7,225 | \$ 138.69 |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,045,559 | | |

6 -- OPP Police Governance as Percentage of Service Cost

(2021 Census - Statistics Canada)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2023 MUNICIPAL OPP POLICING COST | 2025 PSB COST ALLOCATED EQUALLY | GOVERNANCE AS PERCENTAGE OF SERVICE |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | \$ 1,665,181 | \$ 16,377.71 | 0.98% |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | \$ 1,943,853 | \$ 16,377.71 | 0.84% |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | \$ 390,977 | \$ 16,377.71 | 4.19% |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | \$ 706,311 | \$ 16,377.71 | 2.32% |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | \$ 421,411 | \$ 16,377.71 | 3.89% |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | \$ 915,780 | \$ 16,377.71 | 1.79% |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | \$ 1,002,046 | \$ 16,377.71 | 1.63% |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,045,559 | \$ 114,644 | |

7 -- OPP Police Service Cost Comparison 2010 & 2023

(All 2023 data extracted from FIR, except MB which has not yet filed, MB data is extracted from 2025 billing statement. All 2010 data extracted from FIR)

| MUNICIPALITY | 2023 MUNICIPAL OPP POLICING COST | 2023 PERCENT OF TOTAL COST | 2010 MUNICIPAL OPP POLICING COST | 2010 PERCENT OF TOTAL COST |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| TOWN OF ARNPRIOR | \$ 1,665,181 | 23.63% | \$ 1,896,380.00 | 34.10% |
| TOWN OF RENFREW | \$ 1,943,853 | 27.59% | \$ 1,842,756.00 | 33.14% |
| TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY | \$ 390,977 | 5.55% | \$ 288,960.00 | 5.20% |
| TOWNSHIP OF GREATER MADAWASKA | \$ 706,311 | 10.02% | \$ 286,343.00 | 5.15% |
| TOWNSHIP OF HORTON | \$ 421,411 | 5.98% | \$ 234,236.00 | 4.21% |
| TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB BRAESIDE | \$ 915,780 | 13.00% | \$ 416,366.00 | 7.49% |
| TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION | \$ 1,002,046 | 14.22% | \$ 595,451.00 | 10.71% |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,045,559 | | \$ 5,560,492 | |

Funding Models:

Equal billing model:

The 2025 budget amount of \$114,644 would be equally shared by all seven municipalities for an amount of \$16,377.71 for each municipality.

Weighted billing based on 2025 household count based of a budget of \$114,644 are estimated at;

| Township | HH Count | Percentage. | Budget Share |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|
| Admaston/Bromley Township | 1495 | 6.58% | \$7,543.36 |
| Town of Arnprior | 5062 | 22.28% | \$25,541.48 |
| Greater Madawaska Township | 2946 | 12.97% | \$14,864.72 |
| Horton Township | 1607 | 7.07% | \$8,108.49 |
| McNab/Braeside Township | 3423 | 15.07% | \$17,271.53 |
| Renfrew Township | 4330 | 19.06% | \$21,848.00 |
| Whitewater Region Township | 3858 | 16.98% | \$19,466.42 |

Note: Calculations are based on 2025 numbers received on population count and are to serve as a guide to the determination of amounts should Councils move towards a population-based billing model.