



Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: May 26th, 2025
Correspondence Package No. I-25-MAY-10

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-25-MAY-10 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) [Ontario Sport Hosting Program Applications Now Open](#)
- b) [Ontario Taking Next Steps to Protect Primary Care](#)
- c) [Ontario Helping More Children Access Baseball Programming](#)
- d) [Ontario Taking Action to Support Seniors and their Caregivers](#)
- e) [Ontario Getting Homes and Infrastructure Built Faster and Smarter](#)
- f) [Ontario Permanently Cutting the Gas Tax and Taking Tolls Off Highway 407 East](#)
- g) [Ontario and Manitoba Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Tear Down Interprovincial Trade Barriers](#)
- h) [A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) [Official Opening of Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa](#)
- b) [EOWC Meets with Premier Ford, Ministers and MPPs on Eastern Ontario's Economic Resilience](#)
- c) [County Council Summary April 2025](#)
- d) [Enterprise Renfrew County – Upcoming Webinars and Events](#)

3. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) [Watch File – May 8th, 2025](#)
- b) [Watch File – May 15th, 2025](#)

- c) Policy Update – Proposed Legislation on Planning & Development Charges
- d) Policy Update – Modelling Tool
- e) Policy Update – Provincial Budget Priorities

4. Correspondence from the Ontario Provincial Police

- a) Municipal Policing Bureau

5. Correspondence from Other Municipalities

- a) Municipality of Chatham-Kent: Motion re Bill 5
- b) Town of Goderich: Rejection of President Trump's Rhetoric Regarding the Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs
- c) Town of Orangeville: Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5
- d) Town of Shelburne: Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5
- e) Town of The Blue Mountains: Advocating for Reduced Provincial Tax Rate on Ontario-Made Cider
- f) Township of Russell: USA Tariffs on Canadian Goods

6. Correspondence from Ottawa West Four Rivers Ontario Health Team

- a) Thank You for Your Contributions to IPCT Expansion Proposals

7. Correspondence from Arnprior Regional Health

- a) Thank you for helping us reach 100% - a Sneak Peek at the CT Scan Suite

Ontario Sport Hosting Program Applications Now Open

\$3 million investment will boost sport tourism and local economies

May 07, 2025

[Sport](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is accepting applications for the second intake of the 2025-26 Sport Hosting Program, which provides funding to communities and sport organizations that are hosting national and international amateur sport events in the province.

“Our government is supporting our athletes, strengthening our communities and protecting our economy,” said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Sport. “Bringing more amateur sport events to Ontario gives our athletes a chance to compete at home, while fostering national unity and driving domestic tourism that protects local businesses and jobs at this crucial time.”

Each year, the [Ontario Sport Hosting Program](#) assists organizers and Ontario communities by providing funding support to host a variety of winter and summer national and international amateur sport events, reinforcing Ontario’s reputation as a top destination for sport hosting. With an annual investment of \$3 million, the program has supported more than 210 events hosted in the province, contributing approximately \$185 million to Ontario’s economy since 2018.

In addition to bringing economic and tourism benefits to a communities, hosting sport events benefits Ontario athletes by giving them the opportunity to gain the elite-competition experience needed to excel on the world stage.

Communities and organizations can apply for the Ontario Sport Hosting Program – Intake II funding online through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) until July 14, 2025.

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Sport Hosting Program is designed to help bring national and international amateur sport events to the province by funding a variety of winter and summer sport competitions.

- Each year, the Ontario Sport Hosting Program brings together on average approximately 9,500 amateur athletes, 3,000 volunteers and 100,000 community supporters to Ontario.
- Successful applicants can use this funding to help with operational costs, including venue, staffing, participant expenses (such as accommodations and meals) and legacy projects.
- Through the 2025-26 Sport Hosting Program – Intake I, Ontario is investing more than \$1.7 million to support 20 national and 10 international amateur sport events, which are expected to attract 12,000 athletes and generate \$29 million in economic activity for Ontario.

Additional Resources

[Ontario Sport Hosting Program](#)

[Apply for the Ontario Sport Hosting Program](#)

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](#)

Travel and Recreation

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

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Ontario Taking Next Steps to Protect Primary Care

Province introducing legislation, investing \$300 million to expand teaching clinics and connect 300,000 more people to a family doctor and primary care team

May 07, 2025

[Health](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government is introducing the *Primary Care Act, 2025*. This legislation, if passed, will make Ontario the first Canadian jurisdiction to establish a framework for its publicly funded primary care system so that people in Ontario know what they can expect when accessing primary care services, no matter where they live. This legislation is part of the government's [Primary Care Action Plan](#), which will connect two million more people to publicly funded primary care in the next four years, achieving the government's goal of connecting everyone in Ontario to a family doctor or primary care team.

"This first-of-its kind, nation-leading legislation marks a major step forward in our plan to protect our health care system and connect everyone in Ontario to a family doctor and primary care team," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Primary care is the foundation of our health care system, and we are establishing our government's vision for a primary care system that improves access to care and empowers people with the knowledge and tools to increase their well-being."

As part of the upcoming 2025 Ontario Budget, the government is also investing up to \$300 million to build up to 17 new and expanded community-based primary care teaching clinics in communities with high rates of unattachment to primary care. This brings the government's total investment in Ontario's Primary Care Action Plan to \$2.1 billion. In partnership with McMaster University, NOSM University, Queens University, Toronto Metropolitan University, University of Ottawa, University of Toronto, and Western University, the clinics will train family doctors and other health care professionals such as nurse practitioners, physician assistants and registered nurses. The clinics combine direct patient care with hands-on learning for primary care learners, allowing approximately 300,000 additional Ontarians to be connected to primary care. Further details about where the clinics will be located will be announced this summer.

“Thanks to our efforts to grow Ontario’s economy while investing in people’s health, we’re able to continue making historic advancements to make our primary care system more accessible, innovative and connected for all,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “As a critical part of our Primary Care Action Plan, this legislation would bring us one step closer to our commitment to connect more people to publicly funded primary care and reinforce Ontario’s place as national health care leaders.”

The *Primary Care Act, 2025* sets out six clear objectives for Ontario’s publicly funded primary care system which will ensure people know what they can expect when connecting to primary care:

- **Province-wide:** Every person across the province should have the opportunity to have ongoing access to a primary care clinician or team.
- **Connected:** Every person should have the opportunity to receive primary care that is coordinated with existing health and social services.
- **Convenient:** Every person should have access to timely primary care.
- **Inclusive:** Every person should have the opportunity to receive primary care that is free from barriers and free from discrimination.
- **Empowered:** Every person should have the opportunity to access their personal health information through a digitally integrated system that connects patients and clinicians in the circle of care.
- **Responsive:** The primary care system should respond to the needs of the communities it serves and everyone should have access to information about how the system is performing and adapting.

“This groundbreaking legislation and substantial investment in primary care teaching clinics marks a significant milestone for Ontario’s primary care system,” said Dr. Jane Philpott, Chair of Ontario’s Primary Care Action Team. “By expanding capacity to train family medicine learners, along with proposing to establish clear objectives in legislation, we are working toward ensuring that primary care will be accessible for all.”

Through [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), the Ontario government continues to take bold and decisive action to grow the province’s highly skilled health care workforce and ensure people and their families have access to high-quality care closer to home for generations to come.

Quick Facts

- The legislation, if passed, would set out objectives for Ontario’s publicly funded primary care system that are in alignment with existing health care legislation

and accountability structures including service agreements.

- The province continues to engage primary care partners to inform the broader implementation of the Primary Care Action Plan.
- As part of the province's latest investment, up to \$60 million in funding this year will support the early capital planning for new and expanded primary care teaching clinics, as well as supporting the operation of Toronto Metropolitan University's two primary care teaching clinics at its new medical school in Brampton. Starting in July 2025, Toronto Metropolitan University will add the first of its 95 undergraduate education seats and its 117 postgraduate seats, with 70 in family medicine.
- Ontario currently has 39 teaching clinics across the province where medical residents train to become family doctors. Family medicine residents typically spend up to two years training at a teaching clinic before graduation.
- The government is investing in the largest medical school education expansion in more than a decade by adding 340 seats for family medicine by 2028-29, representing a 67 per cent increase in family medicine learners.
- The government announced an [investment of \\$213 million](#) to create and expand up to 80 additional primary care teams across the province to attach 300,000 more people to primary care this year.
- Since 2018, the province has added nearly 100,000 new nurses and over 15,000 new physicians to the health care system.

Quotes

"Our government is taking major strides to continue strengthening and protecting the province's health care workforce today, and for decades to come. This critical investment in our world-renowned medical schools will not only give students hands-on learning opportunities through the primary care clinics, but it will also connect communities across the province with the excellent health care they need to live long and happy lives."

- Nolan Quinn

Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security

"As the Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, I wholeheartedly support the introduction of the Primary Care Act, 2025 as a pivotal advancement in building a more inclusive and accessible health care system. By expanding primary care across Ontario, we are supporting women and families with the care they need to thrive. This investment strengthens our communities and empowers future generations. Equitable access to primary care is essential to advancing both economic and social opportunity, particularly for women and caregivers. This legislation ensures that all Ontarians, regardless of background or postal code, can rely on consistent, high-quality care. It represents a meaningful step toward a healthier, more prosperous Ontario."

**- Charmaine Williams
MPP for Brampton Centre**

"This landmark investment and legislation in primary care and medical education is a game-changer for Brampton. With Toronto Metropolitan University's new medical school and teaching clinics, our government is not only expanding access to care but also training the next generation of family doctors right here in our community."

**- Prabmeet Sarkaria
MPP for Brampton South**

"By introducing the Primary Care Act, 2025, our government is laying the foundation for a stronger, more sustainable health care system that will serve Ontarians well into the future. This legislation ensures they can count on consistent, high-quality primary care, no matter their postal code. It is a crucial step in strengthening our healthcare system today and protecting it for generations to come."

**- Graham McGregor
MPP for Brampton North**

"The introduction of the Primary Care Act, 2025, is a major step forward in strengthening our health care system and connecting more Ontarians to the care they deserve. With new teaching clinics, including those coming to Brampton, our government is training the next generation of health care professionals and delivering better care closer to home."

**- Amarjot Sandhu
MPP for Brampton West**

"This \$300 million investment in expanding primary care teaching clinics is a critical step in strengthening our health care system. By training more family doctors right here in Ontario, we're not only addressing the immediate need for more primary care providers, but also laying the foundation for a healthier future for our communities. I'm proud to support a plan that ensures Ontarians will have better, more timely access to the care they need, closer to home."

**- Hardeep Grewal
MPP for Brampton East**

"Ontario's doctors are encouraged by this announcement and look forward to working with government to ensure that every Ontarian has access to a family doctor. We will do everything we can to accelerate this goal by collaborating with Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the lead of the Primary Care Action Team, Dr. Jane Philpott. It's a long road ahead but this is a positive step forward to protecting Ontario's valued health care system."

**- Kimberly Moran
CEO, Ontario Medical Association (OMA)**

"This is an exciting investment that will truly transform the way that Ontarians access primary health care. With our first class of medical learners starting later this year, this funding will directly support our Integrated Health Centres, which will recruit, train, and retain family medicine physicians, while also improving access to interprofessional primary care in communities that need it most."

- Mohamed Lachemi

President and Vice Chancellor, Toronto Metropolitan University

"Ontario's Deans of Medicine welcome this crucial investment of much needed funding to build and expand Primary Care Teaching Clinics across Ontario. These clinics will prepare our future generations of family physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses and other health care professionals while providing vital primary care to Ontario's unattached patients. The Deans of Medicine appreciate the dedication and vision of the government to attach all Ontarians to a primary care provider."

**- Dr. Paul O'Byrne, Co-chair and Dr. John Yoo, Co-chair
Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine**

"Queen's University School of Medicine welcomes this transformative investment in building Primary Care Teaching Clinics and supporting interprofessional team-based primary care delivery and teaching in our region that will provide our local communities with access to vital primary care for generations."

- Dr. Stephen Vanner

Interim Dean, Queen's Health Sciences, interim director of the School of Medicine, and interim CEO of the Southeastern Ontario Academic Medical Organization

"The University of Ottawa's Faculty of Medicine welcomes this strong action to grow the health care workforce and expand access to high-quality care in Ontario. Minister Sylvia Jones' plan to invest in primary care teaching clinics will help ensure family physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses and other health care professionals are trained to provide primary care, including here in Eastern Ontario and in Francophone communities."

- Dr. Melissa Forgie

Interim Dean and Professor Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa

"NOSM University is thrilled to be able to develop dedicated Primary Care Teaching Clinics for the first time. This will provide critical support for our expansion of family medicine training to deliver the family doctors needed across Northern Ontario."

- Dr. Michael Green

**President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean, and CEO Northern Ontario School of
Medicine University**

"This investment in team-based training is an excellent step forward in strengthening Ontario's health care system. Through interdisciplinary Primary Care Teaching Clinics, the University of Toronto's network of training sites will help to build a pipeline to attract new doctors to underserved regions while at the same time meeting the needs of community members who have no primary health care provider. This is the educational model of the future."

- Dr. Lisa Robinson

Dean, Temerty Faculty of Medicine University of Toronto

"This is a bold and consequential investment—one that will leave a lasting imprint on health care for all Ontarians. We thank Dr. Jane Philpott for championing a model that brings education and care together in service of our communities and Premier Ford, Minister Jones and Minister Bethlenfalvy for their unwavering leadership and support."

- Dr. John Yoo

Dean, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University

"We're encouraged by today's announcement and welcome the government's continued focus on strengthening primary care. Investments that support the training of more family doctors and team members in community-based teaching clinics are an important part of the solution. These steps to ensure every Ontarian has access to a family physician reflect the urgency of the moment, and we look forward to seeing how these investments will also help family physicians thrive in their work. We remain committed to working with government and system partners to help make that goal a reality."

- Dr. Jobin Varughese
President, Ontario College of Family Physicians

"McMaster University's Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine congratulates the Ontario government's work to bring primary care to all Ontarians. We welcome this investment to create new Primary Care Teaching Clinics and look forward to working with the government to ensure that family physicians and other primary care providers have the skills and education required to meet the healthcare needs of the people of Hamilton region and our surrounding communities. "

- Dr. Paul O'Byrne
Dean and Vice-President of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Dean, Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, McMaster University

"RNAO welcomes this important step toward ensuring that every Ontarian is connected to a most responsible provider – a nurse practitioner or a family physician. Since the release of our first Enhancing Community Care for Ontarians (ECCO) report in 2012, RNAO has consistently called for primary care to be positioned as the foundation of Ontario's health system. It is now essential that these new initiatives be formally linked with nursing education across the province – including both baccalaureate nursing and nurse practitioner programs – as a critical measure to advance team-based care and nursing leadership in an Ontario that leads the country."

- Dr. Doris Grinspun RN, PhD, O.ONT.
CEO, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO)

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Connecting Over 300,000 People to Primary Care Teams](#)
- [Ontario Investing Over \\$1.8 Billion to Connect Every Person in Ontario to a Family Doctor and Primary Care Teams](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)

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Ontario Helping More Children Access Baseball Programming

\$300,000 investment in Jays Care Foundation will help more youth play baseball and learn to stay active and healthy

May 08, 2025

[Sport](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$300,000 in Jays Care Foundation, the charitable arm of the Toronto Blue Jays, to help expand baseball programming for children and youth throughout the province. This funding is through the province's Inclusive Grassroots Recreation (IGR) program, which expands sport and recreation opportunities for children and youth across Ontario.

"Our government is proud to partner with world-class organizations like Jays Care," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Sport. "As Ontario families face rising costs due to the threat of tariffs, our government is breaking down barriers for children of all backgrounds and abilities so they can experience the life-changing benefits of participating in sport and recreation."

This investment will support Jays Care's Indigenous Rookie League and Challenger Baseball programs to help further the Jays Care Foundation's mission to use baseball as a tool for development for children and youth across Canada.

"Jays Care Foundation is deeply grateful to the Ontario Ministry of Sport for its continued generous support of our Challenger Baseball and Indigenous Rookie League programs. The Government of Ontario's funding will inspire community connections, cultivate a love for baseball, and support the well-being of youth living with disabilities, and Indigenous youth across the province. By enabling more children to access these transformative baseball programs, and equipping coaches with the tools to make sport more inclusive, this contribution will have a lasting impact. Together, we are fostering a healthier, more connected, and confident future for young people across Ontario, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive through the power of baseball." – Jules Porter, Director, Programs, Jays Care Foundation

Jays Care Foundation runs several core programs to reach children and youth facing significant barriers to sport participation. Programs such as Challenger Baseball and Indigenous Rookie League reach children and youth facing significant barriers and create more opportunities for them to participate in sport and recreation, promoting healthier, more connected lives.

Quick Facts

- Since its inception in 2021-22, the Inclusive Grassroots Recreation (IGR) program has provided more than 65,000 children and youth across Ontario with opportunities to participate in sport and recreation programming in their communities.
 - Under-represented and/or marginalized populations benefitting from IGR include low-income families, racialized children and youth, 2SLGBTQ+ youth, newcomers, women and girls, persons with a disability, children and youth in Northern Ontario and Indigenous communities.
 - Challenger Baseball supports schools and community organizations in setting up and delivering adaptive baseball programs that enable children and youth with disabilities to participate in a high-quality, safe and inclusive sport and play environment.
 - Indigenous Rookie League supports Indigenous schools, communities and organizations in developing initiatives tailored to their unique needs and goals, including league play between communities or introductory baseball programs within schools or communities.
-

Quotes

"Our government is strongly committed to helping all young people achieve lifelong success, which is why we fund and oversee programs and services that support the healthy development of Ontario's children. As Minister, I want to give a special thank you to the Jays Care Foundation for working so hard to provide children and youth with amazing opportunities to play, learn and grow."

- Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services

"Ontario's investment in Jays Care Foundation's Indigenous Rookie League creates meaningful pathways for Indigenous youth to build essential skills, forge strong community connections, and live active lives. Accessible recreation programs like these enable young people to grow confidently and reach their full potential. Supporting Indigenous families through sport delivers lasting impacts that strengthen entire communities."

- Greg Rickford

Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation

Additional Resources

- [Supporting children and youth | Annual progress report 2024: Ontario's Anti-Racism Strategic Plan](#)
- [Jays Care Foundation](#)
- [Ontario Helping More Children Access Sport and Recreation](#)
- [Ontario Expanding Opportunities for Girls in Sport](#)

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Ontario Taking Action to Support Seniors and their Caregivers

Province re-introducing legislation to improve quality of life and protect seniors across the province

May 08, 2025

[Long-Term Care](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government re-introduced legislation to protect and support seniors and the people who care for them. The [Support for Seniors and Caregivers Act, 2025](#), if passed, would better connect seniors and their caregivers to complex care, and is backed by \$114 million in investments to increase access to community and social programs that help seniors stay fit, active and healthy in their communities.

“As Ontario’s population continues to grow, it is critical to build for the future so we can support some of the most vulnerable members of our community,” said Paul Calandra, acting Minister of Long-Term Care. “That’s why our government is investing in new programs to improve quality and access to care while strengthening protections for seniors and their families.”

The proposed legislation would amend the [Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021](#) and the [Retirement Homes Act, 2010](#) and make a suite of changes to:

- Protect residents with dementia by requiring all long-term care homes in Ontario to have an organized program for dementia care and services.
- Support seniors and their families by strengthening residents’ rights to ongoing support from family or friends who provide care.
- Broaden requirements for long-term care homes to recognize and respect the cultural, linguistic, religious and spiritual needs of residents. This includes new regulations that require long-term care homes to increase information available in French.
- Introduce new offences related to the abuse or neglect of a long-term care home resident and enhance the ability to investigate and prosecute offences.

Other initiatives complementing the legislation include:

- Investing almost \$80 million over three years to [improve and expand dementia care and supports](#).
- Expanding community programming and resources for seniors living in their own homes.
- Developing a provincial approach for using artificial intelligence for the early detection of osteoporosis, responsible for 80% of all fractures in older adults.

These changes are one more way the province is taking action to protect Ontario and meet the needs of Ontario's aging population and their caregivers by improving and expanding supports for seniors living in long-term care, congregate settings and in the community.

Quick Facts

- Seniors — people age 65 and older — make up the fastest growing age group in the province.
- Over 60% of LTC residents have a dementia diagnosis.
- As part of its plan to fix long-term care and address waitlists, the government is building 58,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds across the province.
- Ontario is offering [incentives of up to \\$35,400](#) to PSW students and eligible PSWs to launch careers in long-term care homes and in the home and community care sector.
- The Ontario government invested up to \$4.9 billion between 2021 and 2025 to create thousands of new positions for personal support workers and nurses in long-term care.

Quotes

"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. 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."

- Sylvia Jones
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

"Every year as the number of older adults increases, we must do all we can to ensure seniors are healthy and socially connected to their communities. This legislation, once passed, will build on our government's historic investments that keep seniors fit, active, engaged, close to their homes and most importantly end social isolation."

- Raymond Cho
Minister for Seniors and Accessibility

"The Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario is pleased to see the provincial government's recognition of nurse practitioners (NPs) as clinicians and leaders in delivering high-quality, compassionate care in long-term care homes, ensuring Ontario's seniors receive the support they deserve to maintain their health and well-being. This is a necessary step in leveraging the full extent of NPs' training and expertise, and we look forward to continuing our work with the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Long-Term Care to improve resident outcomes across the province."

- Dr. Michelle Acorn, NP
CEO of the Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario (NPAO)

"Long-term care homes play a vital role in enabling seniors with high care needs to age in their communities when staying at home is no longer possible. The government's historic levels of investment in long-term care staffing, program and capital have enabled critical innovation and improvements in care. As Ontario's long-term care homes continue their transformation to provide innovative, resident-focused models of care, we thank the government for their continued commitment to supporting and strengthening long-term care across the province."

- Donna Duncan
Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long Term Care Association

"The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario welcomes a cross-government approach to enriching the quality of life and care for older persons whether they reside in long-term care homes, retirement homes, or their own homes. We applaud the investments to support seniors, their families and caregivers; enhance social connections; and improve dementia care. These, alongside a continuous focus on much needed staff increases, will begin addressing a population that has been under-resourced for decades. We are delighted with the inclusion of nurse practitioners as clinical directors in long-term care homes — a role they successfully performed during the pandemic. Nurse practitioners bring advanced clinical education, the legal authority to diagnose and treat illnesses, and a deep understanding of policy and regulatory frameworks. This change will make a meaningful difference for residents of long-term care, their families and staff."

- Dr. Doris Grinspun, RN, PhD, O.ONT.
CEO Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO)

"At Partners Community Health, we welcome the Government of Ontario's proposed legislative changes and investments to expand services that support seniors in long-term care and in the community. We are excited by the opportunity to further empower staff and caregivers and, alongside our partners, deliver connected, high-quality care to residents, as well as those waiting for long-term care in the community."

- Tess Romain
President & CEO, Partners Community Health

Additional Resources

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

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Ontario Getting Homes and Infrastructure Built Faster and Smarter

Province introducing legislation and new funding to cut red tape and speed up home construction in partnership with municipalities

May 12, 2025

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Finance](#)

[Infrastructure](#)

VAUGHAN — Today, Ontario is introducing the [Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025](#) to help speed up the construction of new homes and infrastructure, including by streamlining development processes and reducing costs in close partnership with municipalities. The province is also increasing its historic investment in housing-enabling infrastructure by adding \$400 million in immediate funding to the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund (HEWSF) and Municipal Housing Infrastructure Fund (MHIP) for a total of nearly \$2.3 billion over four years across the HEWSF and the MHIP.

“We are taking bold action to protect Ontario in the face of economic uncertainty by speeding up construction so we can lower housing costs and keep workers on the job,” said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “The legislation we’re tabling today responds to recommendations and requests from municipal leaders, and will help build the homes and infrastructure Ontario needs.”

The *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*, if passed, and related actions would:

- Spur new construction by simplifying and standardizing development charges based on measures that were developed in consultation with municipalities, including measures that some municipalities have already implemented. Ontario will work with municipalities to continue simplifying, streamlining and reducing costly local development fees that can add hundreds of thousands of dollars to the cost of new homes.

- Remove barriers for Canadian manufacturers who want to introduce innovative materials, systems and building designs that could reduce construction costs and expedite projects.
- Streamline and improve planning and delivery for transit-oriented communities, creating more jobs and housing options near transit.
- Reduce costs and speed up project approvals with consistent building construction standards across Ontario municipalities.
- Significantly speed up getting shovels in the ground to build major transit projects by extending measures in the *Building Transit Faster Act, 2020* to all provincial transit projects.
- Simplify, streamline and bring consistency and transparency to development applications, land use planning approvals, and contents of municipal official plans. These changes would make it easier and faster to build residential, commercial and industrial buildings within and across Ontario's municipalities.
- Ontario's road building standards can differ across the province's 444 municipalities, causing unnecessary cost and delays. The province will consult with municipalities and stakeholders by fall 2025 on framework legislation for greater harmonization and clarified governance of municipal standards, which will lead to cost savings through more efficient design and technical review, greater construction efficiencies and streamlined procurement processes.

"We are pulling out all the stops to protect and build up Ontario during this time of economic uncertainty," said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. "Our expanded investments will ensure we can build even more homes, create more jobs and protect the most critical infrastructure that people depend on every day."

Through HEWSF, the province has already allocated nearly \$1.3 billion for water and waste-water infrastructure projects that will enable the construction of approximately 600,000 homes. Ontario has also invested approximately \$700 million in MHIP. Combined with the new \$400 million (\$315 million for HEWSF and \$85 million for MHIP) this brings the new total investment to nearly \$2.3 billion.

"I applaud Premier Ford, Minister Flack, and the Government of Ontario for taking bold and creative action to address the housing crisis," said Steven Del Duca, Mayor for the City of Vaughan. "The status quo simply isn't working, and families across

Ontario — including mine — deserve to see real change. I want my kids to have the opportunity to own a home in the city where they grew up. In Vaughan, we're doing our part by reducing development charges by 50 per cent and using every tool available to get more homes built, faster. I welcome the province's leadership in cutting red tape, standardizing approvals, and building a more efficient, affordable future for all Ontarians."

Through the Building Faster Fund, the government has also provided municipalities with \$286.8 million for community and housing-enabling infrastructure last year, along with \$120 million dedicated for small, rural and Northern municipalities without housing targets which is being delivered through the HEWSF and MHIP. This is in addition to the \$1 billion in flexible loans for housing-enabling water infrastructure projects available to municipalities through the [Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program](#).

"I'm grateful for the province's leadership in introducing these much-needed measures to address the housing crisis," said Carolyn Parrish, Mayor for the City of Mississauga. "Municipalities cannot tackle this challenge alone -- we need support like this to cut red tape, streamline approvals, and create the conditions for faster, more affordable housing development. Mississauga's Housing Task Force has demonstrated that bold reforms and innovative policies can drive real progress, and these provincial measures will encourage cities across Ontario to accelerate their own housing initiatives. This kind of collaboration across all levels of government is critical to meeting the urgent housing needs of our residents and building a more sustainable future for residents all over Ontario."

Quick Facts

- The *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* and other proposed measures consist of 20 initiatives that would accelerate provincial permitting and approvals.
- The proposals work together with measures proposed in Bill 2, [the Protect Ontario through Free Trade within Canada Act, 2025](#) and Bill 5, [the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025](#), as part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by strengthening internal trade relationships, supporting faster provincial development and supporting buying local.
- Ontario is currently investing nearly \$1.3 billion through first and second intakes of [HEWSF](#) to support 77 water infrastructure projects that will help municipalities build approximately 600,000 new homes across the province. HEWSF helps municipalities build, repair, rehabilitate and expand critical drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure.

- Ontario is investing \$175 million through the [MHIP](#) Health and Safety Water Stream to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand the capacity of aging water, flood and erosion infrastructure.
- The province is also currently investing \$400 million through the [MHIP Housing-Enabling Core Servicing Stream](#) to support the construction of up to 160,000 new homes and ensure these growing communities are connected to reliable roadways. MHIP provides funding for core infrastructure projects that support growing and developing communities.

Quotes

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is making historic investments in public transit to tackle gridlock, connect communities and keep Ontarians on the job as we continue to grapple with President Trump's unjustified trade war. Now more than ever, we must remove barriers to building transit and take bold, decisive action that supports our growing population and protects Ontario's jobs."

- Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

"In the face of global uncertainty, Ontario is embracing the opportunity to grow the economy and create stronger, more vibrant communities. Our government is doubling down on our efforts to get more homes built through key investments to support the construction of housing-enabling infrastructure, while empowering municipalities across the province to build faster and smarter for the wellbeing of people today, and for future generations."

- Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance

"As a former mayor and past President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, I understand the day-to-day challenges municipalities face in getting shovels in the ground. This legislation reflects what we've heard from local leaders. It removes red tape, respects taxpayer dollars, and gets homes and infrastructure built faster where people need them most. This is just another tool our government is providing to help communities grow stronger and more resilient for future generations."

- Graydon Smith
Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

"We are instilling hope for young people across Ontario that their government is throwing everything at this to reduce housing costs and get more affordable housing built. Our government's significant investment in infrastructure is helping to lay the foundations for more housing, built faster, so the next generation can achieve the same dream of homeownership as the last."

- Stephen Lecce
Minister of Energy and Mines, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for King-Vaughan

"AMO is firmly behind the province's commitment to streamlining approvals and enhancing transparency to get more homes built faster in Ontario. Minister Flack's approach highlights what we can achieve when the province, municipalities and the development sector all work together towards a shared goal. We look forward to finding new and innovative ways of funding the infrastructure that communities need to support growth and the economy, and maintain the quality of life that remains Ontario's key competitive advantage."

- Robin Jones
President of Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Mayor of Westport

"Our members are fully committed to building more homes faster and to working with all levels of government to make that happen. Our communities need more than just housing; they need parks, schools, community centres, safe roads, and other essential services that make neighbourhoods complete. We look forward to working closely with the provincial government on enabling regulations for this legislation to accelerate housing development and deliver the vital services our residents rely on and deserve."

- Marianne Meed Ward

Chair of Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM), Mayor of Burlington

"The current housing crisis demands a swift, decisive, and coordinated response from all levels of government. While the legislation introduced today marks a significant step forward in reducing red tape and speeding up construction, it's clear that we are still facing an urgent crisis that requires immediate action. Our industry, municipalities, and the federal government must work with the provincial government to implement these measures effectively and swiftly. Only through a crisis-led approach—prioritizing housing needs and removing unnecessary barriers—can we truly accelerate home building, address the housing shortage, and ensure that Ontarians have access to safe, affordable homes."

- Scott Andison

CEO, Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA)

"In this period of economic and tariff uncertainty, prioritizing housing is both a strategic imperative and a socio-economic win-win. It provides much-needed homes in a region facing a housing deficit and affordability challenges, while also protecting Canadian jobs and stimulating the economy. BILD and the entire industry applaud the provincial government for delivering concrete, meaningful changes through the Protecting Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025—measures that will accelerate homebuilding in the GTA, help new home buyers, and strengthen Ontario's domestic industry and workforce."

- David Wilkes
President & CEO, Building Industry and Land Development Association
(BILD)

"RESCON has been advocating for significant regulatory changes that will facilitate the construction of more homes in an expedited manner, and which will assist in reducing costs for homebuyers and homebuilders. Under the leadership of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, we welcome the major changes to processes and regulations that will go a long way towards addressing these challenges. We commend Minister Flack and the government for these important steps."

- Richard Lyall
President, Residential Construction Council of Ontario (RESCON)

"We thank Premier Ford, Minister Flack, and Minister Sarkaria for introducing legislation that, if passed, will launch formal consultations on harmonizing construction and design specifications across Ontario municipalities. For far too long, fragmented and inconsistent standards have created unnecessary duplication, inefficiencies, and increased costs for industry and government alike. This long-overdue step toward harmonization will bring greater consistency, reduce barriers to market access, and allow us to deliver critical infrastructure faster and more affordably. By working together to modernize the way we build roads, we can ensure better value for taxpayers and stronger outcomes for Ontario communities."

- Walid Abou-Hamde
CEO, Ontario Road Builders' Association (ORBA)

"The suite of reforms proposed in today's announcement will not only help to re-ignite our housing market, but will also help to unlock tens of thousands of good paying jobs that are the very backbone of our economy and provide a permanent foundation for the middle class to succeed."

- Jack Oliveira
Business Manager, Labourers' International Union of North America
(LiUNA) Local 183

Additional Resources

[Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025](#)

[Protect Ontario through Free Trade within Canada Act](#)

[Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025](#)

[Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#)

[Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#)

[Ontario Builds: our infrastructure plan](#)

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](#)

Home and Community

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

Jobs and Employment

We've got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers. [Learn more](#)

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Ontario Permanently Cutting the Gas Tax and Taking Tolls Off Highway 407 East

Province keeping costs down for families in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty

May 13, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Finance](#)

PICKERING — As part of its plan to protect Ontario, the government is continuing to lower costs for hard-working families, support local businesses and put more money back into people's pockets through its plan to permanently cut the gasoline and fuel tax rates, which would save households, on average, about \$115 per year going forward. The government is also proposing to remove tolls from the provincially owned Highway 407 East, which is expected to save daily commuters an estimated \$7,200 annually.

"I know that families and business owners are worried about rising costs, especially as U.S. tariffs threaten to raise the price of everyday essentials," said Premier Doug Ford. "That's why we're cutting the gas tax permanently and taking tolls off Highway 407 East, and that's why we'll always keep looking for ways to put more money back into the pockets of Ontario families."

To provide ongoing relief to households and businesses in Ontario, the government is introducing legislation through its *2025 Budget* that would, if passed, make the cut to the gas and fuel tax rate permanent, keeping the provincial rates of tax at nine cents per litre. This permanent measure would support continued relief at the pumps, building on the \$1.7 billion that households have saved since the government first announced temporary cuts to the gasoline and fuel tax rates in 2022.

"Ontario families have seen prices on everyday items go up over the last several years," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "To help Ontarians cope with the high cost of living and the impacts of the economic uncertainty caused by tariffs, we are continuing to take action to ease the pressure and do more to help lower costs for households."

To help lower costs and fight gridlock, the government is introducing legislation that would, if passed, permanently remove tolls from the provincially owned section of Highway 407, from Brock Road to Highway 35/115, effective June 1, 2025. This is the last stretch of provincially owned tolled highway in Ontario and follows the government's previous removal of tolls from Highways 412 and 418, and its recent legislation banning new road tolls on any public roadway in Ontario.

"Our government is making it easier and more affordable for Ontarians to get where they need to go, when they need to get there," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "The measures announced today will not only help to reduce traffic and commute times, but they will help put money back in the pockets of hardworking families at a time when it matters most. This is another step in our work to protect Ontario by building a more efficient, affordable and accessible transportation network."

The government is committed to keeping costs down for commuters. Additional initiatives the government has taken include the elimination of licence plate renewal fees and stickers and freezing fees for driver's licences and Ontario Photo Cards, which combined with previous cuts to gas and fuel tax rates have saved individuals and families over \$1.8 billion in the last year.

"Our government is focused on protecting jobs and reducing costs for families, as we stand up for Canada against U.S. tariffs," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "By permanently cutting the gas tax, we're fulfilling our commitment to put more money back into the pockets of hardworking families, where it belongs."

More information about the government's plan to protect Ontario, grow our economy and make Ontario the most competitive jurisdiction in the G7 to invest will be included in the *2025 Budget*, to be released on May 15, 2025.

Quick Facts

- Ontario temporarily cut the gasoline tax rate by 5.7 cents per litre and the fuel (diesel) tax rate by 5.3 cents per litre on July 1, 2022, and has extended the cuts four times.
- The price consumers pay at the pump is made up of the cost of crude oil, wholesale margins, retail margins, federal excise tax, Ontario gasoline/fuel tax and HST.
- While the government has taken action on tax rates for unleaded gasoline and fuel (diesel), there will be no change to tax rates for leaded gasoline or aviation fuel.

- While the government welcomes the federal decision to set the carbon tax rate to zero effective April 1, 2025, it continues to call for the complete repeal and elimination of the carbon tax.
- In 2024, Ontario passed legislation that prohibits the province from introducing new tolls on provincial highways.

Quotes

"In the face of economic uncertainty, we are using every tool in our toolbox to reduce gridlock and keep costs down for workers and families here in Durham and across Ontario."

**- Todd McCarthy
MPP, Durham**

"With today's announcement, we're helping residents travel more easily throughout the Region of Durham, while furthering our commitment to put more money back in the pockets of hardworking Ontarians. This follows our previous initiative, which removed tolls on Highways 412 and 418, and now we're taking another meaningful step to make life more affordable for families, commuters and businesses in Whitby and across Durham Region."

**- Lorne Coe
MPP, Whitby**

"This is great news for the residents of Durham Region. Permanently cutting the gas tax and removing tolls on Highway 407 East will benefit our residents and businesses greatly. It will ease pressures during a time of reduced affordability by bringing down the cost of living, improving mobility, fighting congestion on our highways and supporting local and provincial economic growth. Thank you to the Government of Ontario for its commitment to putting more money back in the hands of our residents."

**- John Henry
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Regional Municipality of
Durham**

"With the rising cost of living and continued economic pressures, today's announcement is a significant step forward for hardworking families. These are tangible, meaningful actions that will ease the financial burden on households, reduce commute times, and support the flow of people and goods throughout our region. These actions reflect a clear understanding of the pressures faced by commuters and everyday Ontarians and I applaud this continued commitment to affordability, accessibility and mobility."

- Kevin Ashe
Mayor of Pickering

"By announcing plans to cut the gas tax permanently and remove tolls on the provincially owned Highway 407 East, the Ontario government is demonstrating that it is committed to helping families and individuals who are facing today's economic challenges. Premier Ford's announcement is welcome news for the Oshawa community and beyond — these bold actions will reduce expenses for households and reduce congestion on our highways."

- Dan Carter
Mayor of Oshawa

"This is fantastic news for Clarington and Durham Region. The Ford government is delivering on a key election promise — one that will ease the financial burden on residents while making commuting more convenient. Initiatives like this play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life in our communities and saving people money."

- Adrian Foster
Mayor of Clarington

"We applaud the Ontario government for listening and acting on our Top 10 recommendation to make Ontario's gas and fuel tax cuts permanent. An overwhelming 88 per cent of Ontario small business owners support this meaningful relief measure. It will help them continue to address the ever-rising costs of doing business and provide predictability in turbulent times and beyond."

- Julie Kwiecinski

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

"The announcement to permanently extend fuel tax relief for the trucking industry is a measure all Ontarians should applaud. Essentially every item or product Ontarians have at home, or their places of business, was moved by truck. Fuel is typically the second leading cost behind labour for the trucking industry. This announcement helps fight inflation and assists trucking companies dealing with cash flow challenges during the tariff war with the United States. The Ontario Trucking Association applauds the Government of Ontario for its leadership and assisting the trucking industry and consumers in these challenging times."

- Stephen Laskowski

President and CEO, Ontario Trucking Association

"Making gas tax relief permanent is a significant benefit to the foodservice industry, as it increases consumers' disposable income, which is spent enjoying meals at restaurants while also helping to offset our operating costs. We are grateful for the Ontario government's continued support, including the recent HST holiday, the return of substantial WSIB surpluses, leadership in advancing the removal of interprovincial trade barriers, the earlier distribution of \$200 relief payments to Ontarians, and the commitment to raise the LCBO discount for restaurants from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. These measures play a vital role in supporting our industry and safeguarding jobs."

- Kelly Higginson

President and CEO, Restaurants Canada

Additional Resources

[Gas and fuel tax rate decrease](#)

[Gasoline Tax](#)

[Fuel Tax](#)

[Ontario Banning Road Tolls, Freezing Driver's Licence Fees to Keep Costs Down](#)

Related Topics

Driving and Roads

Information about road conditions, driver's licences, vehicle registration and commercial vehicles. [Learn more](#)

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

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Ontario and Manitoba Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Tear Down Interprovincial Trade Barriers

Provinces working together to protect workers and businesses by unlocking free trade across Canada

May 14, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

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

[Intergovernmental Affairs](#)

TORONTO — Today, Ontario Premier Doug Ford and Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to support the removal of barriers to trade between their two provinces. This latest MOU follows the recent signings of [MOUs in support of free trade with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick](#), as well as the recent introduction of the *Protect Ontario Through Free Trade Within Canada Act*. This act is a nation-leading piece of legislation designed to break down barriers to the free trade of goods and services and the movement of qualified, in-demand workers throughout Canada, to help Ontario and Canada withstand the impact of U.S. tariffs and whatever other challenges may come our way.

“Working together with provinces and territories across Canada, we are building a stronger, more competitive and more resilient economy that will protect our workers and communities and tie our country together,” said Premier Ford.

“Today’s MOU is just the latest step we are taking to unlock the enormous potential of true free trade within Canada, which will lower costs for families and add up to \$200 billion to our national GDP. I’m grateful to Premier Kinew for his partnership and leadership in getting this MOU done and I look forward to signing additional MOUs with other provinces as we move forward.”

[Through the MOU signed today](#), Ontario and Manitoba are agreeing to boost the flow of goods, services, investment and workers, including through direct-to-consumer sales of alcohol and improved interprovincial labour mobility. In 2021, the value of total interprovincial trade between Ontario and Manitoba stood at \$19.5 billion.

“We’re facing a tariff war on two fronts and now is the time to build up this country we love so much,” said Premier Kinew. “Through this agreement with Ontario, we will unlock more economic opportunities for people in both provinces. As premiers, we are all working toward the common goal of powering our Canadian economy toward the future.”

Ontario is continuing to work with the federal government and other provinces and territories to tear down internal trade barriers and unlock the full potential of our national economy. Ontario is also continuing to push the federal government for the swift approval and funding of nation-building projects that will support economic growth and tie the country together, including new pipelines, railways, airports and seaports.

Ontario is Canada's largest player in interprovincial trade. Two-way trade in goods and services between Ontario and other provinces and territories was worth over \$326 billion in 2023. The Ontario government will continue to work with its federal, provincial and territorial partners through the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) and other trade-enhancing initiatives to advance interprovincial trade across Canada.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is also launching the new \$50 million [Ontario Together Trade Fund](#) to assist local businesses in taking advantage of new interprovincial trade opportunities.
 - Among Manitoba’s top exports to Ontario are canola oil products and conventional crude oil; among Ontario’s top exports to Manitoba are household goods, food and beverages.
 - In 2023, Ontario exported \$183.9 billion of goods and services to other provinces and territories and imported \$142.7 billion, resulting in two-way trade of \$326.6 billion and a trade surplus of \$41.2 billion.
 - Thirty-five per cent of Canada’s overall trade takes place within its own borders.
-

Quotes

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, Ontario is leading the way in breaking down interprovincial trade barriers, resulting in new opportunities for job creation, economic growth, and investment attraction. Today's MOU signing marks another important partnership on the path to enhanced resilience, and we look forward to seeing workers in both Manitoba and Ontario benefit from increased access to new markets."

- Vic Fedeli

Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Additional Resources

- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Manitoba](#)

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A Plan to Protect Ontario

2025 Ontario Budget will help protect Ontario by unleashing the province's economy

May 15, 2025

[Finance](#)

TORONTO — Today, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy released the [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#). The *2025 Budget* includes measures to protect Ontario workers, businesses and jobs in the face of U.S. tariffs and continued economic uncertainty, with a plan to build an economy that is more resilient and self-reliant. The *2025 Budget* furthers the government's goal to transform Ontario into the most competitive place to invest, create jobs and do business in the G7, while investing even more in health care, education and other critical services.

"Our government is delivering on our mandate to protect Ontario and help workers and businesses weather the storm, while creating the long-term foundations for a strong, resilient and competitive economy," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "We're making the investments in workers, infrastructure and services that will protect Ontario, no matter what."

Ontario's finances are in the strongest position they have been in over a decade, reflected by the two credit rating upgrades the province received in 2024. The government's plan remains prudent and responsible, and Ontario retains a path to balance the budget by 2027–28. The *2025 Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario* moves forward with an ambitious plan to protect Ontario workers, businesses and families by unleashing the economy, getting more shovels in the ground to build infrastructure and putting money back in people's pockets while delivering better services the people of Ontario can count on.

Highlights include:

- Investing \$500 million to create a new Critical Minerals Processing Fund that will help unleash the potential of the province's mineral sector by attracting investments in critical mineral processing capacity here at home, to help ensure

that minerals mined in Ontario will be processed in Ontario, by Ontario workers.

- Supporting new resources and opportunities for Indigenous equity partnerships by tripling the total amount of loan guarantees through the Indigenous Opportunities Financing Program (formerly the Aboriginal Loan Guarantee Program) to \$3 billion and expanding eligibility beyond the electricity sector to include eligible projects in energy, pipelines, mining and critical minerals, resource development and other sectors, to help support investments by Indigenous communities in Ontario's growth. The government is also investing \$70 million over four years through the Indigenous Participation Fund (formerly known as the Aboriginal Participation Fund) to improve capacity for Indigenous communities and organizations in areas of high mineral activity to participate in regulatory processes related to mineral exploration and mine development. As well as providing \$10 million over three years to create new scholarship opportunities for First Nations postsecondary students interested in pursuing careers in resource development.
- Supporting businesses that invest in buildings, machinery and equipment for use in manufacturing or processing in Ontario, by proposing to enhance and expand the Ontario Made Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit. The proposed changes would temporarily increase the tax credit rate for Canadian-controlled private corporations (CCPCs) from 10 per cent to 15 per cent, and temporarily expand eligibility for a 15 per cent non-refundable version of the credit to non-CCPCs, including public corporations, that make eligible investments in the province. These proposed changes would help businesses lower their costs by providing an additional \$1.3 billion in support over the next three years.
- Creating the Protecting Ontario Account, a fund of up to \$5 billion designed to provide businesses with critical support to protect jobs, transform businesses and grow strategic sectors of the economy that are facing significant tariff-related business disruptions. This fund will provide immediate liquidity relief as an emergency backstop for Ontario businesses that have exhausted available funding.
- Ensuring skilled workers across the province have the training they need to enter rewarding careers in priority sectors by investing an additional \$1 billion over the next three years in the Skills Development Fund Capital and Training Streams, bringing the total funding commitment to \$2.5 billion. These investments will help organizations deliver better training programs and help upgrade and build new training centres for skilled workers across the province.
- Proposing to make the province's gasoline and fuel tax cuts permanent. This measure would save households, on average, about \$115 per year.

- Helping to fight gridlock by permanently removing tolls from the provincially owned Highway 407 East, which is expected to save daily commuters an estimated \$7,200 annually.
- Doubling down on the province's efforts to build, including the most ambitious capital plan in Ontario's history with planned investments over the next 10 years totalling over \$200 billion, including more than \$33 billion in 2025–26. Highlights of the 10-year capital plan include nearly \$30 billion to support the planning and construction of highway expansion and rehabilitation projects, approximately \$61 billion for public transit, approximately \$56 billion in health infrastructure and investing over \$30 billion to build more schools and child care spaces.

"Our province has been faced with challenges before, and we have always emerged stronger and more united as a result," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "Today, with the *2025 Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario*, we put forward a plan that reflects the government's vision and the mandate we received from the people of this great province to do whatever is necessary to protect Ontario workers, businesses and communities."

Quick Facts

- Ontario's 2024–25 deficit is projected to be \$6.0 billion — \$3.8 billion lower than the outlook published in the *2024 Budget*.
 - The government's plan remains prudent and responsible and retains a path to balance the budget by 2027–28. The government is projecting deficits of \$14.6 billion in 2025–26 and \$7.8 billion in 2026–27, before returning to a forecasted surplus of \$0.2 billion in 2027–28.
 - Ontario's economy proved to be resilient in 2024, with real GDP increasing by 1.5 per cent. Ontario's real GDP is projected to rise by 0.8 per cent in 2025, 1.0 per cent in 2026, and 1.9 per cent in 2027 and 2028.
 - Ontario's net debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to be 37.9 per cent in 2025–26. Over the medium term, the net debt-to-GDP is forecast to be 38.9 per cent in 2026–27, and 38.6 per cent in 2027–28.
-

Additional Resources

- [Read the 2025 Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)
 - [Read the highlights of the 2025 Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)
 - [Read the Backgrounder: Economic and Fiscal Overview](#)
-

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Official Opening of Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa

Posted on Friday, May 09, 2025



The ribbon was cut on May 9 to mark the official opening of the new section of Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa. Taking part in the ceremony (from left) were Marvin Dupuis, North Renfrew Snowmobile Association; Jason Spence, Valley Trail Riders; Councillor PJ Leroux, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan; Lorraine Pecoskie, Governor District 6, Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs; Captain Brady McNish, Real Property Operations Garrison Petawawa; Stephanie Hepburn, Ketna Snowmobile and Recreation Club; County Councillors James Brose, Keith Watt and Anne Giardini; Lt.-Col. Nicolas Forsyth, Deputy Garrison Commander Garrison Petawawa; Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin, Town of Petawawa; MPP Billy Denault; Shawn Marrison, TC Energy; County Councillor Glenn Doncaster, Operations Committee Chair; Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon; Taylor Hanrath, Manager Capital Works; MPP Cheryl Gallant; Bob Peltzer, Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance; Steve Hyska, Renfrew County ATV Club and Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer County of Renfrew.

RELEASE DATE:

May 9, 2025

The County of Renfrew is pleased to announce the completion of the section of the Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa. This significant project creates a scenic, continuous recreational trail from Arnprior to Deep River, linking the overall Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) from Smith Falls to Deep River.

In collaboration with several key community and industry partners, the project through Garrison Petawawa was a testament to cooperative efforts in regional development. The County of Renfrew led the initiative, managing the majority of the work and contracts necessary to bring this vision to fruition; with financial support from the Federal Government and the Provincial Government in the amount of \$255,699 through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

"The completion of the Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa is a milestone for the Ottawa Valley, connecting communities from Arnprior to Deep River and fostering recreation and unity across the region," said Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke MP Cheryl Gallant. "This is a wonderful collaborative achievement and I encourage everyone to explore this stunning trail."

The project also benefitted greatly from cooperation with Garrison Petawawa, Trans Canada Energy (TCE), the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, the Town of Petawawa, Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC), and Renfrew County ATV Club (RCATV), which was integral to see this project to fruition.

"The Algonquin Trail is an integral transportation, economic, and recreational link in our riding and beyond," said MPP Billy Denault. "We are grateful for the Government of Ontario's investment in this valuable asset. It has proven to be an investment that pays dividends by fostering economic connections between communities across Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke. Whether it's tourism, active transportation, or recreation, the Algonquin Trail is an asset that both visitors and residents can enjoy."

Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon is thrilled to see the completion of this significant section of the Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa, connecting all the way to Deep River. This project was a significant undertaking, involving forestry mulching, installation of geotextile, granular A, stone dust, and the rehabilitation of three bridges, requiring cooperation from all parties involved.

"This transformative 16-kilometre addition not only enhances our trail network but also underscores our commitment to sustainable development and community recreation," he said. "Our trails team has ensured this trail offers a safe, accessible, and beautiful route for all residents and visitors to share. The Algonquin Trail is a testament to our dedication to building vibrant and connected communities throughout Renfrew County."

For more information about the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail visit www.ottawavalleytrail.com.

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EOWC Meets with Premier Ford, Ministers and MPPs on Eastern Ontario's Economic Resilience

Posted on Friday, May 16, 2025



On May 13, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus met with Premier Doug Ford, Cabinet Ministers, and Members of Provincial Parliament in at Queen's Park to discuss advancing shared priorities. Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon and Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley attended the meeting.

Ontario – The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) represents 103 municipalities throughout Eastern Ontario. On May 13, the EOWC held a historic Advocacy Day at Queen's Park, successfully uniting municipal leaders with Premier Doug Ford, Cabinet Ministers, and Members of Provincial Parliament in order to advance shared priorities.

The EOWC championed three regional priorities:

- strengthening economic resilience in the face of tariffs and global uncertainty;
- streamlining investment in municipal infrastructure; and

- accelerating housing development.

EOWC leaders presented data on Eastern Ontario's economic drivers and top business sectors. The EOWC outlined ways municipalities have supported the Premier's commitment to "Protect Ontario" - demonstrating how Eastern Ontario is ready to partner to ensure Eastern Ontario remains open for business.

The Advocacy Day highlighted the importance of provincial-municipal collaboration in building stronger, more resilient communities. The impactful and expansive advocacy provided a platform for open dialogue and practical solutions to meet Ontario's growth and infrastructure needs.

"This was a milestone moment for the EOWC," stated EOWC Chair Bonnie Clark. "We came to Queen's Park with clear priorities, strong regional alignment, and a willingness to work with the Province. We thank Premier Ford and his Cabinet for engaging directly with us. Our Caucus is ready and willing to work together to deliver housing, infrastructure and economic growth throughout our communities."

The EOWC was hosted by Premier Doug Ford as part of a multi-ministers' meeting, underscoring the importance of Eastern Ontario's voice in provincial decision-making.

In addition to the Premier, the meeting included a broad delegation of provincial leaders: Ministers Rob Flack (Municipal Affairs and Housing), Vic Fedeli (Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade), David Piccini (Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development), Nolan Quinn (Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence, and Security), and Graydon Smith (Associate Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing); Parliamentary Assistants and Eastern Ontario MPPs: Matthew Rae, Steve Clark, Stéphane Sarrazin, Dave Smith, Tyler Allsop, John Jordan, and Billy Denault.

Momentum continued throughout the day with further meetings including Minister Jill Dunlop (Emergency Preparedness and Response), Minister Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure), MPP Ted Hsu, MPP Mike Schreiner (Leader of the Ontario Green Party), and representatives from the offices of Ministers Peter Bethlenfalvy (Finance) and Neil Lumsden (Sport).

The advocacy day also featured a well-attended breakfast reception, where provincial officials and staff engaged and learned more about the Caucus' key priorities and opportunities.

The EOWC also extends sincere thanks to its valued business and community partners—Charlotte Products Ltd., Heat-Line, Cavanagh Concrete / Cavanagh Communities, Freymond Lumber Limited, the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, and the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council – organizations that reflect the region's innovation and economic strength.

About the EOWC

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC Inc.) is a non-profit organization representing 103 small-urban and rural municipalities across Eastern Ontario. Spanning 50,000 square kilometres and serving over 1.1 million residents, the EOWC has been a united regional voice for more than 20 years. It advocates for municipal priorities and collaborates with all orders of government, businesses, non-profits, Indigenous leaders, the media, and the public to drive positive change for Eastern Ontario.

For more information, please contact the EOWC: info@eowc.org

Bonnie Clark, Chair (Warden of Peterborough County)

Steve Ferguson, Vice-Chair (Mayor of Prince Edward County)

Meredith Staveley-Watson, Director of Government Relations and Policy, EOWC

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

Council and Committee Monthly Summary

April 2025

Below you will find highlights of the County of Renfrew County Council and Committee meetings held April 9 and April 23, 2025.

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

The full [Council and Committee packages](#) can be found online.

The [April 9, 2025](#) and [April 23, 2025](#) meetings are on YouTube.

Warden's Address

Key highlights

- The Warden acknowledged the passing of County Councillor Mark Willmer, Mayor of the Township of Madawaska Valley. The Warden remembered Councillor Willmer a dedicated public servant, a strong advocate for rural communities, and a proud ambassador for his township. "Whether in the council chambers, at a local event, or simply chatting with residents, he brought sincerity, humility, and a deep love for his community to everything he did. He was a thoughtful voice around this County Council table; measured, respectful, and always focused on what mattered most to the people he served. Beyond his public service, Mark was a devoted partner, a proud father, and a cherished friend to many. His sudden passing is a tremendous loss, and on behalf of County Council, the Warden extended heartfelt condolences to his family, to the Council and staff of Madawaska Valley, and to the entire community he served so faithfully." A moment of silence was observed during the meeting and the flags at County Administration Buildings remain lowered in Councillor Willmer's memory.
- Warden Peter Emon congratulated MPP Billy Denault on the announcement from Premier Doug Ford on him being appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming.
- On April 11, the Warden attended the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce Ottawa Valley Business Summit for a Fireside Chat focused on current affairs in Renfrew County, key economic development projects, and collaborative efforts to build a strong and connected community. The day featured open and thoughtful discussions about shaping our future together through a thriving and engaged business community.
- On April 15, he attended the Liberation of Leeuwarden Celebration in Petawawa to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Leeuwarden, Friesland in the Netherlands by the Royal Canadian Dragoons on April 15, 1945. He was pleased to meet Leeuwarden Mayor Sybrand Buma and discuss shared interests and values.

Delegations

At the April 9 meeting, Council heard from the following interested parties:

- Chela Breckon, Executive Director of the Renfrew County Community Poverty Action Network (CPAN), highlighted CPAN's New Network – The Village, which builds on an open network of people in Renfrew County who want to help and those who need help and makes meaningful connections between the two groups. The organization's mission continues to be addressing poverty across Renfrew County. This is done through the ongoing relief programs (Tools for School and Operation Snowsuit), making connections, facilitating community learning and sharing through presentations, workshops, training and working with key partners. For more information, visit <https://renfrewcountycpan.ca/>
- Public Works and Engineering Director Lee Perkins made a presentation on Rural Transit Solution for Renfrew County. He researched what other rural communities are doing to address transportation challenges. He noted there are groups in Renfrew County providing transportation services, but commuting issues are complex as a result of increased part-time and flexible work arrangements and the size of the County. He recommended the establishment of a Transportation Working Group to investigate the feasibility of a public transit system based on successful case studies, including Lanark County. The full report can be found on our website: <https://bit.ly/RuralTransitReport>

At the April 23 meeting, Council heard from the following interested party:

- Sabine Mersmann, President and CEO of the Pembroke Regional Hospital (PRH), provided an overview of hospital operations. She touched on the Emergency Department, Inpatient Care, Surgical Services, Cancer Care, Ambulatory Clinics and Diagnostic Imaging. She highlighted the number of Emergency Room visits during the 2024/25 fiscal year and noted over the past few years there has been a shift with non-urgent visits declining significantly (from approximately 5,000 to 500), which she attributed to the introduction of the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Patients requiring urgent care for conditions such as chest pain, advanced heart failure, pneumonia, COPD; people who are really ill, now account for more than 50 per cent of Emergency Department visits. For the presentation, she was joined by Richard Wilson, director on PRH Board, and Councillor Neil Nicholson, who serves as vice-chair on the PRH Board. The County of Renfrew and Pembroke Regional Hospital have an ongoing partnership for the Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team and are working together to establish the Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub. For the slides visit <https://bit.ly/PRHUpdate> or see the full presentation on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhLiC9pR7aQ.

Development & Property Committee

Presented by: James Brose, Chair

- County Council adopted the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association 2025 Budget as presented. The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA), the City of Pembroke and the County of Renfrew are partners in the delivery of tourism marketing and destination development for the City of Pembroke, Renfrew County and the Ottawa Valley.

- County Council directed staff to budget \$45,000 in the 2026 Economic Development budget to cover the funding shortfall for staffing for the new Shared Immigration and Settlement Services program for Lanark and Renfrew Counties. The County of Lanark, in partnership with the County of Renfrew, was successful in their joint 2024 application to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) for the establishment of Shared Immigration and Settlement Services for both counties. Lanark and Renfrew Counties secured \$830,000 from IRCC for Shared Immigration and Settlement Services, ending March 31, 2028. Lanark County will lead the project, managing IT, HR, and IRCC relations. The funding was less than expected and adjusted to a three-year term to align with new immigration levels.
- County Council received and accepted the Helping Your Place Excel (HYPE) Program details for consultation and provided direction to staff to proceed with amending the County of Renfrew Official Plan to permit the Council to provide grants and/or loans to support local Community Improvement Plan initiatives. Following a public meeting to receive input on the Official Plan amendment, and the appeal period, it is anticipated County Council will approve the HYPE program details at the June 12 meeting.
- County Council approved the addition of Schedule D – Local Benefit to the County of Renfrew's Procurement Policy GA-01. The change to the Purchasing Policy is in response to the U.S. tariffs. For purchases requiring a competitive process, the amendment also outlines a priority order for sourcing. First priority will be given to Canadian-made goods provided by Ontario-owned businesses. If Canadian-made goods are not available, preference will then be given to Ontario-owned businesses, followed by Canadian-owned businesses. If no Canadian option is available, staff will be encouraged to explore delaying or reconsidering the purchase if a suitable alternative cannot be identified.

At the April 23 Development and Property Committee Meeting the following recommendation was approved:

- Direction to staff to negotiate a three-year 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 for the Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub. This is the location of the Warming Centre this past winter and the current lease expires May 1.

Operations Committee

Presented by: Glenn Doncaster, Chair

- County Council adopted a by-law to execute a License Agreement with the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR), commencing May 1, 2025 and expiring November 1, 2028. The Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR) is the provincial representative for the off-road motorcycle community, similar to the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) for snowmobile riders. OFTR started in 1992 and, as of 2023, had local clubs throughout the province and 5,835 members. A club is present in the Renfrew area, known as the Bytown Motorcycle Association, and consists of 962 members; another club was recently introduced in the Petawawa area, the Valley Trail Riders.
- County Council approved a contracts/tenders as submitted:
 - For the rehabilitation of County Structure B122 (Waba Creek Bridge), located on County Road 52 (Burnstown Road), 0.7km north of County Road 2 (White Lake Road), Township of McNab/Braeside, as submitted by DW Building Restoration Services Inc., Ottawa, Ontario, in the amount of \$638,892.80, plus applicable taxes.

- For Enclosed Cargo Trailer to Huckabone's Garage Ltd., Cobden, Ontario in the amount of \$7,935.00.
- For the Supply and Delivery of Propane to W.O. Stinson & Son Ltd., Ottawa, Ontario in the amount of \$89,351.93. The Townships of Admaston/Bromley, Head, Clara and Maria, and Whitewater Region participated in this tender.
- For Street Sweeping – Urban Areas Only to Valley Street Sweeping, L'Isle Aux Allumettes, Québec in the amount of \$34,850.00. The Townships of Admaston/Bromley, Laurentian Valley and Whitewater Region participated in this tender.
- For Maintenance Hole and Catch Basin Cleaning to Clean Water Works Inc., Ottawa, Ontario in the amount of \$55,077.33. The Townships of Admaston/Bromley, Greater Madawaska, Horton and Whitewater Region, as well as Renfrew County Housing Corporation, participated in this tender.
- For the rehabilitation of County Road 64 (Opeongo Road), from County Road 512 (Foymount Road) to Wieland Shore Road, a distance of approximately 10.95 km, in the Township of Bonnechere Valley, to Greenwood Paving (Pembroke) Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario in the amount of \$2,413,665.76 plus applicable taxes.
- For a four-wheel drive front-end loader to J.R. Brisson Equipement Ltee, Vars, Ontario, in the amount of \$334,762, plus applicable taxes.

At the April 23 Operations Committee Meeting the following recommendation was approved:

- That County Council adopt a new by-law that includes the execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement and a Lease Agreement with the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority for the K&P Recreational Trail, from the County of Renfrew border northward approximately 6.7 km. The preparation of a Purchase Agreement with the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA), in cooperation with the Counties of Lanark and Frontenac, has been ongoing for some time. The County of Lanark has been the lead in negotiations and preparation of the Agreements and has prepared both a Lease Agreement and Purchase and Sale Agreement to be executed with MVCA for the section they currently own.

Community Services Committee

Presented by: Anne Giardini, Chair

- The Community Services Committee received a presentation on the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Directed Growth Plan for the County of Renfrew. CWELCC is the Federal-Provincial agreement from 2022-2026 with a goal of lowering daily fees for children aged 0-5 to an average of \$10 per day by March 2026. The Province of Ontario is supporting the creation of 86,000 new licensed child-care spaces for children under the age of 6 by the end of 2026. Previously the County of Renfrew had not received any additional spaces for 2025 or 2026 despite the need. This has been the subject of advocacy efforts by members of County Council. In her presentation, Margo Smith, Manager of Children's Services was thrilled to announce an allocation for 261 new spaces, bringing the total CWELCC allocation to 688 spaces and an additional \$8 million in funding. The presentation highlighted priority neighbourhoods for child-care spaces. The next steps include the development of a fair and transparent application process for spaces. More details will be forthcoming on this at a later date. Ms. Smith's presentation can be found on our website: <https://bit.ly/CWELCCDirectedGrowthPlan>.

- County Council authorized the Director of Community Services and the Manager of Children's Services to submit the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Directed Growth Plan for the County of Renfrew to the Ministry of Education and directed staff to move forward with the development and implementation of an application process for new CWELCC expansion in the County of Renfrew.

Corporate Services Committee

Presented by: Jennifer Murphy, Chair

- County Council endorsed participation in the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund's *Legacy Spaces Program* which will allow the County to promote reconciliation initiatives across the organization. The Legacy Spaces Program is a national initiative designed to create safe, physical spaces dedicated to reconciliation within organizations. These spaces honour Indigenous cultures and histories; serve as educational and reflective areas for staff and the public; and act as visible commitments to reconciliation in action. This initiative directly supports several strategic priorities, including fostering inclusive and respectful workplaces; enhancing community well-being and engagement; strengthening relationships with Indigenous communities; and living our Why statement.
- County Council adopted a revised by-law to Establish and Require Payment of User Fees and Charges. As part of the annual budget process, the County of Renfrew User Fee By-law and Schedule are reviewed and a number of changes were made.
- County Council adopted a by-law to authorize the submission of an application to Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation ("OILC") for Financing of Capital Works (Broomes Creek Culvert and Dam; Pembroke Paramedic Base and Whitewater Paramedic Base) to authorize temporary borrowing from OILC to meet expenditures in connection with such capital work. As per the 2025 County of Renfrew approved budget, these three projects were budgeted to be financed via short-term construction loan. Upon completion, the short-term construction loan will be converted to a long-term debenture.
- County Council approved the following Corporate Policies: Performance Appraisals (amended); Performance Management (new); Total Compensation Philosophy (new); Hours of Work and Overtime (amended); Employee and Family Assistance Program (amended); Impairment in the Workplace (amended); Discipline and Dismissal (amended). For more information on these policies, please contact the Human Resources department.

Additional Information

Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk

613-735-7288

Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: Enterprise Renfrew County- Upcoming Webinars and Events

From: ERC Info <ERCInfo@countyofrenfrew.on.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 10:08 AM

Cc: Heather InwoodMontrose <HInwoodMontrose@countyofrenfrew.on.ca>

Subject: Enterprise Renfrew County- Upcoming Webinars and Events

Good morning,

On behalf of Enterprise Renfrew County I am pleased to share a new lineup of events and webinars created to support local business growth and innovation across Renfrew County.

Enterprise Renfrew County has partnered with experienced industry leaders to bring you a series of engaging and practical webinars aimed at helping entrepreneurs thrive in today's dynamic business environment.

Please see the attached posters for full event details. Here's what's coming up:

Master Marketing Series with Melanie Dick (The Digital Muse)

A 3-part series focused on building your brand and elevating your marketing strategies. Learn how to effectively communicate your brand identity and make a lasting impact.

Staying Organized & Motivated As An Entrepreneur with Janic Gorayeb (Ripple Effect Leadership)

This 1-hour webinar will provide tools and insights to stay organized, motivated, and on track as your business grows.

Sell Like A Boss with David Cohen

David will guide you through a simple 7-step sales process to help you connect with the right clients and increase your sales.

Futurpreneur Program Orientation with Samuel Fortier (Futurpreneur)

Discover the range of resources available through Futurpreneur to help young business owners succeed at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey.

To learn more or to register, please visit our Workshops & Events page:

<https://www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/workshops-events>

We truly appreciate your continued support and collaboration in delivering these valuable learning opportunities. Please feel free to share these events within your networks.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out. We're always happy to help 😊

Kindly,
Hillary

Hillary Panke

Program Coordinator

Enterprise Renfrew County

County of Renfrew

9 International Drive, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

P: 613-735-8224 x 466/F: 613-735-2492

C: 613-312-9355

E: HPanke@countyofrenfrew.on.ca / W: www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com

Note: My office hours are Monday- Friday 8am-4pm



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Janic Gorayeb

Ripple Effect Leadership





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GUEST SPEAKER:

DAVID COHEN
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July 8



10 AM - 12 PM

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With Samuel Fortier

Discover resources to empower
entrepreneurs aged 18-39
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July 15
10 AM- 11 AM



futurpreneur

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UPPER OTTAWA VALLEY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Ontario 

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - May 8, 2025



May 08, 2025

In This Issue:

- AMO releases *Engaging Youth in Local Democracy* report.
- AMO resources to support your classroom engagement.
- New resources added to AMO's Gender Based Violence Toolkit.
- Emergency Preparedness Week: May 4 - 11, 2025.
- New Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Only 20 spots remaining for AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum!
- Join colleagues at the AMO 2025 Conference - Ontario's premier municipal event.
- Showcase your innovation - PJ Marshall Awards submissions are now open.
- Before you know it, it's August! AMO 2025 Conference trade show selling out fast!
- Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 - Don't miss these important community building events.
- AMO's workshop on planning for people in your community: May 8 virtual workshop.
- Article - Investing in Uncertain Times!
- Virtual Net-Zero Workshop registration now open.
- BPS Energy Reporting Portal now open.
- Blog: My Experience as a Co-op Student.
- Every Second Counts! Know when to call 9-1-1.
- Humber Polytechnic Emergency Management Symposium - June 6, Toronto.
- AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program.
- Ontario Bike Summit.
- Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Improving the health of local democracies requires a renewed focus on engaging young people in our communities. Through AMO's Healthy Democracy Project and in partnership with Apathy is Boring, we've developed a new [Engaging Youth in Local Democracy](#) resource that will help you learn how to better engage youth in your communities with actionable strategies and tactics for elected officials, municipalities, and public sector organizations.

[AMO's Municipal Rep Day program](#) provides AMO's members with a set of resources they can use when visiting classrooms in their communities. Resources and guides for teachers and elected officials can support a productive and engaging visit with students and help ignite interest in local government with future voters and community leaders.

To commemorate Red Dress Day on May 5, new resources from the Ontario Native Women's Association and Native Women's Association of Canada have been added to [AMO's Gender Based Violence Toolkit](#).

Provincial Matters

Ontario's theme for Emergency Preparedness Week, "Plan for Every Season", encourages residents to stay safe, practiced, and prepared. Access digital resources through [Publications Ontario](#) or [order your print materials today](#).

Intake is open for Ontario's new Health and Safety Water Stream fund to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. [Apply now!](#)

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate a colleague](#) from your municipality by June 27,

Education Opportunities

Partnering with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum will bring together municipal and sector leaders, academics and experts for insightful discussions on the state of democracy in rural Ontario. [Register today](#) for one of the 20 remaining spots!

AMO's 2025 Annual Conference is back in Ottawa. In this unprecedented time, coming together with municipal, provincial and key sector partners is more important than ever. [Register for AMO 2025](#) and [book your accommodations today](#).

The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Award celebrates municipal governments in Ontario showcasing innovation in approaches to services, facilities, and infrastructure better for Ontarians. View full details [here](#).

Connect with over 3,000 of Ontario's municipal leaders representing Ontario's 444 municipalities and a \$68 billion sector at the AMO 2025 Conference in Ottawa this August. Click [here](#) to download the Exhibitor Package and [here](#) for the Sponsorship Package. Limited space available.

ROMA in partnership with the Minister of Rural Affairs, are happy to share the 2025 Teeny Tiny Summit line-up. These compelling events are designed with innovation in mind for Ontario's rural communities. Registration and information is available for the Summit in [Strathroy-Caradoc - June 18](#).

Land use planning is a complicated matter. This workshop equips councillors with the skills and knowledge necessary to secure funding, build community trust, ensure legal compliance, drive local economic growth and more. [Register for the May 8 Unlocking Opportunity through Understanding Human Rights Based Approach to Municipal Planning workshop](#).

ONE Investment

2025 is shaping up to be one for history books with our federal election and trade tensions with the US. Such developments inevitably feed into the financial markets, fostering an atmosphere of uncertainty. [Read our recent article *Investing in an Uncertain Market*](#) to learn more

LAS

Have you registered for LAS' virtual net zero workshop yet? Join us online on June 18 to learn how you can cut energy costs, boost savings and incorporate low carbon initiatives in your municipal buildings. [Register today](#).

The BPS Reporting season is well underway. Municipalities must report their 2024 energy consumption by July 1 under [O.Reg 25/23](#). Contact bpssupport@ontario.ca for more information. If you are an [EPT subscriber](#), this information can be easily downloaded from our software and uploaded to the portal. If you also use our [natural gas](#) or [electricity](#) programs, this data has been automatically imported into EPT - no data entry required.

Interning at AMO/LAS is a great way for students to gain public sector knowledge while earning some school money. [Read the latest blog](#) about our winter intern's experience

Municipal Wire*

Every Second Counts is a province-wide education campaign launched this week to combat 9-1-1 call misuse. Please explore the [campaign and share broadly](#) with residents in your communities.

Join [Humber Polytechnic Broadcast-Broadband Convergence B²C Lab](#) in a one-day free informational symposium on June 6 to present emerging emergency communications technologies using the ATSC 3.0 broadcast communications system. There are new solutions using broadcast that can bolster risk mitigation strategies for municipalities while offering enhanced capabilities. [Register today!](#)

The AMCTO-Mitacs [Municipal Innovation Internship Program](#) is an application-based program that matches Ontario municipal governments with post-secondary students studying in Ontario. Ontario municipalities can now [submit their project proposal\(s\)](#) for consideration by May 9. The internship program will take place from January-August 2026.

The [Ontario Bike Summit](#), Canada's largest cycling and active transportation conference, will be in Windsor from May 27-29. Be inspired by success stories including enhancing infrastructure and design, citizen safety and economic development.

Small and mid-sized Ontario municipalities are invited to [submit an expression of interest](#) to participate in Quest Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program by June 13.

Careers

[Senior Planner/Aménageur principal; aménageuse principale - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing/Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement](#). Closing Date: May 23, 2025, 11:59 pm EDT.

[Team Lead/Chef d'équipe - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing/Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement](#). Closing Date: May 23, 2025, 11:59 pm EDT.

[Manager Court Operations/Chef de l'administration des tribunaux - Ministry of the Attorney General/Ministère du Procureur général](#) Closing Date: May 22, 2025 11:59 pm EDT.

[Director of Human Resources - Kingston Police Service Board](#). Closing Date: June 5, 2025.

[Licensed Mechanic A - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: May 14, 2025.

[Economic Development Officer - City of Quinte West](#). Closing Date: May 19, 2025, 11:59 pm EDT.

[Supervisor of Taxation, Revenue & Billing - City of Kawartha Lakes](#). Closing Date: May 23, 2025.

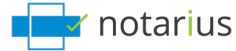
About AMO

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

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856
[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)
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From: AMO Watchfile <amo@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - May 15, 2025



May 15, 2025

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- Before you know it, it's August! AMO 2025 Conference trade show selling out fast!
- Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 - Don't miss these important community building events.
- Virtual Net-Zero Workshop is one month away.
- RailCan proximity survey live until June 1.
- Humber Polytechnic Emergency Management Symposium - June 6, Toronto.
- Ontario Bike Summit.
- Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Improving the health of local democracies requires a renewed focus on engaging young people in our communities. Through AMO's Healthy Democracy Project and in partnership with Apathy is Boring, we've developed a new [Engaging Youth in Local Democracy](#) resource that will help you learn how to better engage youth in your communities with actionable strategies and tactics for elected officials, municipalities, and public sector organizations.

[AMO's Municipal Rep Day program](#) provides AMO's members with a set of resources they can use when visiting classrooms in their communities. Resources and guides for teachers and elected officials can support a productive and engaging visit with students and help ignite interest in local government with future voters and community leaders.

Provincial Matters

Intake is open for Ontario's new Health and Safety Water Stream fund to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. [Apply now!](#)

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate a colleague](#) from your municipality by June 27,

Education Opportunities

Partnering with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum will bring together municipal and sector leaders, academics and experts for insightful discussions on the state of democracy in rural Ontario. [Register today](#) for the only remaining spot!

AMO's 2025 Annual Conference is back in Ottawa. In this unprecedented time, coming together with municipal, provincial and key sector partners is more important than ever. [Register for AMO 2025](#) and [book your accommodations today](#).

Delegation meetings with Cabinet Ministers are a key feature of the AMO Conference experience. These meetings are a unique opportunity for your council to engage with Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants and senior Ontario Government officials on local matters that impact your municipality. [Request your delegation meetings now](#). A reminder that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is your contact for the delegation meetings.

The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Award celebrates municipal governments in Ontario showcasing innovation in approaches to services, facilities, and infrastructure better for Ontarians. View full details [here](#).

Connect with over 3,000 of Ontario's municipal leaders representing Ontario's 444 municipalities and a \$68 billion sector at the AMO 2025 Conference in Ottawa this August. Click [here](#) to download the Exhibitor Package and [here](#) for the Sponsorship Package. Limited space available.

ROMA in partnership with the Minister of Rural Affairs, are happy to share the 2025 Teeny Tiny Summit line-up. These compelling events are designed with innovation in mind for Ontario's rural communities. Registration and information is available for the Summit in [Strathroy-Caradoc - June 18](#).

LAS

LAS' virtual net zero workshop is only a month away. Mark June 18 in your calendar to discover how you can cut energy costs, boost savings and incorporate low carbon initiatives in your municipal buildings. [Register today](#).

Municipal Wire*

The Railway Association of Canada is asking municipalities to [complete a survey](#) on the modernization of the proximity guidelines of land close to railway operations. More information on the [RailCan website](#).

Join [Humber Polytechnic Broadcast-Broadband Convergence B²C Lab](#) in a one-day free informational symposium on June 6 to present emerging emergency communications technologies using the ATSC 3.0 broadcast communications system. There are new solutions using broadcast that can bolster risk mitigation strategies for municipalities while offering enhanced capabilities. [Register today](#)!

The [Ontario Bike Summit](#), Canada's largest cycling and active transportation conference, will be in Windsor from May 27-29. Be inspired by success stories including enhancing infrastructure and design, citizen safety and economic development.

Small and mid-sized Ontario municipalities are invited to [submit an expression of interest](#) to participate in Quest Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program by June 13.

Careers

[Two Senior Advisor Roles - Association of Municipalities of Ontario \(AMO\)](#). Closing Date: May 23, 2025.

[Manager, Parks and Outdoor Recreation - City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: May 14, 2025.

[Manager, Affordable Housing - City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: June 1, 2025.

[Chief Administrative Officer - Town of Kapuskasing](#). Closing Date: June 2, 2025.

[Manager of Communications - City of Orillia](#). Closing Date: May 30, 2025.

About AMO

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

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

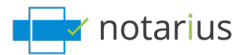
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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



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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 4:40 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Proposed Legislation on Planning Approvals & Development Charges



Policy Update - Proposed Legislation on Planning Approvals & Development Charges

Province introduces *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act* to streamline development approvals

On May 12, the province introduced the [*Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act*](#) intended to streamline development approvals and modernize development charges (DCs). The government also announced its intent to consult with municipalities on high impact proposals.

AMO broadly supports provincial efforts to standardize and streamline development approvals to boost housing and economic growth, a shared priority for municipalities. DCs are a critical tool for ensuring that municipalities can fund the infrastructure necessary to support growth, but modernization is needed.

AMO is pleased the proposed legislation includes joint [AMO and the Ontario Home Builders' Association \(OBHA\) recommendations for DC modernization](#), in addition to other proposals that go beyond AMO recommendations. This legislation is a marked departure from Bill 23, which introduced significant across the board reductions and discounts to DCs. This new bill provides the framework changes and room to consult on how to best accomplish them in future regulations.

AMO welcomes an approach that includes further consultation on a number of key elements to inform the development of regulations. This provides municipalities with a valuable opportunity to provide expertise and shape effective on-the-ground implementation.

Specific bill proposals and announcements include:

- Changes to the DC framework that reflect joint recommendations from AMO and OHBA, including:
 - Standardizing some DC calculations like Benefits to Existing and the definition of local services
 - Improving the DC freeze model
 - Examining how land value is included in DC rate calculations
 - Enhancing flexibility across service categories
- Other DC changes not included in AMO recommendations include deferring payment of residential DCs to building occupancy, exempting long-term care homes from DCs, and requiring municipalities to spend or commit 60% of reserve funds for select service categories at the beginning of a given year
- Standardizing and streamlining planning, including:
 - Permitting as-of-right minor variances, four-story townhome units, and K-12 public schools on residential lands
 - Standardizing and limiting the number of land use designations in official plans
 - Restrictions to Inclusionary Zoning
 - Allowing the Minister to impose conditions that must be met before an Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) can come into effect
 - Providing guidance to aligning Official Plans with Ministry of Finance population projections
- Standardizing the application of the Ontario Building Code, removing municipalities' ability to set higher green building standards and making it easier to use innovative construction and materials
- Expanding the definition of priority transit projects and transit-oriented communities to apply to a wider range of provincial projects, and making it easier for the province and municipalities to work together to advance provincial transit and infrastructure development
- Consultation on the expanded use of communal water and sewage systems, modular "off grid" water treatment facilities
- Consultation on the use of a public utility model for water and wastewater service delivery. AMO will continue to advocate for water/wastewater systems to remain public assets, with any shifts to public utility models undertaken voluntarily by municipalities

AMO will participate in the Bill's Standing Committee process. At oral deputations and beyond, AMO will continue to advocate for predictable, sustainable and adequate funding for municipal infrastructure to support an unprecedented pace and scale of growth, address aging assets and increase resilience to climate change.

Should the Bill receive Royal Assent, AMO will continue to collaborate with our members, OHBA and the province to ensure Ontario's development framework changes are responsive to local needs and can be effectively implemented.

An online version of this Policy Update is available on the [AMO Website](#).

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 2:00 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Modelling Tool



Policy Update - Modelling Tool

AMO is pleased to share a new [modelling tool](#), developed by Oxford Economics, to assist municipalities in estimating tariff costs on capital construction projects.

This tool was developed through close consultation with municipal public works department heads and treasurers, incorporating their valuable feedback.

When used alongside our recently released [report](#) on the impacts of tariffs on municipal construction costs, this tool will enable municipalities to:

- Better inform council decisions on capital projects;
- Understand and explain price fluctuations; and,
- Support procurement negotiations with vendors.

To support municipal use of the tool, Oxford Economics has developed a supplemental [guide](#) and a [video tutorial](#) to help your teams get started.

An online version of this Policy Update is available on the [AMO Website](#).

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 6:07 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Provincial Budget Priorities



Policy Update - Provincial Budget Priorities

This afternoon, Ontario's Minister of Finance introduced the 2025 Ontario Budget, [A Plan to Protect Ontario](#).

Today's budget paints a challenging economic outlook for the province with much larger deficits and lower housing starts now projected over the coming years. While we're facing significant economic uncertainty, the government's plan is a solid first step in addressing the challenges posed by U.S. tariffs.

AMO has been working hard to help its members understand how the rapidly changing economic landscape will impact municipalities. We recently released a [2025 Pre-Budget Update](#) building the case for strategic investments in municipal infrastructure and social housing to stimulate the economy in the short-term and support long-term economic productivity. We look forward to working with the provincial government to bring this message to federal leaders.

We are pleased that today's budget includes some important actions for our communities, particularly through new investments in infrastructure, economic development and primary care. However, these uncertain times have only escalated the need to address long-standing municipal priorities. AMO remains committed to our urgent call to revisit the provincial-municipal fiscal framework with the provincial government.

"In the face of global economic and political uncertainty, municipalities stand united with provincial and federal governments. Today's provincial budget investments in critical water infrastructure and industries impacted by tariffs are an important first step in helping Ontario weather the current economic storm. AMO and municipalities are ready to work together to advance solutions that will save jobs in the short-term while building enduring economic prosperity across the province" – Robin Jones, President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Budget Highlight: Responding to Trade and Tariff Uncertainty

- A new \$40M Trade-Impacted Communities Program (TICP) to help communities and local businesses disproportionately affected by the trade and tariff uncertainty
- A range of investments to diversify Ontario's economy and support local economic development. Highlights include:
 - An additional \$600M for the Invest Ontario Fund to create jobs and attract investment
 - \$1.3B over three years to enhance and expand the Ontario Made Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit
 - \$50M over three years to create the Ontario Together Trade Fund (OTTF) to help local businesses develop new markets and re-shore critical supply chains
- Investing in skills training to improve Ontario's labour market, including:
 - An additional \$1B over three years for the Skills Development Fund
 - \$20M to mobilize new training and support centres for laid-off workers, including those impacted by U.S. tariffs
 - An additional \$50M for the Better Jobs Ontario program, including a fast-track stream for job seekers in trade-impacted sectors

Budget Highlight: Infrastructure & Housing

- Additional \$400M through the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP) and the Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund (HEWSF) to build the local infrastructure needed to enable new housing
- \$50M over five years through Invest Ontario to grow capacity in modular housing construction
- Up to a further \$5B in funding to the Building Ontario Fund (BOF) to co-invest in priorities like municipal infrastructure, long-term care, energy infrastructure, and affordable housing
- Increasing annual funding for the Connecting Links Program from \$30M to \$45M to support municipalities to maintain critical road infrastructure

Other Commitments of Interest

- Reconfirming the additional \$50M increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, bringing the total envelope to \$600M by 2026
- Confirming the previously announced \$20M over two years through the Rural Ontario Development program
- Investing in police training and equipment, including \$1B to expand and renovate two training facilities, \$57M for two new police helicopters, and \$6M through the Preventing Auto Theft Grant
- \$300M over four years to support Primary Care Teaching Clinics, increasing Primary Care Action Plan investments to \$2.1B
- Adding \$260M over three years in the Learn and Stay Grant to increase the number of health care professionals in underserved communities

- Making the cut to the Gasoline and Fuel Tax rate permanent. This should not impact the portion of the Gas Tax that is allocated to municipalities for public transit
- \$500M in a new Critical Minerals Processing Fund to provide strategic financial support for projects that will accelerate the province's critical minerals processing capacity

An online version of this Policy Update is available on the [AMO Website](#).

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Ontario
Provincial
Police

Police
provinciale
de l'Ontario



**Crime Prevention and Community
Support Bureau**
**Bureau de la prévention du crime et du
soutien communautaire**

777 Memorial Ave.
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

777, av. Memorial
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

Tel: 705 329-7680
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Tél. : 705 329-7680
Téléc. : 705 329-7593

File Reference: GOV-1200

May 13, 2025

Mayor Reeve and Clerk CAO,

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) regularly evaluates its operations to ensure the effective use of resources while maintaining high-quality service. As part of this process, the OPP has undertaken an organizational realignment to better align with its strategic goals and priorities.

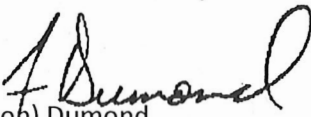
Effective immediately Municipal Policing Bureau has been dissolved. Municipal Policing Unit and Financial Service Unit have been realigned and will fall under the OPP's Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau.

Municipal Policing Unit and Financial Services Unit will continue their regular business, including managing the cost recovery process for municipal policing services in accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act (CPSA) O. Reg. 413/23 Amount Payable by Municipalities for Policing from Ontario Provincial Police*, managing municipal policing agreements under the CPSA, delivering presentations, and providing clarifications on municipal inquiries.

Please continue to direct all future inquiries on municipal policing billing, requests for presentations, etc. to OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca. Please note, the general email inbox OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@opp.ca will be decommissioned and will no longer be monitored. We also encourage you to visit www.opp.ca/billingmodel where the 2025 estimate updates have been posted for your reference and planning purposes.

The OPP remains committed to working collaboratively with municipalities to ensure effective, efficient and sustainable policing services across Ontario.

Thank you for your continued cooperation. I look forward to your support during this transition and to a successful partnership.


J.G. (John) Dumond,
Chief Superintendent
Bureau Commander
Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau

cc: OPP Regional and Detachment Commanders

May 13, 2025

To all Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

Re: Bill 5 - Risks to your communities and support requested

As Mayor of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, I am sharing this motion to bring to your attention the potential risks to your communities and ask for your support to oppose this approach. The following motion was approved yesterday, May 12, 2025:

“Whereas 29831 Irish School Road in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is a property approximately 800 metres from the Town of Dresden;

And Whereas the property contain small fill areas used for historic local landfill purposes, and the property has never been properly studied or zoned for any significant landfilling use;

And Whereas the current property owners are attempting to create a new recycling and landfill facility for millions of tonnes of waste, which would result in hundreds of trucks travelling through towns and communities in the area;

And Whereas this approach has been strongly opposed by Council, the Community, neighbouring Indigenous Nations and many other voices, due to impacts to the environment, our homes, the safety of our families and children, and the fabric of our communities;

And Whereas the Provincial government has proposed Bill 5, which includes a section removing the obligation for a full Environmental Assessment for this new landfill and recycling facility;

And Whereas if this limited, historic local landfill use on the edge of Dresden can be expanded into a massive landfill and recycling facility, then this can happen anywhere;

And Whereas there are likely hundreds of properties across the Province that may have had limited, historic waste uses, which could also face this threat;

And Whereas Bill 197 established a veto for Municipalities within 3.5 kms of a new landfill, which reflected the need for local government and community approval of landfill sites;

And Whereas the approach being taken for this property disregards the importance of our rural communities, and local voices, in determining appropriate landfill sites within their communities:

Cont'd...

Now Therefore to ensure that other Municipal Councils and communities know about what is happening in Dresden, and the potential risk to their community if this approach is taken by the Province, Council requests that the Mayor's Office write a letter to all other Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

1. Advising them of this issue and the risks to their community if a similar approach is taken for other historic landfill properties; the possibility of the Ontario government setting a precedence and
2. Requesting their support in opposing this approach and ensuring that full Environmental Assessments are required for all landfills and that municipalities have a strong voice in determining appropriate locations for landfills in their communities."

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Friday, May 9, 2025

RE: Notice of Motion – Town of Goderich Rejection of President Trump’s Rhetoric Regarding the Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs

To Whom It May Concern;

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, March 17, 2025, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS President Trump's rhetoric about the annexation of Canada is both offensive and unacceptable, undermining Canada's sovereignty and the respectful relationship between our two nations;

WHEREAS the Government of the United States, under President Trump, intends to impose unjustified trade tariffs on Canada that will cause harm to both nations' economies, local businesses, and workers;

WHEREAS the above noted actions contradict the principles of diplomatic dialogue and fair trade that Canada has long championed in our international relations;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Goderich has a responsibility to defend the values of peace, cooperation, and mutual respect, and safeguard the interests of our community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich condemns divisive and harmful rhetoric regarding the potential annexation of Canada, and categorically rejects trade tariffs imposed by President Trump;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich send the attached letter to American municipal and business leaders that the town has had longstanding friendly relationships with expressing our concerns and

advocating for the return of a constructive and positive relationship between our countries:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich encourages other Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions, advocate to their municipal and business partners in the United States and join us in a collective voice to preserve the dignity and sovereignty of our nation.

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 519-524-8344 ext. 210 or afisher@goderich.ca.

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/mp

Friday, May 9, 2025

We are writing today to advise of the Town of Goderich's deep concern regarding recent rhetoric from the American federal government including threats to annex Canada, and American tariffs on Canadian goods. As a community that values the long-standing cooperation between our nations, we appeal to you as leaders in your community to advocate for the end of such damaging rhetoric and policies.

Canada is a proud nation with our own democratic system, values, and identity. As Canadians, we hold a deep commitment to our sovereignty and independence, and we are overwhelmingly opposed to President Trump's annexation rhetoric. American threats to annex Canada disregard the liberty, democracy, and self-determination that both of our nations hold in high esteem. They undermine the peace and respect that have long defined the relationship between our two countries, they are an affront to Canadian values and destabilize our cooperative future.

American tariffs on Canadian goods present significant economic problems for both our countries. Canada is the United States' largest trading partner with over \$700 billion in goods and services exchanged annually (*Government of Canada*, 2024). American and Canadian businesses rely on our integrated supply chains to thrive. Tariffs will disrupt this flow of goods, raise prices for consumers, and hurt local businesses on both sides of the border. In fact, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has estimated that American tariffs on Canadian goods could result in up to \$40 billion in losses for American businesses and consumers (*U.S. Chamber of Commerce*, 2023).

Like many other municipalities in Canada, the Town of Goderich shares strong ties with the United States through trade, tourism, and business. These connections have fostered economic development, supported jobs, and created a robust relationship that benefits communities on both sides of the border. We ask that you, as local leaders, urge your federal government to end the rhetoric of annexation and any other threats or economic actions that disrupt our strong, peaceful, and mutually beneficial relationship. The economic and social consequences of continued tensions are felt in all communities that depend on cross-border trade, tourism, and cooperation.

We urge you to advocate for policies that foster collaboration and mutual respect. As community leaders, we have a unique role to play in building bridges between our nations. We are at our best when we work together, and it is crucial that we continue to nurture the strong, cooperative relationship we have built to foster peace and prosperity between our countries.

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Bazinet", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Trevor Bazinet, Mayor
Town of Goderich
tbazinet@goderich.ca
/mp



Resolution

Meeting Date: May 12, 2025

Resolution No. 2025-093

Moved: Councillor Prendergast

Seconded: Councillor Andrews

Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority; and

Whereas the Town of Orangeville supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes; and

Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for the Town of Orangeville:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
 - The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP for Dufferin–Caledon
 - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration.

Result: Carried Unanimously

Kaitlyn Wendland

From: Jennifer E. Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 9:50 AM
To: rob.flack@pc.ola.org; sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org; premier@ontario.ca; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
Cc: policy@amo.on.ca; Minister (MMAH); romachair@roma.on.ca; Alice Byl
Subject: Town of Shelburne - Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

Good Morning

At the May 12, 2025, meeting of Shelburne Town Council, the following resolution was passed unanimously

Moved By: Councillor Len Guchardi
Seconded By: Councillor Lindsay Wegener

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority;

And Whereas the Town of Shelburne supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes;

And Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That Council for the Town of Shelburne:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Urges the Province to support municipalities through ensuring responsible growth through infrastructure projects designed to ensure protection of sensitive wildlife and natural resources;

And Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario,
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks,

- Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin–Caledon,
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
- All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration,
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario,
- Conservation Ontario

CARRIED; Mayor Wade Mills

Thank You

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Phone: 519-925-2600 ext 223 | Fax: 519-925-6134 | jwilloughby@shelburne.ca

Town of Shelburne | 203 Main Street East, Shelburne ON L9V 3K7

www.shelburne.ca

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The Town of The Blue Mountains, Special Meeting of Council Special Meeting of Council

Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Time: 4:28 PM

Moved by: Councillor Ardiel

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Bordignon

WHEREAS the Town of The Blue Mountains boasts a robust agricultural sector and a thriving agritourism industry, with numerous local cideries contributing significantly to the local economy, employment, and tourism;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's craft cider industry is experiencing substantial growth, with over 60 craft cideries across the province, many of which are situated in rural communities and utilize 100% Ontario-grown apples and are 100% made in Ontario, thereby supporting local agriculture and local economies;

AND WHEREAS under the current provincial tax structure, cider is officially classified and taxed at the same rate as imported wine which results in higher markups and taxes compared to craft beer, despite cider's comparable production processes and market positioning;

AND WHEREAS this tax disparity places Ontario's craft cider producers at a competitive disadvantage compared to craft brewers, despite the fact that Ontario cider utilize 100% Ontario-grown apples and is 100% made in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Craft Cider Association (OCCA) has been actively advocating for a tax structure that levels the playing field between craft cider and craft beer, recognizing the potential for job creation, economic growth, and the promotion of local agriculture;

AND WHEREAS the Town acknowledges and appreciates the Province's investment in marketing and promotional support for the craft cider industry, but maintains that long-term sustainability and competitiveness for Ontario cider producers requires an adjustment to the underlying tax framework;

AND WHEREAS this motion is meant to support, not oppose, initiatives for fair taxation of the Ontario Craft Cider industry the Province of Ontario may be considering.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains:

1. Supports the efforts of the Ontario Craft Cider Association in advocating for a fair and equitable tax structure for Ontario-made craft cider.
2. Urges the Province of Ontario to review and amend the current tax regulations to align the tax rate of craft cider with that of craft beer, thereby fostering a more balanced and supportive environment for local cider producers.
3. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's recent investment in marketing initiatives for the cider sector, while calling for complementary reform of the tax and markup structure that continues to disadvantage cider producers relative to other craft alcohol categories;

4. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers and MPP Nina Tangri and the County of Grey requesting their consideration and support.
5. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, encourages other municipalities with vested interests in agriculture and agri-tourism to adopt similar resolutions, amplifying the collective voice advocating for the prosperity of Ontario's craft cider industry.

YES: 5

NO: 0

ABSENT: 2

The motion is Carried

YES: 5

Deputy Mayor Bordignon Councillor Ardiel
Councillor Porter

Councillor Hope

Councillor Maxwell

NO: 0

ABSENT: 2

Mayor Matrosovs

Councillor McKinlay



TOWNSHIP OF RUSSELL

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Date: May 12, 2025

Item(s) no.: 15 a

Subject: Notice of Motion – Marc Lalonde - USA Tariffs on Canadian Goods

Moved by: Marc Lalonde

Seconded by: Lisa Deacon

WHEREAS the United States of America (USA) has placed unjustified tariffs of 25% on Canadian goods (steel and aluminum) and is threatening to add more tariffs on Canadian manufactured automobiles; and

WHEREAS trade between Ontario and the USA is very important to our residents and our local economies and requires all levels of government to work together in the best interest of those residents; and

WHEREAS according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, across Ontario, municipalities are expected to spend between 250 and 290 billion dollars on infrastructure over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS municipalities have treated trade partners equally and fairly in all procurements in accordance with our established international trade treaties; and

WHEREAS municipalities play a crucial role in as part of the Team Canada approach to combat these unjustified tariffs and support businesses in our procurement of capital and infrastructure programs; and

WHEREAS there exist trade barriers between Canadian provinces and territories.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Township of Russell support the Team Canada initiatives and;

THAT the province of Ontario and the government of Canada provide guidance on how to give preference to Canadian companies while adhering to requirements under trade agreements and;

THAT the province of Ontario and the government of Canada work to remove interprovincial trade barriers to support Canadian companies and supply chains in delivering made-in -Canada options for municipal procurement requirements and;

THAT the province of Ontario and the government of Canada provide clarity and direction on the intent and scope of the call to ban USA suppliers from municipal procurement.

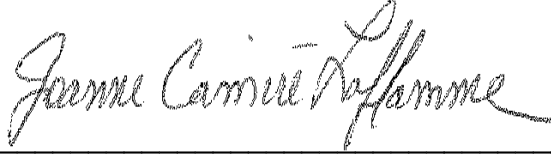
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk forward this resolution to the following organizations:

- Ontario Municipalities

- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- The Premier of Ontario
- The Prime Minister of Canada
- The local MP and MMP

MOTION APPROVED

I, Joanne Camiré Laflamme, Clerk of the Corporation of the Township of Russell, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the resolution adopted by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Russell on the 12th day of May 2025.



Joanne Camiré Laflamme
Clerk

Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: Thank You for Your Contributions to IPCT Expansion Proposals

From: Prescott, Nadia <nprescott@owfr.ca>

Sent: May 8, 2025 11:14 AM

Cc: OWFR Info <info@owfr.ca>

Subject: Thank You for Your Contributions to IPCT Expansion Proposals

Dear Partners,

We are pleased to share that the Ottawa West Four Rivers OHT and PCN successfully **received, reviewed, endorsed, and submitted three strong, collaborative IPCT expansion proposals** focused on serving the communities and residents in the **K0A, K2G, and K2J** areas.

We sincerely appreciate the time and effort invested by our partners—especially those who took the lead in developing the proposals. Despite the tight 3-week turnaround for round 1, your collaboration, responsiveness, and commitment to excellence greatly strengthened our submissions. **Thank you!**

LEARN MORE: We have posted a [brief overview of the three proposals](#) submitted.

PROVIDE YOUR INPUT: We recognize that our communication and information-sharing processes were challenged by the tight turnaround. Guided by our core values of **transparency** and **collaboration**, we did our best to keep partners informed and engaged. Now, we'd appreciate your feedback to help us evaluate and improve our OHT's approach. Please take a moment to [answer these four short questions](#).

Looking Ahead. We're committed to building on this momentum by **learning from one another** and from our neighbouring OHTs and partners, as we work together to advance the Primary Care Action Plan. As we receive updates on the results of this first round—and gain clarity on the second round, **expected in Fall 2025** from the Ministry and Ontario Health—we will keep you informed every step of the way.

If you have any questions or would like to stay connected to this work, **please don't hesitate to reach out**.

Nadia Prescott, MHA (she/her)

Executive Transformation Lead

Ottawa West Four Rivers Ontario Health Team

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<https://www.ottawawestfourrivers.ca/>



Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: Thank you for You Helping Us Reach 100% – A Sneak Peek at the CT Scan Suite

From: Ben Gardiner <BGardiner@arnpriorhealth.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:24 AM

To: Ben Gardiner <BGardiner@arnpriorhealth.ca>

Cc: Amber Campbell <ACampbell@arnpriorhealth.ca>

Subject: Thank you for You Helping Us Reach 100% – A Sneak Peek at the CT Scan Suite

Good morning,

I hope this message finds you well.

On behalf of all of us at the Arnprior Regional Health Foundation, I want to extend our sincere thanks for the incredible role you've played in helping us reach a major milestone — the 100% mark of our fundraising goal for the CT Scan Campaign!

Your generosity has had a profound impact on the success of our hospital. It truly makes a meaningful difference for the over 6,000 patients, clients, and families who will benefit from this life-saving technology every year. In a community like ours, your support doesn't just build capacity — it enhances connection, hope, and better outcomes for everyone who calls this community home.

I wanted to follow up, thank you again and share a sneak peek video tour of the new CT Scan Suite, to help visualize the very real impact your support is making:

<https://youtu.be/LLzjelRwe6o>

This milestone wouldn't have been possible without you, and we are deeply grateful for your belief in this vision and your investment in something so impactful.

Ben Gardiner, MBA, CFRE

Executive Director

Arnprior Regional Health Foundation

Office: (613) 623-3166 ext. 532 | Cell: 613-299-5783



(he/him/his) [Why pronouns matter](#)