



**Town of Arnprior**  
**Regular Meeting of Council: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Correspondence Package No. I-25-JUN-11**

**Recommendation:**

**That** the Correspondence Package No. I-25-JUN-11 be received as information and filed accordingly.

**General Information Items:**

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

- a) Ontario Cutting Red Tape to Protect Workers, Families and Jobs
- b) Province Making it Easier for American Doctors and Nurses to Work in Ontario
- c) Government Delivering on Mandate to Protect Ontario
- d) Ontario Expands Free Public Access to Hiking Trails
- e) Ontario Leveraging Hydrogen to Power Jobs, Growth and Energy Security
- f) Ontario Helping Students and Job Seekers Prepare for In-Demand Careers
- g) Ontario Launches Plan to Secure Energy for Generations
- h) Ontario Supporting Victims and Survivors of Sexual Assault
- i) 2025-2026 Connecting Links Funding by Municipality
- j) Ontario Helping Seniors Stay Healthy and Independent

**2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew**

- a) Construction Update – June 2025

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

- a) Watch File – June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- b) Watch File – June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

- c) Policy Update – Bill 46, Bill 10 and Supporting Public Safety Workers

#### **4. Correspondence from Other Municipalities**

- a) Town of Bracebridge: Road Salt Usage
- b) County of Prince Edward: Disability Without Poverty
- c) Town of LaSalle: Northern Health Travel Grant Program
- d) Township of Black River – Matheson: Request for Exemption to Proposed Mandatory Firefighter Certification Requirements (O. Reg. 343/22)
- e) City of Pickering: Raising Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program
- f) Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan: Call for Inclusive Research to Reflect Diversity of Canadian Communities
- g) Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury: Advocacy for Increased Support Thresholds for Canadian Veterans

#### **5. Correspondence from Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre**

- a) Neuter Scooter for cats

#### **6. Correspondence from MP Cheryl Gallant**

- a) Arnprior Constituency Clinic – July 15, 2025

#### **7. Correspondence from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.**

- a) Bill 17 Comments for Regulatory Registry

## Ontario Cutting Red Tape to Protect Workers, Families and Jobs

Latest red tape reduction package will save people and businesses \$5.8 million and more than 256,000 hours every year

June 04, 2025

[Red Tape Reduction](#)

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TORONTO – Today, the Ontario government introduced the *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025*, that if passed, would support the province's goal of cutting red tape to make Ontario the most competitive place in the G7 to invest, create jobs and do business. The legislation is a key part of the [Spring 2025 Red Tape Reduction Package](#) that contains over 50 new common-sense changes to improve services, keep costs down and protect Ontario's economy.

"In the face of the ongoing threat of U.S. tariffs, our government is taking action to protect Ontario so we can keep workers on the job, attract new investment and make life easier and more affordable for Ontario families," said Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Red Tape Reduction. "We're protecting Ontario by cutting needless red tape, keeping costs down, improving service delivery, and creating the right conditions for people and businesses to succeed."

Key actions include:

- Protecting income for people who need it most by exempting the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) as income so that social assistance recipients would receive the benefit without seeing a reduction in their provincial social assistance payments or entitlements. The changes would help recipients of the [Ontario Disability Support Program](#) (ODSP), [Ontario Works](#) and the [Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities](#) (ACSD) obtain maximum entitlements.
- Streamlining how funding is delivered and reported for Northern Ontario Small Business Enterprise Centres, so they can spend less time on administration and more time in helping local businesses grow.
- Making communities safer by proposing changes to Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000, that will allow information in the Ontario Sex Offender and Trafficker Registry to be shared with certain organizations and law

enforcement agencies across Canada and in the United States. This will help with cross-border investigations and improve the monitoring of sex offenders.

- Strengthening the *Consumer Protection Act, 2002*, by replacing existing rules for rewards points agreements with new requirements. This includes giving consumers the right to request that a supplier credit back any rewards points that were expired, cancelled or suspended contrary to the act or its regulations.
- Supporting tourism by proposing changes to the *Liquor Licence Control Act* to expand areas where alcohol can be consumed in Ontario Parks, beginning in 2026. This amendment would improve visitor experiences in parks by expanding opportunities for socially responsible consumption of alcohol.

“Together, these changes represent meaningful action to protect our economy,” said Minister Khanjin. “Our latest red tape package is expected to save \$5.8 million, and over 256,000 hours every single year. In times like these, every dollar matters, and every minute counts. Cutting red tape is not just about removing outdated rules – it's about unlocking new opportunities and protecting what matters most.”

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#### Quick Facts

- Since 2018, Ontario has taken over 650 actions, saving people and businesses \$1.08 billion and 1.5 million hours.

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#### Quotes

"Our government is committed to making Ontario the most competitive economy in the G7. By cutting red tape, we're taking real steps in that direction. I look forward to supporting my colleagues as we continue to make life easier for businesses and people across the province."

- Joseph Racinsky

Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Red Tape Reduction

"I'm proud to support this bold action to make government work better for everyone. By eliminating red tape and modernizing how government works, we're clearing the path for more growth, more jobs, and a stronger future for the people of Ontario."

- Logan Kanapathi

Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Red Tape Reduction



"We applaud Minister Khanjin and the Ontario government for consistently introducing two Red Tape Reduction packages every year, a sign of their unwavering commitment to removing barriers to business. A resounding 96% of Ontario small business owners believe it's important for the province to reduce unnecessary, excessive, and duplicative rules. This survey response isn't surprising, given that the average Canadian business spent 32 days on red tape in 2024."

**- Julie Kwiecinski**

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

"The Ontario Chamber welcomes this latest bill to reduce the regulatory burden on business, enabling them to focus on innovation, sales, service and creating jobs. We particularly support steps to improve Northern businesses' access to Small Business Enterprise Centres. This bill makes business services more inclusive and helps improve Ontario's competitiveness in the global economy."

**- Daniel Tisch**

**President and CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC)**

"Alleviating red tape is a critical priority for the Toronto region's business community and we are pleased to see the introduction of Ontario's 15th Red Tape Reduction package. Reducing red tape is about creating the conditions for Ontario businesses to grow, compete, and succeed. Efforts to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens are essential to drive investment, boost productivity, and strengthen economic resilience. With more details to come, we look forward to supporting the Ontario government's efforts to streamline regulation to meet the needs of business."

**- Toronto Region Board of Trade**

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#### **Additional Resources**

- [Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape](#)
- [Fall 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package](#)
- [Learn how Ontario is cutting red tape](#)

- [2024 Burden Reduction Report](#)

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## Related Topics

### Business and Economy

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

### Government

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

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## Province Making it Easier for American Doctors and Nurses to Work in Ontario

Government cutting red tape to strengthen Ontario's health-care workforce

June 05, 2025

[Health](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is taking significant steps to strengthen its health-care workforce by making it easier for U.S.-licensed nurses and board-certified physicians to move to and practise in Ontario. The change is part of the government's plan to protect and strengthen Ontario's health-care system by increasing the number of health-care professionals working in the province.

"By cutting the red tape that is delaying highly trained U.S.-licensed doctors and nurses from being able to live and work in Ontario, we are making bold strides to ensure Ontario patients receive timely and accessible care," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "These changes build on our government's historic action to reduce labour mobility barriers for health-care professionals within Canada, and will now make it faster and easier for American physicians and nurses to care for Ontario patients."

The change will enable qualified U.S.-licensed physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and registered practical nurses to begin working in Ontario health settings without prior registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario or the College of Nurses of Ontario. These professionals will be able to work for up to six months while seeking registration in Ontario, removing a significant barrier to attracting American health-care workers.

Additionally, the government is removing restrictions under "As of Right" that limit four professions to practising in public hospitals and long-term care homes. This change applies to physicians and nurses licensed in the U.S., as well as respiratory therapists and medical laboratory technologists who will now be able to practise in a broader range of health settings, including primary care, home and community care and community laboratories.

Ontario continues to support locally trained health-care workers, expanding the [Ontario Learn and Stay Grant](#), which provides financial assistance to postsecondary students who commit to working in underserved communities after graduation. The province is also expanding access to care by opening more medical schools, increasing nursing program capacity, and broadening the scope of practice for nurses, enabling nurses to play a greater role in patient care.

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#### Quick Facts

- To qualify, health professionals must be licensed in their home jurisdiction with no history of misconduct or incompetence, as well as comply with other public protection requirements.
  - Ontario's "As of Right" exemption [first came into effect on July 24, 2023](#), and expedited the process for physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and medical laboratory technologists registered in other provinces and territories to immediately start working and caring for Ontarians while seeking registration to practise in Ontario.
  - Allowing U.S.-licensed physicians and nurses to work in Ontario supports the government's work under the *Protect Ontario through Free Trade within Canada Act 2025* [to remove labour mobility barriers](#), reduce administrative burdens and simplify the movement of certified workers across Canada.
  - Physicians and nurses from the U.S. will need to go through the standard Canadian immigration/permanent residency/work permit process administered by the federal government.
  - 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.
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#### Quotes

"Our government is fixing long-term care by training, hiring and retaining thousands of health-care workers to provide high-quality care for residents. We welcome all U.S.-licensed health professionals looking for opportunities to practice and accelerate their careers in Ontario's long-term care homes."

- Paul Calandra  
Acting Minister of Long-Term Care

"Now more than ever, Ontario needs a world-class, highly skilled workforce to keep our province competitive. That's why our government is taking decisive action to break down barriers, ensuring trained workers can get to work faster and keep Ontario strong, healthy and productive."

**- David Piccini**

**Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development**

"Our government is cutting red tape to deliver real results for the people of Ontario. By streamlining the process for U.S.-licensed doctors and nurses to work in Ontario, we're removing unnecessary barriers and accelerating access to care. This is a great example of how reducing red tape can strengthen our health-care system, support frontline workers, and ensure patients get the timely, high-quality care they deserve."

**- Andrea Khanjin**

**Minister of Red Tape Reduction**

"The Ontario Medical Association supports the government's efforts to reduce barriers to practice and enhance mobility for qualified health professionals, including those trained in the U.S. These changes help strengthen Ontario's health workforce and improve timely access to care. Doctors remain committed to working with the Ministry to ensure that these changes deliver sustainable, high-quality care for Ontarians."

**- Dr. Zainab Abdurrahman**

**President, Ontario Medical Association**

"Ontario's plan to connect everyone with a family doctor is ambitious and essential—and growing the family medicine workforce is key to making it a reality. Reducing barriers for qualified physicians to practise in Ontario is a positive and timely step that can help improve access to care. As we work to attract new family physicians, we also need to continue moving forward with support for family physicians already providing high-quality care across the province. Together, these efforts will help strengthen the foundation of our health system for the long term."

**- Dr. Eric Wong**  
**President-Elect, Ontario College of Family Physicians**

"NPAO applauds the Ontario government for expediting U.S.-licensed Nurse Practitioners' (NPs) ability to practice in Ontario. Removing barriers and attracting more licensed NPs to Ontario is a significant step in addressing the gaps in primary and specialty care across the system. NPAO looks forward to continuing our partnership with the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Health to integrate and empower NPs to best provide high-quality, compassionate, and timely care for all Ontarians."

**- Dr. NP Michelle Acorn**  
**CEO, NPAO**



"RNAO welcomes Ontario's action to remove unnecessary barriers for U.S.-licensed physicians and nurses to begin practising in our province – while maintaining a strong commitment to patient safety and registration standards, including the requirement for a BScN for registered nurses and an MScN for nurse practitioners. Ontarians deserve timely and high-quality care, and this policy change is a timely step toward strengthening nurse retention and recruitment efforts. Attracting new nurses – whether from across the border or within Ontario – must be matched by robust strategies to retain the nurses we already have. That means ensuring safe staffing, competitive compensation across all sectors, and healthy work environments. RNAO is ready and eager to collaborate with the Ontario government and other partners to support both retention and recruitment, and to ensure the best possible care for Ontarians."

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

"WeRPN recognizes the Ontario government's efforts to streamline the process for U.S.-licensed nurses and physicians to practice in Ontario. Any measure that helps to more quickly integrate qualified nurses into the workforce is a positive step towards addressing health-care needs. This is a crucial step in cementing a strong talent pipeline as pressure on our health-care system, bolstering our nursing workforce, and ensuring Ontarians have access to the care they need, when they need it. By reducing barriers and expanding practice settings, we are not only attracting vital talent but also recognizing the diverse skills and expertise that these professionals bring to our health-care system."

- Dianne Martin  
CEO, WeRPN

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### Additional Resources

- [New "As of Right" Rules a First in Canada to Attract More Health Care Workers to Ontario](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Health Human Resources](#)

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### Related Topics

Government



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## Government Delivering on Mandate to Protect Ontario

Spring legislature concludes with the passage of 10 bills that will protect Ontario workers, businesses and communities

June 05, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

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**TORONTO** — The Legislative Assembly of Ontario's spring sitting has concluded following the passage of 10 historic government bills, part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by building the most competitive and resilient economy in the G7. This legislation includes important measures aimed at unlocking free trade within Canada, unleashing the vast economic potential of the Ring of Fire and Ontario's critical minerals, protecting communities from violent repeat offenders and improving health care and education, in addition to Ontario's 2025 provincial budget. In total, this recently passed legislation amended 54 existing acts and created 11 new acts.

"Voters gave us a strong mandate to protect Ontario against U.S. tariffs by building a stronger, more competitive economy that can withstand whatever comes our way," said Premier Doug Ford. "The legislation we have introduced and passed over the recent sitting delivers on that mandate and will help protect our workers, businesses and communities for generations to come."

Over the coming months, the government will continue delivering on its mandate to protect Ontario through a number of initiatives, including hosting the Council of the Federation in Ontario in July, signing additional internal trade agreements with provinces and territories, meeting with community members, municipal partners and other stakeholders throughout the summer and working to effectively implement the legislation that has been passed in the recent sitting.

Since the first session of the 44th Parliament began on April 14, the government has put forward a [Speech from the Throne](#) with a bold vision to protect Ontario and introduced and passed legislation, including the [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#), that will:

- Tear down interprovincial barriers to the free movement of goods and labour through the [Protect Ontario Through Free Trade Within Canada Act, 2025](#), and by

signing [agreements](#) with six provinces so far, with more to come

- Accelerate critical mineral and resource development projects, including in the Ring of Fire, through the [Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025](#)
- Cut red tape and speed up construction of new homes and infrastructure through the [Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025](#)
- Establish a framework for Ontario's publicly funded primary care system so that people in Ontario know what they can expect when accessing primary care services through the [Primary Care Act, 2025](#)
- Strengthen governance and transparency, enhancing patient care and improving service delivery through the [More Convenient Care Act, 2025](#)
- Protect communities and victims of crime, including intimate partner violence and human trafficking, through the [Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act, 2025](#)
- Help make communities safer by empowering municipalities to deal with encampments while investing in supportive housing through the [Safer Municipalities Act, 2025](#).

The government has also introduced the following pieces of legislation, which remain before the legislature for consideration when it reconvenes on October 20, and include initiatives to:

- Protect Ontario workers and the economy in the face of U.S. tariffs and create safer workplaces through the [Working for Workers Seven Act, 2025](#)
- Strengthen government oversight, accountability and transparency in public school boards, postsecondary education and children's aid societies through the [Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025](#)
- Meet rising demand, while keeping energy affordable, secure, reliable and clean for generations to come, through the [Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act, 2025](#)
- Support the province's goal of cutting red tape to make Ontario the most competitive place in the G7 to invest, create jobs and do business through the [Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025](#)
- Protect communities in Peel Region by giving Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon the tools they need to provide high-quality services to local taxpayers as they continue to grow through the [Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2025](#)
- Strengthen local governance by creating a standardized municipal code of conduct through the [Municipal Accountability Act, 2025](#)
- Improve quality of life and protect seniors and those who care for them across the province through the [Support for Seniors and Caregivers Act, 2025](#)

- Enhance public safety and disaster response measures, including the deployment of Ontario Corps in emergencies, through the [Emergency Management Modernization Act, 2025](#)
  - Help protect communities from the risk of wildland fires and hazardous oil and gas wells, and enabling the use of carbon storage technologies, through the [Resource Management and Safety Act, 2025](#).
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## Quick Facts

- The first session of the 44th Parliament in the Ontario legislature began on April 14, 2025.
  - On April 7, the government announced that it was providing approximately [\\$11 billion in relief and support to workers and businesses](#) to protect the province's economy from economic uncertainty and the impact of U.S. tariffs.
  - Internal trade barriers are estimated to cost Canada's economy \$200 billion every year and increase what families and businesses pay for goods and services by nearly 15 per cent.
  - So far this year, Ontario has signed Memorandums of Understanding with six provinces on expanding interprovincial trade; as it stands, trade between Ontario and those six provinces is valued at over \$117 billion dollars per year.
  - Ontario has welcomed nearly \$70 billion of investment in key sectors, helping to create nearly one million new jobs since 2018.
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## Additional Resources

- [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)
  - [Protect Ontario: Speech from the Throne](#)
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## Related Topics

### Government

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

[Learn more](#)

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## Ontario Expands Free Public Access to Hiking Trails

New investments will create more opportunities to enjoy hiking trails across province, including the Bruce Trail

June 09, 2025

[Environment, Conservation and Parks](#)

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BURLINGTON — The Ontario government is expanding access to trails across the province by investing \$20 million over four years into the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program. For 2024/25, 15 projects will open up over 1,650 acres of land, including trails, for the public to enjoy at no cost. These projects, including three along the Bruce Trail, will make it easier for people to explore nature close to home while supporting local tourism and businesses.

“This program is about opening more trails and giving people the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors close to home,” said Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. “By supporting projects like those along the Bruce Trail, we are supporting tourism in our own backyard and ensuring that more people can experience the joy of hiking and the benefits of spending time in nature — free of charge.”

These latest projects – selected through a competitive process by the Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA) – leverage the government’s four-year [\\$20-million investment](#) with private sector dollars to protect nature close to home through the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program.

One of the requirements for the program is that projects need to provide some form of public access to give visitors the opportunity to engage in more outdoor activities. For example, the [Bruce Trail Conservancy](#) will be able to secure and protect over 150 acres (61 hectares) of land contained within the [Niagara Escarpment UNESCO World Biosphere](#) thanks to the program. Much of this land adds new portions to the Bruce Trail, Canada’s oldest and longest marked footpath. Currently, over 70 per cent of the Bruce Trail is on permanently protected land.

Partnering with conservation leaders is one of the ways the Ontario government is providing people with more opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors close to home, while supporting local tourism in communities that have some of the best

hiking trails in the world.

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### Quick Facts

- For every dollar of provincial funding provided through the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program, grant recipients are required to match it with a minimum of \$2 from other conservation partners, including individual donors, foundations and other levels of government.
  - Since launching in 2020, the program has supported the protection of over 430,000 acres (approximately 175,000 hectares) of land across the province – more than 2.75 times the size of Toronto.
  - Ontario has invested \$58 million in the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program since 2020.
  - The Ontario Land Trust Alliance is the only provincial organization dedicated to providing community, knowledge sharing, and support for local and regional land trusts, and other groups committed to land conservation, across the province. Its 51 land trust members and associates collectively care for over 2,000 natural areas and greenspaces across Ontario, engaging the support of thousands of volunteers and supporters annually.
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### Quotes

"The Bruce Trail is the oldest and longest marked hiking trail in Canada, and I am pleased the Hollow Oak Nature Reserve along the Bruce Trail will benefit from the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program. This investment will provide visitors the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities in natural spaces for generations to come."

**- Natalie Pierre**  
**MPP, Burlington**



"We are deeply grateful for the Government of Ontario's ongoing commitment to land conservation through the Greenlands Conservation Partnership. This significant investment will empower land trusts across Ontario to protect even more ecologically vital natural areas and preserve the province's rich biodiversity while also providing communities with access to beautiful outdoor spaces. We are thrilled to continue this important partnership to safeguard Ontario's natural heritage for future generations."

- Alison Howson  
Executive Director, Ontario Land Trust Alliance

"The Bruce Trail Conservancy is grateful to the province for this major investment in protecting nature and connecting Ontarians with the greenspaces they love in their communities. The Bruce Trail is a Canadian treasure and is a place where nature and people can thrive in harmony. Strong partnerships like these are critical to protecting biodiversity and access to nature for future generations."

- Michael McDonald  
Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Trail Conservancy

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## Additional Resources

[Find out more about the Ontario Land Trust Alliance](#)

[To locate a land trust near you, visit the Ontario Land Trust Alliance's member directory.](#)

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## Related Topics

### Environment and Energy

Learn more about how Ontario protects and restores wildlife and the environment. Includes information on conservation and the electricity system. [Learn more](#)

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## Ontario Leveraging Hydrogen to Power Jobs, Growth and Energy Security

Province ensuring affordable, secure, reliable and clean energy supply as part of its plan to protect Ontario

June 10, 2025

[Energy and Mines](#)

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**ETOBICOKE** – Today, the Ontario government announced its plans to expand the province's hydrogen energy advantage to ensure the province has affordable, secure, reliable and clean energy to build new homes and support economic growth. Accelerating the growth of Ontario's low-carbon hydrogen sector is part of the government's plan to protect Ontario, which includes an integrated energy plan that will meet the province's growing electricity needs and strengthen Ontario's long-term energy security to reduce reliance on energy providers from outside the province.

"Ontario is taking bold action to build an energy system that supports jobs and powers the province's economic growth – now and for generations to come," said Sam Oosterhoff, Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries. "Hydrogen is already proving its value in Ontario, and we're backing it as an important part of our diverse, reliable and clean energy mix – one that creates good jobs, strengthens manufacturing and builds a more self-reliant province."

Hydrogen technologies are uniquely suited to help fill gaps in the energy system that are too difficult or costly to solve through electrification alone. Unlocking hydrogen's full potential can help the province meet peak electricity demand, enable long-duration energy storage to complement intermittent renewables and reduce emissions in sectors like steel, cement and refining.

To support the growth of a strong hydrogen economy, the government is:

- **Creating a New Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot (H2 IRP):** The government will direct the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to provide recommendations for a pilot program that would offer hydrogen producers discounted electricity rates in exchange for reducing consumption during peak demand periods.

- **Exploring Options to Regulate Hydrogen Pipelines:** The province is evaluating the expansion of the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) mandate to regulate dedicated hydrogen pipelines to protect consumers, while facilitating more development of this new hydrogen infrastructure.
- **Expanded Hydrogen Innovation Fund:** In March 2025, [Ontario announced a new \\$30 million round of funding](#) for projects. One funding stream will support the integration of low-carbon hydrogen into the electricity grid, such as projects that help create a more reliable grid during peak times. The other will fund projects that support the broader use of hydrogen, such as in transportation and heavy industry.

"If we're serious about building a more self-reliant and sovereign energy future, we need to leverage every energy resource at our disposal to power our homes, businesses and economy," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "Hydrogen gives us another powerful tool in our 'all-of-the-above' strategy to deliver affordable, Canadian-made energy and reduce our reliance on foreign sources."

According to a summary by Natural Resources Canada of several models, a robust hydrogen economy could create up to 135,000 jobs across Canada by 2050, including thousands in Ontario, in areas such as production, infrastructure, storage and clean technology development. This modelling also predicts that in Canada, hydrogen could eliminate as much as 69 megatonnes of emissions each year in an environment of supportive hydrogen policies.

Innovators and industry across Ontario are already moving forward with commercially viable hydrogen projects that will help meet future demand and cement Ontario's place as a global hub for clean manufacturing and energy innovation.

This initiative is one of several actions being advanced through Ontario's first Integrated Energy Plan, which will be released soon. It reflects the coordinated, long-term approach the province is taking to make sure Ontario has the reliable, affordable energy it needs to be energy secure and create opportunities to export Ontario energy abroad. The government's integrated approach and record investments in energy infrastructure are not only helping to meet the demands of today, but will help protect workers and the economy by keeping workers on the job and powering growth and opportunity for decades to come.

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## Quick Facts

- Hydrogen is a versatile energy carrier that can be used for transportation, industrial processes, and energy storage.
- According to a whole-economy energy modelling study that was commissioned by the province, hydrogen demand could make up three per cent of total final energy demand in 2050, a significant part of Ontario's energy mix.
- Ontario released its [Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy](#) in 2022. This strategy set out a vision for a thriving hydrogen economy, with concrete steps already taken to deliver on outcomes.

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## Quotes

"Expanding Ontario's clean energy supply, particularly through low-carbon hydrogen, is vital for sustaining our province's growth while meeting the rising demand for reliable and affordable energy," said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. "By investing in innovative, homegrown solutions, we're ensuring Ontario's industries and communities thrive with a secure, sustainable energy future."

- Kinga Surma  
MPP, Etobicoke Centre

"Electricity is being relied on to do more than ever, requiring greater coordination across all the energy types powering Ontario's future economy. It is critical that we continue our work with stakeholders to advance, integrate and enable the hydrogen sector so that it can grow along with Ontario's electricity sector."

- Lesley Gallinger  
President and CEO of the IESO

"Hydrogen is poised to play a central role in Canada's clean energy future, and hydrogen fuel cell trucks will be key to driving that transition. By making hydrogen a core part of its energy future, the province is creating the conditions for a thriving zero-emission transport industry — and we're proud to be building that technology of the future here."

- Jamie Ally  
CEO of Elemental Trucks

"On behalf of Ontario's hydrogen sector, I commend Minister Oosterhoff for his continued leadership in making Ontario a destination of choice for low-carbon hydrogen investment. A hydrogen interruptible rate program and an expanded regulatory oversight for hydrogen pipelines, especially when combined with other policies and programs such as the HIF, both have the potential to catalyze Ontario's hydrogen economy. At a time when global competitiveness and economic resilience are more important than ever, this kind of vision is exactly what Ontario needs to strengthen its industrial backbone, create well-paying jobs, and become energy independent."

- Maike Althaus  
Executive Director of Hydrogen Ontario

"The development of the at-scale low-carbon hydrogen economy will greatly rely on the effective build out of strategic hydrogen pipeline infrastructure. Ontario's Hydrogen Hub in Sarnia-Lambton benefits significantly from existing local hydrogen pipeline infrastructure, and competitive growth will rely on the ability to expand delivery of product to off-takers across regional and provincial markets. Hydrogen pipelines represent the most efficient, environmentally safe, and volume capable method of transporting product, while representing a critical pathway to enhancing energy security."

- Matthew Slotwinski  
CEO of the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership

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#### **Additional Resources**

[Ontario's Low Carbon Hydrogen Strategy](#)

[Ontario Doubling Hydrogen Innovation Fund to \\$30 Million to Protect Ontario Jobs](#)

[Ontario's Affordable Energy Future: The Pressing Case for More Power](#)

[Powering Ontario's Growth](#)

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## Ontario Helping Students and Job Seekers Prepare for In-Demand Careers

New online tool will improve access to education and training for good-paying careers in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty

June 11, 2025

[Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security](#)

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TORONTO —To strengthen and protect Ontario's current and future workforce, the Ontario government has launched [My Career Journey](#), an interactive online tool which will connect students and job seekers to the information they need to begin fulfilling careers. The portal is one more tool the government is using to help students and job seekers find good-paying jobs in the face of U.S. tariffs and economic uncertainty, while ensuring Ontario has the skilled workforce needed to build an economy that is more competitive, resilient and self-reliant.

"Whether you're stepping into the workforce after graduation or making a job change, Ontario has the world-class training and education opportunities you need to launch a fulfilling career," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "As we transform Ontario's economy into the most competitive place in the G7 to invest, create jobs and do business, *My Career Journey* will protect Ontario students and workers by providing them with the information they need to find good-paying, in-demand work during this time of economic uncertainty."

*My Career Journey* is a new website that will help high school students, new Canadians and people looking to change careers find what education and training they need to prepare for in-demand careers. The portal features:

- Interactive maps to explore regional in-demand careers and Ontario's colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes.
- Job profiles for in-demand careers in key sectors such as health care, skilled trades and engineering.
- A questionnaire that provides users with a detailed list of personalized education and career resources to help job seekers and students consider their next steps.



To explore education and career opportunities in the province, visit [ontario.ca/mycareerjourney](https://ontario.ca/mycareerjourney).

“Now more than ever, we need to ensure job seekers are equipped with the tools they need to enter rewarding, good-paying careers,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “*My Career Journey* is another way our government is strengthening our workforce, boosting our productivity and protecting Ontario’s economy.”

“It’s never too early to start planning for the future. *My Career Journey* gives students the tools they need to explore their options and take the next step with confidence,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. “Our government is focused on supporting students every step of the way to ensure they are prepared for good-paying, stable careers that contribute to a strong Ontario.”

As part of the government’s plan to protect Ontario in the face of current economic threats and transform Ontario’s economy into one of the most competitive places in the G7 to invest and do business, *My Career Journey* is being launched to provide people with personalized career planning that will help students and workers find the education and skills they need to prepare for the jobs of today, and for decades to come.

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#### Quick Facts

- *My Career Journey* includes job profiles in four priority sectors: health care, skilled trades and construction, technology and engineering and education.
  - *My Career Journey*’s postsecondary institutions map displays over 170 postsecondary campuses, including Ontario’s 23 publicly assisted universities, 24 publicly assisted colleges and nine Indigenous Institutes.
  - *My Career Journey*’s questionnaire results are pulled from a list of nearly 100 trusted education and career focused resources.
  - To create *My Career Journey* Ontario consulted extensively with external stakeholders, postsecondary institutions, workers, and students.
-

## Quotes

"An online resource like My Career Journey can help more Ontarians access the education and training they need to succeed in high-demand fields. This tool will empower learners — whether they're just starting out, changing careers, or upskilling — to see the full range of possibilities a university education can offer across key sectors like engineering, education, and technology, helping build a resilient and highly skilled workforce."

**- Steve Orsini**

**President and CEO, Council of Ontario Universities**

"The launch of the My Career Journey tool will help Ontarians navigate education pathways that lead directly to in-demand careers. By connecting learners to Ontario's colleges and aligning training with real labour market needs, this tool strengthens the critical link between post-secondary education and a resilient, future-ready workforce."

**- Maureen Adamson**

**Interim President and CEO of Colleges Ontario**

"The online career portal will empower students to navigate their post-secondary career journey and explore options to enrich their learning with programs that are grounded in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. We now have a path for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to choose programs that speak to their interests and lead to careers that bring fulfillment and growth."

**- Marsha Josephs**

**Executive Director, Indigenous Institutes Consortium**

"The launch of My Career Journey marks a significant milestone in empowering Ontarians to navigate their education and career paths with clarity. eCampusOntario commends the Government of Ontario for providing a centralized, user-friendly hub that offers essential tools and support across the lifelong learning continuum. As a champion of digital learner empowerment, eCampusOntario acknowledges the importance of integrating accessible career planning resources with comprehensive information about educational options. My Career Journey will ensure that all Ontarians can confidently shape their futures."

**- Robert Luke**  
**CEO, eCampusOntario**

"At ONCAT, our mandate is to help students find their path through postsecondary education and into the labour market. We applaud the government's work to launch My Career Journey, a tool that empowers learners with the information they need to make informed decisions about their education and career goals. By making labour market insights more accessible, this initiative supports more seamless and purposeful transitions for students across Ontario."

**- Dr. Adrienne Galway**  
**President and CEO of the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer**  
**(ONCAT)**

"The launch of My Career Journey / Mon parcours de carrière marks a significant step in empowering people living in Ontario to navigate their education and career paths with confidence. Congratulations to the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security for launching this interactive tool to help people make informed decisions and build rewarding futures. Our frontline teams look forward to using this tool as we help more than 30,000 people, especially those in small, rural, northern, and remote areas, access the online education and training they need to get or retain a job, earn a promotion, or advance their career without having to leave their communities."

- Maxim Jean-Louis

**President and Chief Executive Officer of Contact North | Contact Nord**

"As providers of the centralized application service for Ontario's public colleges, we're happy to have contributed insights into the development of My Career Journey, an innovative tool that gives Ontarians the resources they need to navigate their career paths with confidence."

- Shannon Lipskie

**Interim President and CEO, Ontario College Application Services**

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## **Related Topics**

### **Business and Economy**

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

### **Education and Training**

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

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## Ontario Launches Plan to Secure Energy for Generations

First-ever integrated energy plan leverages every energy resource to protect Ontario with affordable, secure, reliable and clean energy to power growth and jobs across the province

June 12, 2025

[Energy and Mines](#)

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**TORONTO** – Today, the Ontario government released [Energy for Generations](#), the province's first-ever integrated energy plan - a comprehensive roadmap to meet future energy needs, support new housing and power the most competitive economy in the G7. This plan is an important part of the government's work to protect Ontario by bringing together electricity, natural gas, hydrogen and other energy sources under a single coordinated strategy to ensure the province has the affordable, secure, reliable and clean energy needed to build a more competitive, resilient, and self-reliant province.

"At the turn of the century, our great grandparents had the vision to build Ontario's hydroelectric dams, later our grandparents started the build-out of Ontario's nuclear fleet, and today, that responsibility falls on us to build for the future," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "While every jurisdiction around us scrambles for affordable power, our government is thinking ahead, building for our children and grandchildren. *Energy for Generations* represents the ambition and long-term thinking necessary to deliver critical nation-building priorities that solidify Canada's self-reliance. As energy demand soars, our plan leverages 'Made-In-Ontario' to build affordable, clean, and always reliable power, built by and for Canadians."

Over the next 25 years, demand for electricity is forecast to increase by 75 per cent, the equivalent to adding four and a half cities the size of Toronto to the grid. At the same time, there is continued demand for existing and emerging fuels that are critical for powering vehicles, heating our homes and supporting industry. To meet this demand, the province is making record investments in energy infrastructure that are helping protect workers in engineering, science, construction and other skilled trades by supporting economic growth and keeping workers on the job during a time of economic uncertainty.

At the same time, *Energy for Generations* will modernize the grid to support a smarter, more flexible system that can better integrate and manage new technologies, from net-new nuclear to advancing national energy corridors for clean energy, transmission, and pipelines, while also strengthening access to reliable and affordable fuels that are critical to Ontario's industries, farmers and rural communities. Ontario's approach is anchored in four guiding principles that have been established over the past seven years and define the province's energy advantage:

- **Affordability** – Keeping energy costs low for families, businesses, and industry.
- **Security** – Building a self-reliant system with domestic infrastructure and supply.
- **Reliability** – Delivering consistent, 24/7 service to power every part of the province.
- **Clean energy** – Supporting economic growth, attracting investment while providing a North American solution to reduce emissions.

*Energy for Generations* advances a range of actions that leverage every energy resource and position the province for long-term success including:

- **Meeting Growing Electricity Demand** – Investing in energy efficiency, generation, storage and distribution, including competitive procurements and the largest nuclear buildout on the continent, while reaching more than 99 per cent zero-emissions electricity by 2050.
- **Positioning Ontario as a Global Clean Energy Superpower** – Growing exports of Ontario-made electricity, nuclear technology, medical isotopes, and engineering expertise to global markets, while supporting east-west grid connections across Canada.
- **Leading on Energy Corridors and Infrastructure** – Driving conversations on pipeline infrastructure and national energy corridors to support growth and energy security.
- **Unlocking Distributed Energy Resources** – Making it easier for individuals and businesses to generate, store and manage their own electricity through technologies like rooftop solar, batteries and smart thermostats.
- **Planning Smarter, Faster** – Ending siloed energy planning by integrating electricity, fuels and new technologies, and enhancing planning and development to better meet fast-growing demand.
- **Protecting Access to Fuels** – Safeguarding access to natural gas and other fuels, chosen by customers for home heating, industry and agriculture, by releasing Ontario's first Natural Gas Policy Statement.



Ontario will be doing this work in partnership with municipalities, business, industry and Indigenous communities. This supports the province's ongoing commitment to economic reconciliation including increasing funding for the Indigenous Energy Support Program to \$25 million annually to help build long-term capacity, support equity partnerships and invest in more reliable solutions for First Nations.

"Ontario is taking concrete steps to ensure that our economy is powered by strong, self-reliant, and competitive energy sources – particularly in the face of the unprecedented energy demands that our growing province is experiencing," said Sam Oosterhoff, Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries. "This Integrated Energy Plan, the first of its kind, is a generational step toward an energy future that will grow our economy and support Ontario's industries, while remaining affordable, reliable, and secure."

*Energy for Generations* provides a coordinated, long-term approach to make sure Ontario has the reliable, affordable energy it needs to be energy secure and power economic growth. The government's integrated approach and record investments in energy infrastructure are also providing the certainty needed to for Indigenous communities, municipalities, businesses and industry partners to invest confidently in Ontario's future. With a clear path forward, the plan not only helps meet the demands of today but will help protect workers and the economy by keeping workers on the job and powering growth and opportunities for generations to come.

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## Quick Facts

- [Energy for Generations](#) builds on the 2024 vision paper — [Ontario's Affordable Energy Future: The Pressing Case for More Power](#) — that saw 136 submissions to the public consultation from Indigenous communities, municipalities, utilities, stakeholders and the public.
  - The ***Affordable Energy Act, 2024***, introduced by Minister Lecce in Fall 2024, amended the ***Electricity Act, 2024***, and other legislation to establish a permanent legislative framework for integrated energy planning in Ontario.
  - In addition to tripling the total amount of loan guarantees through the [Indigenous Opportunities Financing Program](#) to \$3 billion, the province is increasing funding for the Indigenous Energy Support Program by \$10 million annually to help build long-term capacity, support Indigenous equity partnerships in energy projects, and invest in more reliable and affordable energy solutions for First Nations communities.
-

## Quotes

"Agriculture is the backbone of our economy. Our government is proud to support Ontario's farmers with Energy for Generations to ensure they have the reliable, affordable energy they need to thrive. By integrating renewable natural gas and low-carbon hydrogen into our energy mix, this plan supports sustainable agriculture, powers rural communities, and strengthens our food security for generations to come."

- Trevor Jones

**Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness**

"A reliable, affordable, and forward-looking energy system will play an integral role in ensuring Ontario's manufacturers are equipped with the necessary tools to power the innovations of tomorrow and confidently compete on the world stage. Through this integrated plan, our government is building an economy that not only endures but grows, securing good-paying jobs and long-term prosperity across strategic sectors."

- Vic Fedeli

**Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade**

"Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan represents a generational opportunity to drive Indigenous-led energy partnerships that deliver real economic benefits and build energy sovereignty in the North. Through this plan, we are creating the conditions for First Nations to transition off diesel, invest in clean, reliable energy infrastructure, and participate as true equity partners in projects that power prosperity. This is about reconciliation in action — ensuring Indigenous communities are not just at the table but leading the way and securing Ontario's energy future for decades to come."

- Greg Rickford

**Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation,  
and the Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire Economic and Community  
Partnerships**

"This energy plan is central to our ability to deliver on our ambitious \$200-billion infrastructure plan. With billions of dollars being deployed across all parts of the province to build new roads, bridges, water systems, homes, transit, schools, and hospitals, it's crucial for us to secure access to reliable, affordable and clean energy grid that will power up Ontario's build out, while boosting our province's competitiveness and protecting jobs and economy."

**- Kinga Surma**  
**Minister of Infrastructure**

"As our communities and businesses continue to grow, Northern Ontario will need secure, reliable, and affordable energy to succeed. With this Integrated Energy Plan, our government is focused long term investments in key energy infrastructure such as transmission lines and generating capacity that will fuel economic growth and stability for generations to come."

**- George Pirie**  
**Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth**

"Ontario is growing fast, and the Integrated Energy Plan provides a roadmap to ensure all of Ontario continues to benefit from a reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity system. By bringing together sector partners across all fuel types, and collaborating with Indigenous, municipal and industry leaders, our electricity system can serve as a catalyst for economic growth for decades to come."

**- Lesley Gallinger**  
**President and CEO, IESO**

"Bruce Power is proud to play a central role in building a clean, reliable, and affordable energy future. As a company that's Canadian at our core, we're committed to powering the growth of our economy and communities with made-in-Ontario nuclear innovation. Our investments in life-extension and pre-development work for Bruce C support the province's growing economy and population, while ensuring we remain a global leader in emissions-free electricity. We're proud to be an essential part of Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan—delivering sustainability and energy security for generations to come."

**- Eric Chassard**  
**President & CEO, Bruce Power**

"The Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO) strongly supports the Integrated Energy Plan released today by Ontario's Minister of Energy and Mines, Stephen Lecce. This integrated energy resource plan will help manage change and growing demand by building out critical energy infrastructure while providing clear signals and long-term confidence to the sector and investors. By focusing on long term planning using reliability, affordability, and sustainability as its cornerstones, together we will use Ontario's Clean Energy Advantage to help advance the energy transition and fight climate change."

**- Colin Anderson**  
**President and CEO, Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO)**

"Ontario's forest biomass resource is an entirely domestic source of secure, dispatchable, low-carbon heating and electrical energy. Over 80% of bioenergy expenditures remain within a region, providing an essential avenue for northern, rural, and Indigenous communities to participate in Ontario's energy transformation. Ontario is on a path to become a more globally competitive forest product jurisdiction, and the Ontario Forest Industries Association commends Minister Lecce and Premier Doug Ford for today's announcement, and our members are excited about bringing forward new job-creating clean energy projects to the IESO."

**- Ian Dunn**  
**President & CEO, Ontario Forest Industries Association**

"As one of the fastest-growing regions in the province—home to Canada's first EV battery manufacturing facilities and a hub of industrial and population growth—Western Ontario is powering Ontario's economic engine. To sustain this momentum, we need a reliable, modern energy system that can meet both immediate needs and long-term demand. The Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus applauds the Ontario government's commitment to integrated energy planning. This direction aligns with our 2025–2027 Strategic Priorities, especially our focus on infrastructure readiness and investment attraction. We look forward to working together to ensure the energy system enables continued growth and prosperity across our rural and urban communities."

**- Amy Martin**

**Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus**

"Ontario's first Integrated Energy Plan is a significant milestone. By prioritizing affordability, coordination across energy sources, and a strong commitment to nuclear, the Government is laying the foundation for a competitive, future-ready energy system that will drive investment and economic growth."

**- Giles Gherson**

**President & CEO, Toronto Region Board of Trade**

"Ontario's new Energy for Generations plan gives home builders the long-term confidence and clarity we need to deliver the housing supply Ontario families are counting on. By unifying electricity, natural gas, hydrogen and emerging technologies under one forward-looking strategy, the province is keeping energy affordable and reliable while driving the clean growth investors demand. This integrated approach will power new communities, support good construction jobs, and strengthen Ontario's position as a North American leader in sustainable development. The Ontario Home Builders' Association applauds Minister Lecce and the Ministry of Energy & Mines for this bold roadmap and looks forward to helping turn it into the homes and communities that will thrive for generations."

**- Scott Andison**

**Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Home Builders' Association**



"The Ontario Energy Association (OEA) welcomes the Government of Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan. The Plan reinforces many strategies and concepts supported by the OEA, including: investing in grid modernization; providing clarity on the critical role of natural gas in Ontario's energy mix; developing a roadmap for implementation of Distribution System Operator capabilities; expanding DER participation in IESO-administered markets; launching a regular planning cycle; developing a single integrated energy plan that accounts for all energy sources; and enhancing natural gas and electricity coordination in energy planning."

**- Vince Brescia**  
**President & CEO, Ontario Energy Association**

"Ontario's energy sector is undergoing a transformational shift, marked by the province's first Integrated Energy Plan. As AMPCO collaborates closely with the government, the voice of large industrial energy consumers remains critical to shaping a balanced, forward-looking energy strategy—one that supports Ontario's economic growth and long-term competitiveness."

**- Brad Duguid**  
**President of Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario**

"Reliable and affordable energy is essential to the mining supply and services sector. Our members—from manufacturers to technology providers—depend on consistent energy to operate efficiently and support mining operations across Ontario. As new mine developments come online, particularly in Northern Ontario, energy reliability will be a key factor in enabling future growth, investment, and competitiveness across the entire industry."

**- Marla Tremblay**  
**Executive Director of MineConnect**

"Enbridge applauds the Ontario Government for its clear affirmation on the important role natural gas will play in Ontario's energy future. The Natural Gas Policy statement and Integrated Energy Plan reinforce that natural gas is essential – not only for affordability and reliability, but also as a catalyst for economic growth. Investments in energy and natural gas infrastructure are foundational to Ontario's prosperity, providing grid stability, industrial growth and contributes to the quality of life our customers enjoy across Ontario."

**- Michele Harradence  
EVP & President, Enbridge Gas**

"The waterpower industry applauds this government's leadership with the release of this ambitious and action-oriented Integrated Energy Plan. The plan will serve as a catalyst to drive accelerated investment and expansion of local, reliable, hydroelectricity."

**- Paul Norris  
President of the Ontario Waterpower Association**

"Energy Storage Canada applauds Ontario's launch of its first integrated energy plan. As demand rises and the province aims for a secure, clean, and reliable energy future, energy storage technologies will be foundational to delivering on that vision. Whether enabling more clean energy, improving grid reliability, or unlocking distributed energy solutions, storage is the backbone of a modern, flexible energy system. We look forward to working with the province to ensure storage plays a central role in powering Ontario for generations to come."

**- Justin Rangooni  
President & CEO Energy Storage Canada**



"The Government of Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan reflects the important role customer-facing utilities play in advancing a growing and thriving economy. Toronto Hydro is eager to meet the moment and answer the Minister's call for utility leadership and enable the future through customer-centric solutions and operational excellence."

**- Jana Mosley**

**President & CEO, Toronto Hydro Corporation**

"The government's continued commitment to competitive, transparent procurements—reaffirmed in the Integrated Energy Plan (IEP)—will drive low-cost clean energy investments that benefit Ontario ratepayers. We are encouraged that the IEP identifies the critical actions needed to fully leverage the significant potential of distributed energy resources that bring energy and resilience to all regions in the province."

**- Vittoria Bellissimo**

**President and CEO, Canadian Renewable Energy Association**

"The Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries congratulates Minister Lecce and the Ontario Government on the release of their Integrated Energy Plan. We and the entire nuclear supply chain are proud of Ontario's robust nuclear fleet and its history of producing safe, clean, reliable electricity for our province. Now, through this IEP, Minister Lecce shows again his commitment and vision of Ontario as a clean energy leader. From the refurbishments at Ontario Power Generation and Bruce Power, through the BWRX-300 SMR project at Darlington and the announcements on the potential of large nuclear with OPG and Bruce Power, Ontario is poised for a nuclear expansion that would ensure our clean energy security for decades to come. OCNI and our members are standing by to help make this real!"

**- Ivette Vera-Perez**

**President & CEO, The Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries**

"AMO welcomes the Integrated Energy Plan that charts a path for reliable, affordable, clean energy in Ontario. The IEP reinforces the important role of municipalities in integrated energy planning, making decisions to host projects, and collaborating with energy proponents to ensure local communities benefit from development."

**- Robin Jones**  
**AMO President, Mayor of Westport**

"Securing Ontario's energy future, and enhancing our global competitiveness, means using every tool available. That's why the Ontario Chamber of Commerce welcomes the government's Integrated Energy Plan to expand supply, modernize infrastructure, and drive coordinated growth. Ontario's leadership and commitment to advance national energy corridors are essential to attracting investment, and helping our businesses compete and win."

**- Daniel Tisch**  
**President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce**

"The EOWC and our 103 municipalities across Eastern Ontario are ready to support the ambitious integrated Energy for Generations Plan. We thank Minister Lecce for his visionary approach to achieve affordability, security, reliability, and clean energy through this plan. The EOWC looks forward to working with the Ontario Government, energy sector partners and private industry."

**- Bonnie Clark**  
**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Chair**

"With this blueprint, Ontario has the opportunity to lead the world in both small and large nuclear development. Coupled with our expanding hydroelectric portfolio and other low-carbon technologies, the growth of a reliable provincial grid will also boost economies and strengthen our energy security."

**- Nicolle Butcher**  
**President and CEO, OPG**

"The Ontario Mining Association welcomes the government's Integrated Energy Plan as a framework for a clean, reliable, and affordable energy future, while addressing increasing energy needs. We are committed to collaborating with the government and stakeholders, and building equity partnerships with Indigenous communities to support this vision. Mining drives transformational change, benefits Ontario communities, and advances a low-carbon economy across our supply chain. We appreciate the recognition of rising demand for Ontario minerals and support for the energy infrastructure needed to meet this demand. As we invest in innovation, natural gas remains vital for energy security, local jobs, and growth, especially in remote and northern communities. Strategic planning for energy infrastructure not only strengthens Ontario's leadership in responsible mineral development, it also boosts economic and community prosperity."

**- Priya Tandon**  
**Ontario Mining Association**

"The EDA welcomes the release of the Integrated Energy Plan as a critical step toward building a more coordinated and prosperous energy future for Ontario. We support a new planning and regulatory framework that prioritizes economic development and electrification in communities across the province. Ontario's local hydro utilities are ready to do their part in this transformation by enabling grid modernization and resilience, optimizing distributed energy resources, and offering clean energy solutions to our customers."

**- Teresa Sarkesian**  
**President & CEO, Electricity Distributors Association (EDA)**

"Elexicon welcomes Ontario's first ever Integrated Energy Plan and is committed to partnering with the Province to build an energy grid that supports a prosperous future for Ontario, including delivering safe and reliably electricity to Elexicon's nearly 200,000 customers in some of the fastest growing communities in the province."

**- Amanda Klein**  
**President and CEO of Elexicon**

"The Canadian Nuclear Association strongly supports Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan which affirms the nuclear industry's role in meeting growing energy needs, generating high-skilled jobs, creating export opportunities, and providing a reliable supply of life-saving medical isotopes. Our industry's supply chain is innovative, responsive, and built on decades of experience, and we are confident it is well-positioned to support the growth opportunities outlined in this Plan to ensure energy security and prosperity for Ontario."

- George Christidis  
President & CEO, Canadian Nuclear Association

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### Additional Resources

[Energy for Generations: Ontario's Integrated Plan to Power the Strongest Economy in the G7](#)

[Integrated Energy Resource Plan Consultation](#)

[IESO Annual Planning Outlook](#)

[Province Launches Largest Competitive Energy Procurement in Ontario History](#)

[Ontario's Clean Energy Opportunity](#)

[Powering Ontario's Growth](#)

[Integrated Energy Modelling Study](#)

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Accessibility

Privacy

# Ontario Supporting Victims and Survivors of Sexual Assault

Province helping to expand access to Independent Legal Advice Program

June 13, 2025

[Attorney General](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$750,000 over three years to help expand access to independent legal advice for victims and survivors of sexual assault.

“Our government is improving access to critical legal advice for victims and survivors of sexual assault — the latest step in our plan to protect Ontario communities,” said Associate Attorney General Michael Tibollo. “We’re helping to ensure that victims and survivors have the information they need to make informed decisions about their legal options.”

The [Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic](#) delivers the Independent Legal Advice Program, providing up to four hours of free, confidential advice to victims and survivors of sexual assault. Advice is available by telephone or video conferencing to individuals aged 16 and older who reside in Ontario and have experienced sexual assault within the province.

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## Quick Facts

- The [Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic](#) provided independent legal advice to 522 victims of sexual assault in 2024-25.
- As of April 1, 2025, the Clinic took over the delivery of the Independent Legal Advice Program to streamline and modernize access to services and update the intake and needs assessment process.
- The government’s \$750,000 investment is part of a larger \$6.4 million investment, [announced in the 2024 Ontario budget](#), to support the Independent Legal Advice Program for victims and survivors of sexual assault and expand the Child Victim Witness Support Program.
- Through the [Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act and related measures](#), Ontario remains committed to protecting communities

and victims of crime.

- Measures to support victims and survivors of sexual assault build on Ontario's [action plan to end gender-based violence](#) and [Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy](#).

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## Quotes

"This investment is a powerful step forward in helping to ensure survivors of sexual assault have access to the legal support they need to navigate an incredibly difficult time. By supporting the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, our government is helping to expand access to compassionate, survivor-centred legal advice — that can make a real difference in a person's path to justice and healing."

**- Monica Ciriello**  
**Parliamentary Assistant to the Attorney General**

"Community-based services, including legal supports, are critically important to helping victims and survivors of crime heal and rebuild their lives. Investing in the Independent Legal Advice Program is part of our government's plan to help keep people safe and empower survivors of crime."

**- Michael Parsa**  
**Minister of Children, Community and Social Services**

"At the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, we believe that access to justice must be survivor-centred, trauma-informed, and grounded in care and dignity. We are deeply grateful to the Ontario government for its continued support of the Independent Legal Advice Program. This recent investment reflects a meaningful commitment to ensuring that more survivors across Ontario can access the legal advice they need, when they need it, in ways that honour their experiences and autonomy. As a long-standing partner in this work, the Clinic remains committed to walking alongside survivors and communities in building pathways to justice that are compassionate, accessible, and equitable."

**- Deepa Mattoo**  
**Executive Director, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic**

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## Additional Resources

- [Independent legal advice for survivors of sexual assault](#)
- [Connect with supports for survivors of violence](#)

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## Related Topics

### Law and Safety

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

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Accessibility

Privacy

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## 2025-26 Connecting Links Funding by Municipality

June 13, 2025

[Transportation](#)

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The Ontario government is investing \$45 million to support repairs for municipal roads and bridges that connect people to jobs, support the movement of goods and stimulate economic growth. This year, 27 municipalities will receive funding towards 29 projects to repair roads and bridges through the 2025-26 Connecting Links program:

Municipality	Highway	Project	Total Project Funding
<b>East Region</b>			
Bonnechere Valley	60	Rehabilitation of Bonnechere Street (Highway 60) (Eganville)	\$1,672,707
Centre Hastings	62	Replacement of storm sewer system and drainage improvements along St Lawrence Street West	\$870,048
Madawaska Valley	60	Intersection improvements at Opeongo Road (Highway 60) and John Street	\$175,000
Pembroke	41/148	Rehabilitation and resurfacing of Paul Martin Drive and River Road from city limits to Mackay Street	\$3,000,000
Prince Edward County	62	Reconstruction of Main Street from County Road 33 easterly to County Road 30 (Bloomfield)	\$2,058,969
Cornwall	138	Reconstruction and realignment of Brookdale Avenue from Seventh Street West to Ninth Street West	\$3,000,000
<b>West Region</b>			
Guelph	7	Reconstruction of York Road - Phase 4 - Stage- 1 from Watson Pkwy to eastern city limit	\$3,000,000
Huron East	8	Resurfacing and Reconstruction of Goderich Street West (Highway 8) - Phase 2 (Seaforth)	\$2,721,035
Hamilton		Resurfacing of King Street East	

Warrington Shores	21	Reconstruction of King Street East (Forest)	\$251,856
Minto	23	Reconstruction of Arthur Street West (Highway 23) (Harriston)	\$141,267
Norfolk County	3	Reconstruction of James Street from Crosier Street to Wilson Avenue (Delhi)	\$2,415,365
South Huron	4	Reconstruction of Main Street South from Ausable River to Victoria Street (Exeter)	\$3,000,000
Stratford	8	Reconstruction of Huron Street (Highway 8) from Matilda Street to John Street - Phase 2	\$3,000,000
Wellington North	6	Resurfacing of Main Street (Highway 6) (Mount Forest)	\$1,651,711
Haldimand County (1)	3	Traffic signal and intersection upgrades- Highway 3 (Broad Street) at Taylor Road/Ramsey Drive, Dunnville	\$109,901
Haldimand County (2)	6	Traffic signal and intersection upgrades- Highway 6 (Main Street) at King Street, Hagersville	\$304,883
Owen Sound	26	Highway 26-16th Street East pedestrian tunnel rehabilitation	\$1,325,539
Saugeen Shores (1)	21	Highway 21 and Turner Street (Bruce County Road 13) intersection improvement project	\$1,350,000
Saugeen Shores (2)	21	Resurfacing of Albert Street, Railway Street and North Rankin Street (Highway 21) from South Street to Craig Street (Southampton)	\$3,000,000

Craig Street (Southampton),

Windsor	3	Huron Church between Pool and Industrial Road rehabilitation and Huron Church at Industrial Road signalized intersection upgrades	\$2,181,352
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**Northeastern  
Region**

Espanola	6	Reconstruction of Center Street (Highway 6) from Foucault Drive to Kei Will Drive	\$931,172
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Mattawa	533	Environmental Assessment and detailed structural review for the rehabilitation of Pont Mauril Belanger Bridge	\$343,440
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North Bay	63	Rehabilitation of Trout Lake Road from Highway 11/17 to Kinsway Avenue including Laurentian Avenue intersection reconstruction	\$2,968,866
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Sault Ste Marie	17	Resurfacing of Great Northern Road from Third Line to Wigle Street	\$2,993,720
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Hearst	11	Rehabilitation of Front Street	\$1,652,512
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West Nipissing	64	Rehabilitation of Highway 64 connecting link from Dufferin Street to Sabourin Road	\$549,504
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Kirkland Lake	66	Duncan Ave & Hwy 66 intersection reconstruction	\$1,066,045
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**Northwestern  
Region**

Reconstruction of Duke Street

Dryden	594	RECONSTRUCTION OF DUKE STREET	\$3,000,000
		Between Casimir Avenue and Earl Avenue	
Fort Frances	11	Reconstruction of Scott Street (Hwy. 11) from Mosher Avenue to Armit Avenue	\$2,511,394

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## Related Topics

### Driving and Roads

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

### Jobs and Employment

We’ve got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers. [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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416-327-1158

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Accessibility

Privacy

## Ontario Helping Seniors Stay Healthy and Independent

Province investing in historic number of community programs and active living centres to support healthy and socially connected living

June 17, 2025

[Seniors and Accessibility](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing nearly \$7 million to protect seniors and older adults by supporting over 330 community projects that help them to stay fit, active, healthy and socially connected. The Seniors Community Grant Program (SCGP) is designed to help seniors increase independence, reduce social isolation and create positive connections. It is being delivered alongside a suite of supports as Ontario marks [Seniors Month](#).

“Amid economic uncertainty and rising costs, Premier Ford and our government are proud to protect our seniors and ensure they have access to affordable and reliable community supports,” said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. “The Seniors Community Grant Program is a critical lifeline in every corner of our province for seniors to learn new skills, get fit, enjoy group activities and stay connected to their neighbours and friends.”

SCGP recipients can receive up to \$25,000 to support local programs, services and events to provide seniors with opportunities for greater social inclusion, volunteerism and community engagement. This year’s investment includes an additional \$1 million, specifically for programs dedicated to improving the quality of life for senior veterans. Examples of active projects include:

- A cost-free, dedicated bus service connecting rural seniors to essential community programming in York Region.
- Pairing seniors with young adults living with developmental disabilities to collaborate on a series of art-making activities and an exhibit to showcase their artwork in Markham.
- Providing senior veterans with a series of weekly art workshops and exhibitions, led by a professional art therapist in eastern Ontario.
- Access to digital literacy and wellness workshops in underserved rural areas around northern Ontario.

Ontario is also expanding [Seniors Active Living Centres](#) (SALCs) to over 400 sites to increase access to services that connect seniors to activities and programs close to home. The centres promote wellness, encourage social interaction, and combat ageism to help seniors stay active, independent and engaged within their communities.

Finally, the government is supporting the over 100 Seniors Active Living Fairs expected to take place in 2025-26 which will provide more opportunities for seniors to learn about supports and resources in their community.

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#### Quick Facts

- See the full list of [2025-26 Seniors Community Grants](#).
  - To find a SALC near you, visit [this link](#).
  - Ontario's 2025-26 Budget increased funding for the Seniors Community Grant Program by an additional \$1 million, with special focus on supporting Ontario's veterans.
  - The number of seniors aged 65 and over is projected to increase significantly, from 2.8 million or 18.4 per cent of population in 2022, to 4.4 million, or 20.3 per cent by 2046.
- 

#### Additional Resources

- [A Guide to Programs and Services for Seniors](#)
- 

#### Media Contacts

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Minister's Office

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#### Media Desk

Communications Branch

[msaa.media@ontario.ca](mailto:msaa.media@ontario.ca)

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# Construction update - June 2025

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Posted on Thursday, June 05, 2025



*County Road 52 (Burnstown Road), Township of McNab/Braeside*

## **Construction Update – June 5, 2025**

The County of Renfrew's Public Works and Engineering Department provides monthly updates on road and bridge construction in the area. Please visit the link below to sign up to get these updates by email:

<https://renfrew-county.civilspace.io/en/projects/2025-county-transportation-infrastructure-projects>

Please share this notice so that residents, businesses, and others know about traffic delays from construction projects. For the latest details on current projects, and their traffic effect, please check Municipal511 at <https://www.municipal511.ca/>.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns about County projects or services.

## **Upcoming Projects**

**County Road 69 (Siberia Rd.)** – Township of Madawaska Valley

Construction on Siberia Road, from River Road to Sunny Hill Road, is expected to start June 5, 2025 and to finish late-August. During construction, areas of Siberia Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

**County Roads 36 (TV Tower Rd.) and 51 (Pembroke St. West) – Township of Laurentian Valley**

Construction on TV Tower Road, from Jean Avenue to Forest Lea Road, and Pembroke Street West, from Pembroke City limits to Forest Lea Road, is expected to start June 9, 2025 and to finish late-July. During construction, parts of Pembroke Street West and TV Tower Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic. TV Tower Road will be closed for one (1) week, the dates of the closure will be posted to Municipal 511.

**County Road 3 (Usborne Street) – Township of McNab/Braeside**

Construction on Usborne Street, from River Road to the Braeside urban limit, is expected to start July 2, 2025 and finish early-August. During construction, parts of Usborne Street will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

**Ongoing Projects**

**County Road 2 (Daniel Street North) – Town of Arnprior**

Construction on Daniel Street North, from Madawaska Street to Staye Court Drive, started May 26, 2025 and is expected to finish early-August. During construction, parts of Daniel Street North will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

**County Road 52 (Burnstown Rd.) – Township of McNab/Braeside**

Construction on Burnstown Road, from Waba Creek Bridge (near White Lake) to Burnstown Bridge (near Burnstown), started May 26, 2025 and is expected to finish early-July. The project will include repairs to McLeods Culvert. During construction, parts of Burnstown Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

**County Road 64 (Opeongo Road) – Township of Bonnechere Valley**

Construction on Opeongo Road, from Foymount Road to Wieland Shore Road, started May 26, 2025 and is expected to finish mid-August. During construction, parts of Opeongo Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

**County Road 71 (Matawatchan Rd.) – Township of Greater Madawaska**

Rock removal and widening of the causeway is now finished on Matawatchan Road, about 8.2km south of Highway 41. Utility relocations will start June 9, 2025 and road construction on Matawatchan Road, from Civic Address 4882 to Centennial Lake Road, is expected to continue into late-June and to finish late-July. During

construction, areas of Matawatchan Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

### **County Structure B145 (Combermere Bridge)** – Township of Madawaska Valley

Construction on Combermere Bridge, which is on Combermere Road, about 0.5km south of Palmer Road, started April 2, 2025 and is expected to end mid-November. During construction, only one lane will be open to cross the bridge, with signals directing traffic. Mill Street will be closed at Combermere Road during construction with signs showing the detour route. Pedestrians will be able to cross the bridge during construction.

### **County Structure C201 (Broomes Creek Culvert & Dam)** – Township of Whitewater Region

Construction on Broomes Creek Culvert and Dam, which is on Foresters Falls Road, about 0.1km east of Foresters Falls, started May 1, 2025 and is expected to finish early-December. During construction, the road in this area will be closed to all traffic, including pedestrians, with signs showing the detour route. The detour will follow Kohlsmith Road and Queens Line. For more details on this project, please visit: <https://renfrew-county.civilspace.io/en/projects/c201-broomes-creek-culvert-dam-reconstruction>

PLEASE DRIVE WITH CARE THROUGH CONSTRUCTION SITES. THANK YOU FOR PATIENCE.



*County Road 508 (Calabogie Road) culvert replacement, Township of McNab/Braeside*

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© 2020 County of Renfrew, 9 International Drive, Pembroke ON K8A 6W5, Phone: [1-800-273-0183](tel:1-800-273-0183), Fax: [613-735-2081](tel:613-735-2081) | [Staff Login](#) | [Staff Email](#)

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

**From:** AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 10:00 AM  
**To:** Group Arnprior  
**Subject:** AMO Watchfile - June 5, 2025



June 05, 2025

**In This Issue:**

- Get access to MIDAS!
- Ontario launches Trade-Impacted Communities Program.
- Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- AMO 2025 Conference - Register today for Ontario's premier municipal event.
- AMO Guide to Delegation Meetings: Be prepared for your ministerial delegations.
- Showcase your innovation - Submit your projects for the PJ Marshall Awards.
- Upcoming AMO education workshops on leadership.
- Net-Zero Virtual Workshop registration closing soon.
- BPS Energy Reporting due in under a month.
- Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant application now open!
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- Western Ontario Municipal Conference - October 17.
- Webinar: Quality of Life in North American Cities.
- Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
- Careers.

**AMO Matters**

MIDAS - the [Municipal Information & Data Analysis System](#) - provides access to the Financial Information Returns (FIRs) data to all Ontario municipalities. MIDAS converts FIR data into meaningful reports and identifies multiple year trends. For access, municipal elected officials and municipal staff can email [MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca](mailto:MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca).

**Provincial Matters**

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade is [providing up to \\$40 million](#) to support communities and local industries facing economic challenges arising from ongoing trade disruptions.

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**

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](#).

AMO's [Guide to Delegation Meetings](#) outlines best practices to help AMO members get the most out of your delegation meetings. You will find advice on the full delegation process, from submitting your request for a delegation, preparing, participating and following-up after your successful meeting.

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](#).

AMO has two upcoming June workshops focused on enhancing leadership skills on strategic thinking and planning as well as community engagement. For more details including dates and times [click here](#).

## **LAS**

Less than two weeks until the virtual Net-Zero & Low Carbon Initiatives Workshop. Take a big step with your climate action plan on June 18. [Register today](#).

Less than a month to go. Municipalities must report their 2024 energy consumption by July 1 under [O.Reg 25/23](#). Contact [bpssupport@ontario.ca](mailto: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.

## **Municipal Wire\***

The [Warrior Health](#) program to provide supports for public safety personnel is now open! Public Safety Organizations can also [apply for grants](#) to support fee-for-service programs until June 27.

OurCare is undertaking [a survey](#) to understand people's experiences of primary care. The survey is open until July 9 and elected officials are encouraged to share with their residents.

The Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus presents the [Western Ontario Municipal Conference](#), October 17, City of London, with a goal of providing relevant, dynamic programming and opportunities to share knowledge and best practices, with opportunities for networking. Early bird [registration](#) ends August 31.

On June 5, UN-Habitat through the Quality of Life Initiative will [host a webinar](#) inviting city leaders across North America on how to best measure and improve quality of life in cities.

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**

[Director, Development Services - Township of Scugog](#). Closing Date: June 30, 2025.

[Licensed Mechanic A - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: June 12, 2025.

[Manager of Finance/Treasurer - Municipality of Brighton](#). Closing Date: July 4, 2025.

[Project Coordinator, Facilities Energy & Asset Management - City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: June 13, 2025.

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## **About AMO**

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO

supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

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**AMO Contacts**

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[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

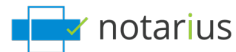
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

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June 12, 2025

**In This Issue:**

- Get access to MIDAS!
- Ontario launches Trade-Impacted Communities Program.
- BPS energy reporting deadline July 1.
- Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Understanding and Managing Gen Z Potential in the Municipal Workplace webinar.
- Ontario's premier municipal event - AMO 2025 Conference - Register today.
- AMO Guide to Delegation Meetings: Be prepared for your ministerial delegations.
- AMO Trade and Tariff Forum - October 24.
- New episode! AMO/OMAA webinar series on the Mayor-CAO Relationship.
- Upcoming AMO education workshops on leadership.
- Learn about our latest service.
- Foundations for a Municipal Investment Strategy training.
- Asset management and work order software.
- Reducing Winter Salt Limited Liability webinar.
- Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant application now open!
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
- Careers.

**AMO Matters**

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**Provincial Matters**

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade is [providing up to \\$40 million](#) to support communities and local industries facing economic challenges arising from ongoing trade disruptions.

Municipalities must submit 2024 energy reports to the Ministry of Energy and Mines by July 1. Learn how Ontario's BPS Energy Reporting Program can save energy and money: [Report energy use in BPS buildings | ontario.ca](#)



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**

Join AMO and featured panelist business development officer, University of Toronto Scarborough, Madhur Kishore for this insightful webinar to equip municipal leaders with the tools and strategies needed to effectively engage, motivate, and retain Gen Z talent. [Register for this free June 26 webinar here.](#)

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.](#)

AMO's [Guide to Delegation Meetings](#) outlines best practices to help AMO members get the most out of your delegation meetings. You will find advice on the full delegation process, from submitting your request for a delegation, preparing, participating and following-up after your successful meeting.

AMO is holding a forum for its members, key stakeholders and partners to provide a reliable assessment of tariff and trade disruptions and their impact on Ontario municipalities and business sector. Forum discussion and content will include identifying measures to address and mitigate these impacts. This future facing event is an opportunity to build new alliances and relationships across impacted sectors in support of strong and effective economic advocacy. [Register here.](#)

Building on the strong interest and success of our first session-*The Mayor-CAO Relationship: Building a Foundation for Success*-AMO and OMAA invite you to the second event in this vital leadership series. Session two focuses on the Mayor-CAO dynamic when disaster strikes. [Register here for the free June 24 webinar.](#)

AMO has two upcoming June workshops focused on enhancing leadership skills on strategic thinking and planning as well as community engagement. For more details including dates and times [click here.](#)

### **LAS**

Our new program partner, [HealthPRO Canada](#) supports municipalities in meeting their healthcare responsibilities through trusted group purchasing contracts in: nutrition and prepared food products, pharmacy and medications, clinical supplies, and pharmacy innovation.

Enhance your understanding of municipal investments. [This new on-demand training](#), which is perfect for municipal finance staff, will review the Municipal Act investment regulation, discuss current municipal finance challenges, and overview investment options available to the municipal sector.

Our partnership with Streetscan continues to evolve - learn more about the improved [Asset Management and Work Order Software](#) available to help municipalities operate more efficiently. [Contact Tanner](#) for more information.

### **Municipal Wire\***

[Partners in Project Green](#) invites municipal staff and elected officials to [register for a webinar on June 24](#) explaining how municipalities and businesses can reduce chloride pollution of freshwater sources.

The [Warrior Health](#) program to provide supports for public safety personnel is now open! Public Safety Organizations can also [apply for grants](#) to support fee-for-service programs until June 27.

OurCare is undertaking [a survey](#) to understand people's experiences of primary care. The survey is open until July 9 and elected officials are encouraged to share with their residents.

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

[Director of Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(REDI\) - City of Kitchener](#). Closing Date: June 23, 2025 by 6:00pm.

[Supervisor, Facilities Management - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: June 24, 2025.

[Co-ordinator–Workplace Modernization Projects - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: June 23, 2025.

[Senior Financial Planning Analyst - City of Orillia](#). Closing Date: June 27, 2025.

[Chief of Staff to the Mayor - City of Cambridge](#). Closing Date: July 10, 2025.

[Manager of Community Safety - Sankofa Square](#). Closing Date: July 3, 2025

[Director of Finance/Deputy CAO - Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley](#). Closing Date: Friday, June 27.

[Senior Financial Analyst 2, Financial Services - Region of Durham](#). Closing Date: June 27, 2025.

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### About AMO

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### AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

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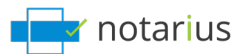
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

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**To:** Group Arnprior  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Bill 46, Bill 10 and Supporting Public Safety Workers



## **Policy Update - Bill 46, Bill 10 and Supporting Public Safety Workers**

### **Bill 46, *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025***

Yesterday, the government tabled its newest red tape reduction bill. The bill and additional communications [backgrounder](#) include a number of initiatives of interest to the municipal sector including:

- Commitment to explore changes to strengthen the Strong Mayor Framework following the recent expansion to 170 more municipalities.
- Proposed amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* and *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to allow for online posting of annual municipal audited financial statements.
- Permitting DSSABs to apply for Infrastructure Ontario's Loan Program, a long-supported AMO initiative that will help build more local infrastructure.
- MAG and MMAH will explore opportunities for Landlord Tenant Board reform to reduce delays and backlogs at the Landlord and Tenant Board.
- Following Indigenous and stakeholder consultations, phased updates to archaeological assessment standards and guidelines to streamline reporting and shorten review timelines.
- Implementing changes to make it easier for municipalities to establish red light camera programs.

- Streamlining Community Safety Grant programs to make it easier for small and medium sized police services to access funding for public safety initiatives.
- Commitment to expect the Canada Disability Benefit from being counted as income for ODSP, Ontario Works, and Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities program recipients. AMO has advocated for this action.
- Speeding up permitting to secure land for mine development as well as committing to review the *Mining Act* mining leases term length.
- Commitment to explore municipally-administered private financing for clean energy projects, a voluntary tool supporting economic and housing growth.
- Committed to tabling a carbon management framework that will accelerate the use of new technologies to reduce industry's carbon footprint.
- Revisions to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*'s blue box requirements to cut producer costs (e.g., lower collection targets), improve data collection, and ensure small business collection continues.

### **Bill 10, *Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act*, Implications for Municipal Landlords**

[AMO sent a letter](#) to the government and a [submission](#) to provide advice about the implementation of *Bill 10, Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act, 2025*, specifically with respect to Schedule 8: *Measures Respecting Premises with Illegal Drug Activity Act, 2025*. Bill 10 was passed by the legislature. However, there is an opportunity to support the development of future regulations and guidance materials to landlords.

The legislation has implications for residential and commercial landlords, including municipalities and District Social Service Administration Boards of community housing, supportive housing and potentially emergency shelters for the homeless. It would hold landlords to account for illegal drug trafficking and production in their buildings.

AMO supports increased public safety measures to better protect tenants in buildings addressing illegal and predatory behaviour. However, we want to ensure that there are no unintended consequences, no undue burdens and risks to municipal landlords. Further consultation is called for to address these concerns.

## Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant Application Now Open

Warrior Health has now launched their [digital portal](#) and [grant applications](#). Warrior Health is a partnership between the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Wounded Warriors Canada to provide public safety personnel and their families with specialized services and supports. Warrior Health includes free core services and fee-for-service programs that public safety organizations can purchase. Grant applications are now open until June 27. Please email [mh.secretariat@ontario.ca](mailto:mh.secretariat@ontario.ca) if you have any questions.

Learn more about Warrior Health at the AMO Conference where Matthew Pegg, Warrior Health's COO will be featured as part of a plenary session on Innovative Approaches to Supporting Mental Health, Addictions and Supportive Housing.

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

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June 16, 2025

**Re: Item for Discussion – Road Salt Usage**

At its meeting of June 11, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-068, regarding Road Salt Usage, as follows:

“WHEREAS chloride concentrations have increased by at least 0.5 mg/L in 80 of 274 (29%) of the lakes sampled by the District of Muskoka between 2018 and 2022, and by 15-fold in Lake Muskoka since 1970;

AND WHEREAS Queen’s University scientist, Dr. Shelley Arnott, a leader in global research on the effects of road salt on lakes, has demonstrated that in Muskoka lakes, some important aquatic organisms are negatively affected at chloride exposure levels as low as 10 mg/L, far below the 120 mg/L long term or chronic exposure guideline;

AND WHEREAS roughly one quarter of lakes sampled by the District Municipality of Muskoka now have chloride levels above 10 mg/L;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge:

1. Commits to ongoing efforts toward the reduction of road salt as much as possible, while maintaining safety on roads, including public reporting on annual use, supporting local efforts to research the ongoing impacts of road salt, and assisting education efforts.
2. Urges the Province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially-endorsed standard Best Management Practices for snow and ice management on private lands; and to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems, drinking water and infrastructure from the impacts of salt pollution.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Attorney General of Ontario; the Muskoka-Parry Sound MPP; Conservation Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, the District Municipality of Muskoka; and other lower-tier municipalities in Muskoka.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly

Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



June 13, 2025

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of June 10, 2025 the following resolution regarding support of advocacy to the Federal Government for 'disability without poverty' was carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-345**

**DATE: June 10, 2025**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst**

**WHEREAS one in four Ontarians lives with a disability; and**

**WHEREAS the median household income in Prince Edward County (\$75K) is already well below both the Basic Living Income and the Ontario Median Household Income (\$84K); and**

**WHEREAS persons with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty and would already require an average of 30% more income just to reach the poverty line; and**

**WHEREAS the new federal benefit for people with disabilities (about \$200/month) and called the Canada Disability Benefit) is about to be rolled out; and**

**WHEREAS the Federal government has yet to exempt this new federal benefit from being considered income for federal tax purposes,**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT the Mayor be requested to communicate with Prime Minister Carney that the Council of the County of Prince Edward calls on the Government of Canada to commit to exempting the Canada Disability Benefit from income tax and work towards supporting Canadians with a disability to live without poverty;**

**THAT Prime Minister Carney be requested to publicly confirm his government's commitment to making that legislative change as soon as possible; and**

**THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the federal Minister of Finance, the federal Minister of Health, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario.**

**CARRIED**



**From the Office of the Clerk**  
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward  
T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727  
[clerks@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:clerks@pecounty.on.ca) | [www.thecounty.ca](http://www.thecounty.ca)

Yours truly,

Victoria Leskie, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Branderhorst, and Adam Goheen, Interim CAO





February 4, 2025

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

Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Northern Health Travel Grant Program

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Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, January 28, 2025, passed the following resolution:

14/25

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata  
Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

Whereas the Northern Health Travel Grant program (the "Program") offers financial assistance to Northern Ontario residents who need to travel long distances for specialized medical services or procedures at a ministry funded health care facility;

And Whereas, the grants for this Program are based on the distance residents must travel to reach the nearest medical specialist or ministry funded healthcare facility;

And Whereas, residents must travel at least 100 kilometers one-way to access the nearest medical specialist or ministry-funded healthcare facility for services that are not available locally to qualify for the grant;

And Whereas, there are many occasions in which residents of Windsor-Essex County must travel at least 100 kilometers one way to access health care facilities or services that are not available locally; And Whereas, there are four primary children's hospitals across the province, located in London, Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa, and none of these facilities are within 100 kilometers of Windsor-Essex County;

And Whereas, it has been reported that more than 5,000 times each year pediatric patients across Windsor-Essex County must drive to London Health Sciences Centre for treatment at its Children's Hospital, which places a financial strain on families and care-givers;

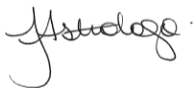
Now Therefore, the Town of LaSalle calls upon the Provincial Government and Ministry of Health to establish a grant system similar to the Northern Health Travel Grant program in Windsor-Essex County to provide support to the residents of Windsor-Essex County when they need to travel long distances for specialized medical services or procedures at ministry funded health care facilities;

And that, this motion be circulated to all municipalities for support, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Anthony Leardi, MPP Andrew Dowie, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Ms. Sylvia Jones and all local municipalities.

**Carried.**

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of LaSalle's support of the above matter.

Yours Truly,



Jennifer Astrologo  
Director of Council Services/Clerk  
Town of LaSalle  
[jastrologo@lasalle.ca](mailto:jastrologo@lasalle.ca)

Cc: (via email)  
MPP Anothony Leardi [Anthony.Leardi@pc.ola.org](mailto:Anthony.Leardi@pc.ola.org)  
MPP Andrew Dowie [Andrew.Dowie@pc.ola.org](mailto:Andrew.Dowie@pc.ola.org)  
MPP Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones [sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities



CORPORATION OF THE  
**TOWNSHIP OF BLACK RIVER – MATHESON**  
367 FOURTH AVE, P.O. BOX 601, MATHESON, ON P0K 1N0  
TELEPHONE (705) 273-2313 EMAIL : [brm@twpbrm.ca](mailto:brm@twpbrm.ca) WEBSITE: [www.twpbrm.ca](http://www.twpbrm.ca)

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**Jon Pegg**  
**Fire Marshal of Ontario**  
**Office of the Fire Marshal**  
**25 Morton Shulman Avenue**  
**Toronto, ON M3M 0B1**

**June 10, 2025**

**Via Email: [Jon.Pegg@ontario.ca](mailto:Jon.Pegg@ontario.ca)**

Dear Fire Marshal Pegg:

**Subject: Request for Exemption to Proposed Mandatory Firefighter Certification Requirements (O. Reg. 343/22)**

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson, I am writing to express our concerns regarding the mandatory firefighter certification requirements under Ontario Regulation 343/22.

At its meeting held on June 10<sup>th</sup>, Council passed the attached resolution formally opposing the implementation of these requirements. While we recognize and support the importance of firefighter training and safety, the regulation as it stands does not adequately reflect the operational realities of small, rural, and northern municipalities.

Communities such as ours rely heavily on volunteer and composite fire departments that already face critical challenges in recruitment, training accessibility, and financial capacity.

Specifically, we are burdened by:

- Geographic barriers and long travel distances to accredited training centres,
- Inconsistent access to instructors and scheduling options,
- Limited budgets and competing capital demands,
- Difficulty in retaining and replacing volunteers due to increased regulatory pressures.

Without additional support, flexibility, or exemption mechanisms, the implementation of O. Reg. 343/22 will severely compromise our ability to provide consistent, timely, and effective fire protection to our residents.

Accordingly, the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson respectfully requests that the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Ministry of the Solicitor General:

1. Defer full implementation of the certification regulation for rural and northern municipalities,
2. Provide exemptions or alternative compliance pathways tailored to the needs and limitations of small, remote fire services,
3. Increase funding and training supports for municipalities outside major urban centres.

We believe that a one-size-fits-all regulatory model will disproportionately and unfairly affect communities like ours. A more flexible, consultative approach is urgently needed. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We would welcome further discussion and are open to participating in any future consultations or working groups aimed at resolving these challenges collaboratively.

**Sincerely,**

**Dave Dymont, Mayor**

/hjl

On behalf of the Council of Black River-Matheson

**Encl.:** Resolution No.2025-214 – Council Opposition to O. Reg. 343/22

**CC:**

The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General – michael.kerzner@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario – premier@ontario.ca

John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming—Cochrane – jvanthof-co@ndp.on.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – amo@amo.on.ca

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) – admin@fonom.org

All Ontario Municipalities



**Corporation of the Township of Black River - Matheson**  
367 Fourth Avenue  
P.O. Box 601  
Matheson, Ontario  
P0K 1N0

**ITEM # 2025-10.b)**  
**RESOLUTION**

DATE: June 10, 2025

2025-214

Moved by Councillor Steve Campsall  
Seconded by Councillor Alain Bouchard

WHEREAS the Ontario government has enacted O. Reg. 343/22, establishing mandatory certification requirements for firefighters under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Township of Black River-Matheson acknowledges the importance of standardized firefighter training and safety;

AND WHEREAS these mandatory certification requirements pose significant challenges for small, rural, and northern municipalities due to limited financial and training resources, geographic barriers, and reliance on volunteer fire departments;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of these requirements without additional flexibility or support may negatively impact the Township's ability to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and provide adequate fire protection to its residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Black River-Matheson formally opposes the mandatory firefighter certification requirements as currently outlined in O. Reg. 343/22;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Premier of Ontario, MPP John Vanthof, the Fire Marshal, AMO, FONOM, and all Ontario municipalities

☒ CARRIED      ☐ DEFEATED

**CHAIR SIGNATURE**

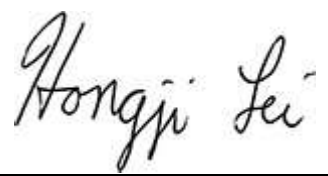
☐ Original    ☐ Amendment    ☐ Refer    ☐ Defer    ☐ Reconsider    ☐ Withdrawn

**Recorded Vote-TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERK ONLY**

	YEAS	NAYS
Mayor Dave Dymont		
Councillor Allen		
Councillor Charbonneau		
Councillor Campsall		



Councillor McCutcheon		
Councillor Gadoury		
Councillor Bouchard		



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Hong Ji Lei  
Town Manager/Clerk

Sent by Email

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy  
MPP Pickering-Uxbridge  
1550 Kingston Rd., Suite 213  
Pickering, ON L1V 1C3  
[peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)

Subject: Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

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The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 26, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** individuals and families receiving income support through Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are facing increasing challenges in meeting basic needs due to rising costs of living;

**And Whereas** Statistics Canada notes that people with disabilities have a higher poverty rate and a lower rate of employment than the overall population;

**And Whereas** the annual income support for Ontario Works is currently \$8,796.00 and \$16,416.00 for Ontario Disability Support Program. These supports have not increased sufficiently to keep up with inflation and the cost of living. Such costs are anticipated to continue increasing;

**And Whereas** the low income measure for a single person in Greater Toronto Area is estimated to be approximately \$27,343 annually, and the deep income poverty threshold is determined to be \$20,508;

**And Whereas** Food Banks, including our local Food Banks, provide a necessary service with increasing demands in our communities;

**And Whereas** the Pickering Food Bank served 1,722 adults, and 1,054 children in February 2025;

**And Whereas** food banks are already reducing their distribution capacity; and it is anticipated that due to developing economic circumstances, such as the current tariff war, there will be increased unemployment, increased food prices, and a heightened demand for food distribution, while donations continue to decline;

**And Whereas** these economic trends will continue to erode the purchasing power of OW and ODSP recipients, increasing reliance on food banks and placing additional pressure on municipalities and community organizations;

**Now therefore it be resolved** that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. That staff send a letter to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, to strongly urge that the Ontario Provincial Government significantly raise the payments of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program and the increases be reflected in the upcoming Provincial Budget and that the increased amount aligns with inflationary costs and thereby decrease the pressure on food banks and the reliance on municipalities and taxpayers to supplement the gap in financial need; and,
2. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Regional Municipality of Durham, all Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel  
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: Robert Cerjanec, MPP Ajax  
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby  
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa  
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham  
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock  
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

All Ontario Municipalities

Chief Administrative Officer



## **TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

June 6, 2025

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

**RE: Call for inclusive research to reflect diversity of Canadian communities**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on June 4, 2025, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Parry Sound.

**Resolution No: 2025-05-04-08**  
**Moved by: Councillor Kauffeldt**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Keller**

**"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Parry Sounds resolution regarding the Call for inclusive research to reflect diversity of Canadian communities.**

**And further that this resolution be forwarded to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs Cheryl Gallant, MP Billy Denault, MPP AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario) All Ontario Municipalities."**

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND  
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2025 – 046

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: April 15, 2025

Councillor G. ASHFORD  
Councillor J. BELESKEY  
Councillor P. BORNEMAN  
Councillor B. KEITH  
Councillor D. McCANN  
Councillor C. McDONALD  
Mayor J. McGARVEY

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MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: ☒ DEFEATED: ☐ Postponed to: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS inclusive, evidence-based scientific research leads to better outcomes for Canadians by ensuring that all voices and experiences are reflected in the development of knowledge, treatments, and innovations;

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities benefit directly from research-informed policies on public health, infrastructure, education, environmental protection, and economic development;

WHEREAS diverse and inclusive research teams have been shown to generate more innovative, practical, and impactful solutions, and yet many equity-deserving groups, including women, remain underrepresented in science and research careers;

WHEREAS inclusive research strengthens our economy, healthcare system, and ability to address national and global challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Parry Sound supports the national call for stronger federal support for inclusive research that reflects the diversity of Canadian communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be shared with other municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and relevant provincial and federal representatives for consideration and support.

  
Mayor Jamie McGarvey

June 17, 2025

VIA EMAIL

**Re: Advocacy for Increased Income Support Thresholds for Canadian Veterans**

At its Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council ratified the following motion:

Resolution 2025-185

**Moved by:** Councillor Harper

**Seconded by:** Councillor Scott

WHEREAS the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury recognizes the selfless service and enduring sacrifices made by Canadian Armed Forces veterans in the defence of our country and values;

WHEREAS the 2021 Census, conducted by Statistics Canada, identified more than 460,000 veterans residing across Canada, a significant population segment deserving of comprehensive, accessible, and modernized federal support;

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) currently administers income support programs to assist veterans in need, including the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program;

WHEREAS the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program which was created in 2019—set at \$20,000 annually for a single-person household—fails to reflect today's economic reality, particularly in light of inflation, soaring housing costs, and the general increase in cost of living;

WHEREAS such low eligibility thresholds may disincentivize employment and community participation by penalizing veterans for earning beyond an outdated benchmark, thereby discouraging reintegration and contribution to civic life;

WHEREAS it is the duty of all levels of government to stand in unified support of our veterans and to advocate for policy changes that enable them to live with dignity and financial stability;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury formally calls on the Government of Canada and all federal parties to increase the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program from \$20,000 to no less than \$40,000 annually for a single-person household; and

THAT Council urges Veterans Affairs Canada to review all income support programs with the intent to modernize eligibility criteria in line with the current cost of living across Canada;



THAT this motion be formally endorsed and sent to:

- The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada;
- The Honourable Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs;
- The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Acting Leader of the Official Opposition
- Scot Davidson, Member of Parliament for New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury;
- All 444 municipalities across the Province of Ontario;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for broader distribution and endorsement; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be published on the Town's official website and communicated through the Town's official channels to raise awareness and gather public support.

Regards,



Tara Reynolds  
Clerk, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury  
(905) 775-5366 Ext 1104  
[treynolds@townofbwg.com](mailto:treynolds@townofbwg.com)

CC: Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada  
Hon. Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs  
Hon. Andrew Scheer, Acting Leader of the Official Opposition  
Scot Davidson, MP New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury  
All Ontario Municipalities  
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

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**From:**

**Sent:**

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 7:10 PM

**To:**

**Cc:**

**Subject:**

Neuter Scooter for cats! Thank Mew for helping to spread the word!

Good Afternoon!

We have a great new resource available for pet parents in Renfrew County to help them access spay/neuter services for their cats! This service is available to everyone in our Community! Our local Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre in Pembroke, provides transportation for owned cats to and from a high quality, low cost spay/neuter clinic in Trenton (Southeastern Ontario spay/neuter clinic), surgery is performed (vaccines and microchip are also available) and cats are home safe later that same day. We are currently offering this service monthly, and our next Neuter Scooter is happening on June 25<sup>th</sup>,

More info can be found on our Facebook Page at:

[https://www.facebook.com/events/727679559713851/?acontext=%7B%22event\\_action\\_history%22%3A\[%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/727679559713851/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A[%7D)



Thank you so much for helping to spread the word!

Please do reach out to learn more or ask further questions!



**Community Outreach Coordinator**

Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre  
115 Woodcrest Drive  
Pembroke, ON

K8A 6W4  
613-635-7508  
[ontariospca.ca/renfrew](http://ontariospca.ca/renfrew)



**Veterinary professionals go the extra mile every day to keep our furry companions healthy and thriving. Now is your chance to say thank you during the Ontario SPCA's [Veterinary Appreciation Campaign](#)!**

**Join us, June 2-8 as we say THANK YOU to veterinary professionals across Ontario by nominating your favourite veterinary clinic in the Veterinary Appreciation Contest. Come back June 9-15 to vote daily for your nominated clinic and invite friends and family to vote at [vetappreciation.ca](http://vetappreciation.ca)**

*This electronic mail transmission may be PRIVILEGED and is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify me by return electronic mail and delete the message and any attachments received with it from your system.*



# Arnprior Constituency Clinic

Tuesday, July 15th, 2025

1:00 to 3:00 pm

Arnprior Town Hall

105 Elgin St. W  
Arnprior, ON  
K7S 0A8

For assistance with:

- Passport Applications
- Disability Tax Credit
- Canada Pension Plan
- Old Age Security
- Employment Insurance
- Other Federal Programs Or Services

Follow Cheryl on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/CherylGallant](https://facebook.com/CherylGallant)

# Arnprior Constituency Clinic



**CHERYL GALLANT**  
Member of Parliament  
Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke

## CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

84 Isabella St.  
Pembroke, ON  
K8A 5S5  
Tel: (613) 732-4404  
[cheryl@gallant.com](mailto:cheryl@gallant.com)

Arnprior Constituency Clinic  
Tuesday, July 15, 2025  
1:00 to 3:00 pm  
Arnprior Town Hall



# CHERYL GALLANT, M.P.

## ALGONQUIN-RENFREW-PEMBROKE

Arnprior Constituency Clinic

Tuesday, July 15, 2025  
1:00 to 3:00 pm

Arnprior Town Hall

105 Elgin St. W  
Arnprior, ON  
K7S 0A8

Please, call or email my office  
to schedule an appointment:

613-732-4404  
1-866-295-7165 (Toll Free)  
or  
[cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca](mailto:cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca)

Follow Cheryl on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/CherylGallant](https://facebook.com/CherylGallant)



June 4, 2025

To the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing:

Re: Regulatory Registry 25-MMAH003 Comments - Assessment of Bill 17 (Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025)

We would first like to thank you for taking the time to review our commentary on the proposed legislative changes to the *Development Charges Act* (D.C.A.) set out in Bill 17, *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* (herein referred to as Bill 17). Our firm, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. (Watson), is a leader in municipal finance, planning, and land economics and represents over 250 municipalities and local boards across Canada. Our firm is one of the foremost experts in development charges (D.C.) in Ontario, and has worked with municipalities in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia on similar matters.

The following provides our comments on the proposed legislative changes and our perspectives on the potential impacts they may have on municipalities in Ontario.

## 1. Definition of capital costs, subject to regulation

The proposed change would add the words “subject to the regulations” to section 5 (3) of the D.C.A.”

- The proposed amendment expands the scope of the Province’s authority to limit eligible capital costs via regulation.
- The D.C.A. currently provides this ability to limit the inclusion of land costs.
- The Province intends to engage with municipalities and the development community to determine potential restrictions on what costs can be recovered through D.C.s.

Commentary from organizations in the development community suggests these discussions may continue to focus on limiting the inclusion of land costs in the D.C. calculations. More specifically, the focus has been on removing the cost of land from the historical level of service calculations, while preserving the eligibility of land costs for D.C. recovery. The proposed amendment, however, provides broad authority for limiting eligible capital costs (i.e., the scope of regulatory authority is not restricted to land).

### Impact of Proposed Changes

*Restriction of eligible costs may delay investments in growth-related infrastructure that is required to build housing.*



Municipalities utilize D.C.s to recover the capital costs associated with new development and redevelopment. Prior to the 1997 legislative changes, D.C.s recovered close to 100% of the growth-related costs attributable to new development. After the 1997 legislation came into place, the share of growth-related costs recovered by D.C.s reduced to approximately 70-75%<sup>1</sup>. The legislative changes in 2019 further reduced the share of the growth-related costs recovered from D.C.s. These cost reductions must be funded from other municipal revenue sources (i.e. taxes and rates). Further restricting D.C. eligible capital costs will increase funding pressures from municipal taxes and user fees.

The increased funding pressure coincides with the recent implementation of the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*. This Act requires municipalities to prepare a financial strategy for how they will manage their existing infrastructure, future infrastructure, and address any infrastructure deficits. In this context, if funding for growth-related capital costs have to compete for tax/user fee funding, investment in growth-related infrastructure may be delayed. This would serve to further slow the construction of new housing.

#### *Moving authority to the regulations creates uncertainty*

The proposed changes provide the Province with the flexibility to move quickly with changes to the definition of eligible capital costs through regulations. While administratively expedient for the Province, this will create uncertainty for municipal financial planning.

The municipal financial planning framework starts with the development of an Official Plan. This Official Plan identifies the anticipated growth and development for a municipality. Master plans are created in this context, which identify the anticipated capital needs required to service that development. The D.C. background study and by-law are subsequently prepared using this information to address a portion of the municipality's long-term funding plan.

This financial planning framework takes years for municipalities to properly prepare. If the definition of D.C. capital costs can be swiftly changed through regulation, municipalities will be required to adjust funding for capital projects through the annual budget process. This would not align with the long-term financial plans that were previously established and creates uncertainty for municipalities. This may require further contingency planning by municipalities, which may include delays in investment of growth-related infrastructure or require municipalities to incur additional financing costs to fund growth-related infrastructure without a dedicated funding source, thereby adding to the affordability concerns of exiting residents.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on historical analyses prepared by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.





## 2. Deferral of D.C. payment to occupancy for residential development

The proposed changes to section 26.1 of the D.C.A. provide that a D.C. payable for residential development (other than rental housing developments, which are subject to payment in instalments) would be payable upon the earlier of the issuance of an occupancy permit, or the day the building is first occupied. Only under circumstances prescribed in the regulations may the municipality require financial security for the D.C. payable. Municipalities will not be allowed to impose interest on the deferral of D.C. payment to occupancy.

The Province has noted its intent to mitigate risk for municipalities. As such, the prescribed circumstances may allow for securities when no occupancy permit is required.

### **Impact of Proposed Changes**

#### *Administration costs will be significant across the Province*

There are over 200 municipalities with D.C. by-laws that fund growth-related capital costs of infrastructure. Many of these municipalities have limited administrative capacity due to their size. Previous amendments to the D.C.A. required payment in instalments for rental housing and institutional development. These changes required some small to mid-sized municipalities to create internal administrative processes to prepare agreements (or incorporate necessary wording into development agreements) and track payments over a 5-year term for these types of development.

Rental housing and institutional development within these communities is generally limited and as such, the increased administration is generally manageable. Most D.C. by-laws require the payment of D.C.s for all other development types (e.g., commercial, industrial and ownership-residential) at building permit issuance. Deferring the time of D.C. payments for all residential development types to occupancy will require all municipalities to establish separate processes to manage and track payments and securities separately. This will create additional administrative complexity in preparing rules and processes for different types of development.

#### *Cashflow for D.C. projects will be impacted leading to delay in development of growth-related infrastructure*

Watson conducted an analysis of the 2020 Financial Information Returns. Through this analysis, 213 municipalities reported on D.C. reserve funds. Assessing the D.C. reserve funds for these municipalities, approximately 70% of the reserve fund



balances related to the 30 municipalities of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area<sup>1</sup>. The remaining 30% of D.C. reserve fund balances relate to 183 municipalities. Moreover, for the non-GTHA municipalities, the D.C. reserve fund balances for water and wastewater services averaged \$1.22 million and \$1.77 million per municipality, respectively. It can cost between \$1.50 million and \$3.00 million to construct a 1km wastewater main, depending on location and size of pipe. Therefore, on average, cashflow impacts to municipalities may cause delays in the construction of growth-related infrastructure.

The nature of the D.C. funding is such that the municipality does not collect all of the D.C. revenue until all development is constructed. Deferred payments for all residential development to occupancy will further delay receipt of D.C. revenues and slow municipal cashflows (i.e. lessening reserve fund balances). This may serve to delay construction of growth-related infrastructure, slowing development. Alternatively, municipalities may have to debt-finance the growth-related infrastructure projects, subject to debt capacity constraints, which would increase D.C. rates and reduce debt financing availability for other municipal initiatives.

#### *Conflict with subsection 26(2) of the Act*

Section 26(2) of the D.C.A. provides that municipalities may impose D.C.s for water, wastewater, services related to a highway, and stormwater services at the time of subdivision agreement. This provides municipalities with cashflow assistance for growth-related infrastructure, as the D.C.s are collected earlier in the development process (i.e. most D.C.s are collected at the time of building permit issuance). Based on the proposed changes, it appears that section 26(2) may no longer be available to municipalities as it is in direct conflict with the proposed changes.

#### *Impacts on residential development rate freeze provisions of the Act*

Currently section 26.2, of the D.C.A. requires that a development that proceeds through Site Plan or Zoning By-law Amendment approvals shall have their D.C. determined based on the rates in effect at the time of the planning application. Section 26.2 (5) then states that:

- (5) Clauses (1) (a) and (b) [i.e., the rate freeze] do not apply in respect of,
  - (a) any part of a development to which section 26.1 applies if, on the date the first building permit is issued for the development, more than 18 months has elapsed since the application referred to in clause (1) (a) or (b) was approved;
  - or

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<sup>1</sup> GTHA municipalities include those in Durham, York, Peel, Halton, Toronto, and Hamilton.



(b) any part of a development to which section 26.1 does not apply if, on the date the development charge is payable, more than 18 months has elapsed since the application referred to in clause (1) (a) or (b) was approved.

For residential subdivisions that proceed through Site Plan or Zoning By-law Amendment applications, since section 26.1 does not apply, the rate freeze only applies to the part of the development that receives their building permit before the 18 months has elapsed. With the proposed changes, a residential subdivision will have the rate frozen as of **the first building permit of the development**. The Province should clarify the definition of “development” for the purposes of this section as a residential subdivision may be constructed over a number of years. Perhaps a clause similar to that of Section 26(1.1) “multiple phases” would provide the needed clarity.

*Need for clear regulatory guidance through consultations with the municipal sector and development community*

The Province has committed to consultations regarding the potential use of financial securities in certain circumstances to ensure payment of D.C.s at occupancy, where no occupancy permit is required. Through preliminary discussions with staff in the municipal sector, it appears there may be various interpretations of authorities to withhold occupancy permits until receipt of payment of D.C.s. If occupancy or occupancy permits cannot be withheld without the payment of D.C.s and the D.C.A. has not required the provision of securities or an agreement to be entered into with respect to the deferral of D.C.s until occupancy, the only recourse for municipalities to recover the costs may be to add the amount to the tax roll. The impact of this would be to shift the obligation to pay the D.C. from the builder to the homeowner (who would have already paid the D.C.s through their purchase price). Furthermore, requiring a financial security where no occupancy permit is required will increase administrative burden. There is a need for clear guidance in the regulations and detailed consultations with the municipal sector and development community to ensure implementation of this proposed change is effective.

### 3. Ability for residential and institutional development to pay a D.C. earlier than a by-law requires

Currently, if a person wishes to waive the requirement to pay their D.C. in instalments as per section 26.1, an agreement under section 27 of the D.C.A. (early payment agreement) is required. The proposed changes state that, “for greater certainty, a person required to pay a development charge under this section may pay the charge before the day it is payable even in the absence of an agreement under section 27.” Note this would apply to all residential development.



## Impacts of Proposed Changes

### *Current process is simple to implement*

Under the current legislation, a person may waive the requirement to pay in instalments by entering into an agreement under section 27 of the D.C.A. To implement this in a simple and effective manner, municipalities have created short agreements which seek to simply acknowledge the waiving of the instalment payments. Niagara Region for example, has created a one-page Early Payment Agreement form<sup>1</sup>.

### *New wording unclear in intent and may have unintended consequences*

The proposed changes state that a person required to pay a D.C. under section 26.1 may pay the charge before the day it is payable even in the absence of an agreement under section 27. Since all residential development would have D.C.s payable under this section, the wording implies that any person required to pay residential D.C.s may do so before it is payable under the terms of the D.C. by-law. This is problematic for municipalities, as the development community may elect to pay D.C.s before indexing or before a municipality passes a new D.C. by-law (where a publicly available D.C. background study may be indicating a potential increase in the charge). D.C. by-laws are indexed to ensure the charges reflect cost inflation of the underlying municipal capital projects. Furthermore, D.C. by-laws are regularly updated to ensure they align with the capital planning needs of the municipality. Allowing the payment of discounted D.C. rates due to early payments will result in lower D.C. revenues than required to meet the actual capital costs of growth-related projects.

This would create an additional administrative burden for municipalities, as they would need to track when developments have paid their D.C. Depending on the size of the municipality, this could be in respect of thousands of building permits per year. Since the wording states “before the day it is payable”, it is unclear how early the payments may be made. Can a person pay their residential D.C.s prior to registration of a subdivision? Can they pay prior to application?

It would also have cashflow impacts as D.C.s may be paid prior to the rationalization of the development in the D.C. background study calculations. This would lead to higher D.C.s for future development.

## 4. Removal of interest for legislated instalments

The proposed changes to section 26.1 of the D.C.A. would remove the ability to charge interest on instalment payments for rental housing and institutional development types.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.niagararegion.ca/business/property/pdf/early-payment-form.pdf>



This change would also apply to the remaining instalment payments for existing rental housing and institutional development deferrals once Bill 17 receives Royal Assent.

### **Impact of Proposed Changes**

#### *Cashflow impacts for municipalities*

This proposed amendment would reduce the D.C. revenues collected by the municipalities that would be used to fund growth-related infrastructure projects. As noted above, this may result in project delays or the need for debt financing of growth-related projects.

## **5. Grouping of services for the purpose of using credits**

Section 38 of the D.C.A. allows a person to construct D.C. recoverable works on a municipality's behalf, subject to an agreement. The person constructing the works receives a credit against future D.C.s for the service(s) to which the works relate. A municipality can agree to allow the credits to be applied to other services in the D.C. by-law. The proposed amendments would allow the Province to, through regulation, deem two or more services to be treated as one service for the purpose of applying credits.

### **Impact of Proposed Changes**

#### *Removal of municipal discretion*

Currently municipalities have the ability to agree to apply credits to other services within a D.C. by-law. In many cases, the municipality will undertake a cashflow analysis of their D.C. reserve funds to determine if this is feasible. This proposed change appears to remove a municipality's discretion to combine services by agreement in certain instances.

#### *Cashflow implications for municipalities*

Combining services for the purposes of credits would have cashflow implications for municipalities, where funds held in a D.C. reserve fund for a service not included under the section 38 agreement would be reduced. This could delay the timing of capital projects for these impacted services and/or increase financing costs, as municipalities tend to confine funding for projects to the reserve funds available for that service and not borrow between reserve funds/services.

## **6. Defining local services in the regulations**

Section 59 of the D.C.A. delineates between charges for local services and, by extension, those that would be considered for recovery within a D.C. by-law.



Municipalities typically establish a local service policy when preparing a D.C. background study to establish which capital works will be funded directly by the developer, as a condition of approval under section 51 or section 53 of the *Planning Act* (i.e., local service), and which will be funded by the D.C. by-law.

## **Impact of Proposed Changes**

### *Need for robust consultation to avoid unintended consequences*

The proposed amendments would allow the Province to make regulations to determine what constitutes a local service. Although the Province has noted that this will be defined through consultations, there may be unintended impacts. For example, if the definition of a local service is too broad, it may lower the D.C. but increase the direct funding requirements on one particular developer. If the definition is too narrow, the opposite would result, whereby local services would be broadly included in D.C. funding, thereby increasing D.C. rates.

Additionally, what is deemed a local service may vary by municipality due to characteristics of size, density, and types of development. For example, defining a specific watermain diameter size as a local service would be problematic as the size requirements for a specific development in a small community may be different compared to a similar development in a larger community.

The principal intent of a local service policy should first be defined. The defining parameters should be agreed upon in consultation with a representative cross section of municipal and development community representatives. Representatives should comprise urban, semi-urban and rural municipalities, as well as residential and non-residential development industry representatives to inform the diverse perspectives of local services. The regulations should also provide flexibility for the varying degree of circumstances observed by the over 200 municipalities across the Province that impose D.C.s.

### *Utilizing regulations creates uncertainty in financial planning*

Incorporating the proposed definition in the Regulations to the D.C.A. may create uncertainty in financial planning. As noted in Item 1, the municipal financial planning framework is established over a number of years. The expedient nature of a regulatory change could impact the recovery of costs for growth-related infrastructure, thereby impacting development. For example, a water master plan typically defines the infrastructure required to support the anticipated growth and development. Master plans generally focus on higher-order infrastructure needs, with more localized infrastructure being defined through the development process and included in development agreements. Should a regulatory change reduce the scope of local services (e.g., limits the size of a watermain that can be required as local service), a municipality may be required to revise the scope of their water



master plan to ensure the capital needs are identified, and subsequently update their D.C. background study to incorporate these costs. These updates would generally take years to complete, depending on the magnitude of the changes and size of the municipality.

## 7. Exemption for long-term care homes

The D.C.A. defines long-term care homes as institutional development. As such, D.C.s imposed on long-term care homes are subject to annual instalment payments under section 26.1 of the D.C.A. The proposed amendment would exempt long-term care homes from the payment of D.C.s. This exemption would also apply to any outstanding D.C. instalment payments on long-term care home developments.

### **Impacts of Proposed Changes**

#### *Cashflow impacts for municipalities and increased pressure on taxes and rates*

The D.C.A. does not allow reductions in D.C.s to be funded by other types of development. As such, the D.C. exemption for long-term care homes will have to be funded from other municipal revenue sources. The overall impact on municipalities may be minimal relative to their overall D.C. collections, depending on the number of long-term care homes being constructed in the municipality.

## 8. Streamlined D.C. by-law process to reduce charges

The proposed changes to section 19 (1.1) of the D.C.A. would allow for a streamlined process when a municipality amends a D.C. by-law for the following purposes:

- Repeal or change a D.C. by-law expiry date (consistent with current provisions);
- Repeal a D.C. by-law provision for indexing or to provide for a D.C. not to be indexed; and
- Decrease the amount of a D.C. for one or more types of development.

The streamlined process only requires passing an amending by-law and providing notice of by-law passage. This process removes the requirements under the D.C.A. to prepare a D.C. background study and undertake at least one public meeting. Moreover, amending by-laws for these purposes are not appealable to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

### **Impact of Proposed Changes**

#### *Reduction in administrative burden*

Limiting the streamlined D.C. by-law amendment process to situations where the D.C. is being reduced for a type of development would allow municipalities to adjust the charges for changes in assumptions (e.g. reductions in capital cost estimates,





application of grant funding to reduce the D.C. recoverable amount), adding exemptions for types of development, and phasing-in the D.C. over time.

#### *Unclear when this may be utilized*

It is unclear if the streamlined process would apply where exemptions are being provided based on characteristics other than development type. For example, where a municipality is exempting a geographic area, such as an industrial park, downtown core, major transit station area, etc. Clarity should be provided in the legislation in this regard.

#### *Reduced transparency for the general public*

While administratively expedient, eliminating the statutory public process for reductions in D.C.s will not provide the general public with an opportunity to delegate Council on the matter or appeal the amending by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal. This reduces transparency, as reductions in D.C.s through exemptions would need to be funded from non-D.C. revenue sources such as property taxes.

## **9. Lower charge for rate freeze**

Section 26.2 of the D.C.A. requires that, for developments proceeding through a site plan or zoning by-law amendment application, the D.C. be determined based on the rates that were in effect when the planning application was submitted to the municipality. This allows for the determination of the charge earlier in the development process, as most D.C. by-laws determine the charges at the time of building permit issuance. In some instances, the D.C. that would be imposed at the time of building permit issuance may be lower than that in place at the time of planning application. Where rates have been determined as per section 26.2 of the D.C.A., the proposed amendments would require municipalities to apply the lower of the charges determined at the time of planning application or as required under the D.C. by-law (e.g. building permit issuance).

Note, interest charges for the D.C. determined at the time of planning application may still be imposed.

### **Impact of Proposed Changes**

#### *Lower of the charges imposed appears positive*

These proposed changes are positive as developers would not be charged in excess of current rates, and municipal capital costs, where charges are lower. Moreover, developers who proceed in a timely manner would not be penalized with additional interest costs for the period between planning application and D.C. by-law timing of payment.



## 10. Noted areas for future changes to D.C.s

In the Province's announcement, they indicated additional changes can be expected to follow the proposed regulatory changes and/or ongoing consultations.

The Province has indicated its intent to add the Statistics Canada Non-Residential Building Construction Price Index for London to the prescribed indexes in the regulations. This would allow municipalities in Southwestern Ontario to utilize the London series for indexing purposes. This appears to be a reasonable addition to the legislation and will better align the underlying capital cost in D.C. by-laws with changes in the area. The Province should consider allowing municipalities to amend their D.C. by-laws using the streamlined D.C. amendment process to reference this index where appropriate.

The Province also indicated its intent to consult on potential approaches to standardize benefit to existing (B.T.E.) deductions. Municipalities generally follow best practices in regard to B.T.E. deductions. Currently, there is no standardized approach across all municipalities. Providing a standardized approach may be problematic, as capital projects, capital costs, and circumstances in different municipalities may be unique. Robust consultations should be undertaken prior to the implementation of any changes in this regard due to the wide-ranging implications anticipated for municipalities.

Lastly, the announcement included commentary on expanding the Annual Treasurer's Statement reporting requirements. Under the D.C.A. currently, municipalities must allocate 60% of monies in their D.C. reserve funds to projects for services related to a highway, water, and wastewater services. The Province has indicated that it may consider expanding this requirement to more services. If expanded to additional services, this change would impose an additional administrative burden on municipalities.

## 11. Concluding Remarks

Based on the proposed changes and individual municipal circumstances, municipalities may experience a reduction in D.C. revenues and cashflows. Possible implications include funding of growth-related capital needs from non-D.C. municipal revenue sources, slowing the timing for growth-related capital projects, and increased debt financing which may lead to ultimately higher D.C. rates and utilization of tax-supported funds to address growth-related needs, impacting affordability for existing residents and businesses.

The impacts of the more significant changes being considered (i.e., changes to the definition of capital cost, grouping of credits, defining local services, and prescribing a methodology for benefit to existing) will not be known until the release of the draft regulations for consultation.



The approach of effecting legislative change through regulations, as opposed to the requirements of passing a Bill through the legislative process reduces transparency and opportunity for public input. This also creates issues with municipalities' ability to react to the legislative changes and to update master plans and D.C. by-laws, where needed.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the legislative changes and would appreciate any opportunity to participate in ongoing consultation regarding the above legislative changes.

Yours very truly,

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