



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: July 14th, 2025
Correspondence Package No. I-25-JUL-13**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-25-JUL-13 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Ontario Investing \$55.8 Million to Expand Teaching Workforce
- b) Ontario Recognizing Outstanding Volunteers
- c) Ontario Connecting 300,000 More People to Primary Care
- d) Ontario Protecting Workers and Jobs in Rural Communities
- e) Ontario Celebrates Outstanding Seniors
- f) Ontario Launches Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan
- g) Ontario Reducing Wait Times for MRIs, CT scans and Endoscopies
- h) Ontario Taking Action to Make Conservation Authorities More Effective
- i) Ontario Capping Rent Increases at the Rate of Inflation
- j) Ontario's Energy Plan Unlocking Opportunities in the Digital Economy
- k) Ontario Supporting Long-Term Care Residents with Complex Needs
- l) Ontario Building More Accessible Communities
- m) Ontario and Alberta Working Together to Build New Energy and Trade Infrastructure

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) County Council Summary – June 2025

- b) Paramedic Service Response to Weather Events
 - c) Introducing the 2025 Summer Company Participants
- 3. Correspondence from the Renfrew County District Health Unit**
- a) Public Health Units Unite to Promote Summer Safety Across the Eastern Region
 - b) RCDHU Launches Free Online Prenatal Program: Bump to Baby
- 4. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
- a) Watch File – June 19th, 2025
 - b) Watch File – June 26th, 2025
 - c) Watch File – July 3rd, 2025
 - d) Policy Update – Response on Bill 17, Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan
 - e) Policy Update – IESO Releases Final LT2 Documents, AMO Hosts Oxford Economics Trade and Tariff Webinar
 - f) 2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forums
- 5. Notices of Public Meeting for the Town of Arnprior**
- a) A01 to A03-25 – Notice of Hearing – 55, 59 and 63 Leo Moskos
 - b) A04 and A05-25 – Notice of Hearing – 23 and 27 Leo Moskos
 - c) A06-25 – Notice of Hearing – 63 Victoria
 - d) B2 to B5-25 – Notice of Public Meeting – 43, 47, 51 and 55 Leo Moskos
- 6. Correspondence from Canadian Red Cross**
- a) Wildfire N95 Mask Program
- 7. Correspondence from MP Cheryl Gallant**
- a) CANtrade is a new financing program
- 8. Correspondence from Other Municipalities**
- a) City of Pickering: Opposition to Bill 5 and Request to Repeal

9. Correspondence from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

- a) Regulatory Registry Proposal 25-MMAH011 Comments –
Assessment of Proposed Regulatory Changes to Ontario
Regulation 82/98 under the *Development Charges Act, 1997*

10. Correspondence from Secondary School Bursary Recipient

- a) Thank you – Town of Arnprior Secondary School Bursary

Ontario Investing \$55.8 Million to Expand Teaching Workforce

Investment will prepare students for successful futures by training 2,600 teachers in underserved regions

June 20, 2025

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

KINGSTON — The Ontario government is investing \$55.8 million to expand teaching training seats at universities across the province to strengthen the teaching workforce and ensure Ontario has the teachers it needs in underserved and remote communities. This investment will train up to 2,600 new teachers by 2027, building a robust workforce of English and French-language teachers for Ontario's classrooms. To support the government's plan to protect Ontario by helping train students for successful careers and good-paying, in-demand jobs, the funding will be prioritized to support underserved communities as well as programs that will help students gain practical skills.

"Teachers play a vital role in ensuring our children receive a strong start to their education and future careers," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "Through this investment, our government is protecting our children's future by expanding teaching capacity and bringing more highly qualified teachers to communities across Ontario."

In advance of the fall 2025 school year, 13 of Ontario's publicly funded universities that offer a Bachelor of Education will receive funding to expand their teaching program. Funding will be prioritized to expand seats at universities with accelerated programs, French and technological education, as well as seats in northern, rural, Indigenous and remote regions to add more teachers to regions that need teachers most.

Students interested in education careers can visit My Career Journey to learn more about becoming an [elementary and kindergarten teacher](#) or a [secondary school teacher](#).

"We are focused on helping students succeed, and that begins with having qualified and ready teachers in every classroom," said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. "By expanding teacher training seats in high-demand areas like French, technology and in rural and northern communities, we're helping schools fill gaps and giving students the support they need for the jobs of tomorrow."

Through the [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#), the Ontario government continues to strategically invest in Ontario's colleges and universities in order to equip students with the skills that launch them into rewarding jobs and careers that address Ontario's labour market needs. By increasing the province's pipeline of highly skilled teachers, Ontario is ensuring children across the province receive the strong start they need to lead fulfilling, successful lives.

Quick Facts

- 12,111 full-time students are enrolled in teacher education programs at Ontario universities for the 2024-25 academic year.
 - Approximately 4,500 additional teacher candidates enter the workforce every year through the Ontario government's Initial Teacher Education program that receives \$60 million annually to build the teaching workforce in the province.
 - Since 2018, Ontario has added approximately 961 additional French and English language teacher education spaces on top of the 9,000 teacher seats Ontario funds annually.
 - In 2025-26, the Ontario government is investing \$30.3 billion in Core Education Funding to focus key resources where they matter most: student success.
-

Quotes

"We welcome this funding as a meaningful step to bring additional qualified teachers into Ontario schools. This investment will expand access to areas of need, including Queen's flexible pathways in Technological Education, French as a Second Language, and Indigenous Education – ensuring all students benefit from passionate, well-prepared educators."

- Rebecca Luce-Kapler
Dean of the Faculty of Education, Queen's University

"We welcome this investment which will help address the growing need for qualified teachers across Ontario. Expanding access to teacher education programs – particularly in high-need areas like French-language instruction, technological education, and northern, rural and Indigenous communities – will give more students access to the high-quality learning experiences they need to succeed, while also ensuring universities can continue to train the next generation of educators who will inspire learners and shape Ontario's future."

- Steve Orsini

President and CEO, Council of Ontario Universities

"This investment is a meaningful and timely step toward addressing the teacher shortage in our French-language schools. As president of ADFO, I applaud the government's commitment to increasing the number of qualified teachers, especially in northern, rural, and francophone communities. Ensuring that every student has access to a caring and skilled educator is essential to their success, and this initiative brings us closer to that goal. Strong schools begin with strong teaching teams – and this investment supports the future of both our profession and our students."

- Dany Dumont

Président, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes

"The Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) has long emphasized the importance of having more instructional leaders in the classroom, as teachers play a crucial role in ensuring quality education and continuity in learning. We are pleased to see the government's commitment of over \$55 million to train more teachers at the university level. This investment represents a significant step in enhancing the quality of education for our students and is essential in addressing the ongoing shortage of teachers in the classroom."

- James McDade

President of Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO)

Additional Resources

[2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)

[Ontario to Introduce Legislation to Strengthen School Board Oversight](#)

[Ontario Providing Record Education Funding while Ensuring School Board Accountability](#)

[Ontario Increasing School Board Accountability to Protect Students, Families and Taxpayer Funds](#)

Related Topics

Education and Training

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

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Ontario Recognizing Outstanding Volunteers

June Callwood Award honours remarkable contributions from across the province

June 20, 2025

[Citizenship and Multiculturalism](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is celebrating 15 remarkable individuals and four organizations with the 2025 June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism (JCOAAV). This year's recipients have dedicated their time to a range of community causes including youth advocacy, health care and mental health, the arts, environmental sustainability, and work with vulnerable populations.

"Volunteers are essential to protecting Ontario and building stronger communities," said Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. "This year's recipients have gone above and beyond, and we are deeply grateful for their service to make Ontario a better place to live, work, and raise a family."

All of the [2025 award recipients](#) have demonstrated remarkable commitment to driving positive change and protecting communities across Ontario. During local ceremonies, held across the province, recipients will receive an award statue and a certificate signed by the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism.

Named in honour of the late author, social activist, and journalist June Callwood, this award recognizes up to 25 individual volunteers, volunteer organizations and volunteer administrators for their outstanding leadership, innovation and contributions. More information on eligibility and how to nominate an individual or group is available at [Ontario.ca](#).

Quick Facts

- Anyone can submit a nomination for the JCOAAV. Since 2002, 414 individuals and groups have received the JCOAAV.
- Applications for the JCOAAV close on December 5 each year.
- The late June Callwood was a distinguished Canadian journalist, author, social activist, and an appointee to the Order of Ontario and the Order of Canada.

Throughout her life, she established and co-established over fifty Canadian social action organizations.

- The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism fosters an equitable Ontario and a sense of belonging by promoting citizen engagement and unity. In 2024, over 50 recognition ceremonies celebrated the achievements of more than 7,200 recipients who make the province a better place to live.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Recognizing Outstanding Volunteers](#)
- Province Celebrates 2025 June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism Recipients
- Find out how to nominate outstanding volunteers for a [June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism](#)
- Find out how to nominate volunteers in your community for a [Volunteer Service Award](#)
- Learn more about [volunteering in Ontario](#)

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Ontario Recognizing Outstanding Volunteers

June Callwood Award honours remarkable contributions from across the province

June 20, 2025

[Citizenship and Multiculturalism](#)

The Ontario government is celebrating 15 outstanding individuals and four volunteer organizations with the 2025 June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism for their exceptional contributions to their communities and the province.

The outstanding volunteer award recipients are as follows:

Outstanding Volunteer Category - Group

Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary (Opportunity Shop), Arnprior

Founded in 1961, the Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary is a dedicated team of 165 volunteers supporting the Arnprior Hospital, Grove Nursing Home, and Palliative Care. Through hands-on service and creative fundraising—including the Opportunity Shop—they contribute up to \$350,000 annually, funding vital medical equipment and enhancing healthcare for the entire Arnprior community.

Thornccliffe Park Urban Farmers, Toronto

Since 2011, Thornccliffe Park Urban Farmers (TPUF) has transformed underused urban spaces into vibrant gardens that promote food security, ecological restoration, and inclusive education. In 2024 alone, TPUF harvested over 2,800 pounds of culturally relevant produce and engaged youth and families through hands-on programs in gardening, composting, and environmental leadership.

Windsor Essex Bike Community, Amherstburg

Established in 2022, the Windsor Essex Bike Community (WEBC) has transformed Windsor-Essex County through volunteerism and grassroots leadership. With over 5,000 volunteer hours and \$150,000 raised, WEBC built an 8 km mountain bike trail and launched a youth program—enhancing recreation, boosting the local economy, and fostering a more connected, inclusive community.

Outstanding Volunteer Category – Individual

Stephen Boyle, Toronto

Stephen Boyle has been a transformative leader in Willowdale for over 20 years. Through events like Concerts in the Park, Sunday Serenades, and the Live Lounge series, he has fostered community connection, supported local artists with paid opportunities, and enriched the cultural life of the neighbourhood.

Sarah Dereski, Greater Toronto Area

Sarah Dereski is a passionate volunteer whose commitment to leadership and community enrichment has been evident since 2004. Her dedication to organizations such as Girl Guides of Canada, Victim Services of York Region, Critical Incident Stress Management programs, the Law Enforcement Torch Run, and Special Olympics Ontario has made a positive impact on many lives.

Kathleen Doherty, Barrie

A retired Staff Sergeant with the Ontario Provincial Police, Kathleen Doherty has devoted her post-retirement years to volunteerism. From Hospice Simcoe to international disaster relief with Global Medic and Team Rubicon Canada, her leadership in crisis response, community recovery, and health advocacy has brought hope and stability to countless individuals—locally, nationally, and around the world.

Prashant A. Jani, Thunder Bay

Dr. Prashant A. Jani has made a lasting impact on the Thunder Bay community through his volunteer leadership, championing cultural diversity and combating food insecurity. He leads the annual Festival of India and Festival of Colours, which attract over 7,000 attendees and promote inclusion and intercultural understanding. In 2009, he founded the Food for Life initiative, which now provides more than 20,000 meals each year to those in need. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, he expanded this effort to deliver thousands of free meals and grocery packages to vulnerable community members during a time of crisis.

Jean Kerins, Toronto

For over 20 years, Jean Kerins has been a cornerstone of the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club, serving in key leadership roles and as editor of the Caledon Comment. Her dedication to conservation, mentorship, and community-building has inspired

over 1,200 members and preserved the Club's legacy. Jean's inclusive spirit and tireless service continue to leave a lasting impact.

Rajendra (Raj) Kothari, Toronto

Rajendra (Raj) Kothari has devoted over 35 years to volunteerism, helping raise more than \$2 billion for Ontario's health care and arts sectors. A passionate advocate for inclusion, his leadership has strengthened community connections, championed newcomer integration, and inspired a culture of giving across generations.

Ann-Marie MacDairmid, Thornbury

Ann-Marie, a resident of Thornbury, Ontario, has led the Shoreline Chorus in Owen Sound for 25 years. She founded the choir in 1999 and has managed it entirely as a volunteer. Her leadership has created meaningful opportunities for community engagement through concerts supporting local food banks, therapeutic riding programs, and church outreach initiatives.

Beulah Osei, Newmarket

Since 1996, Beulah Osei has volunteered with York Region Children's Aid Society, providing safe, compassionate transportation for children and youth across the region. More than a driver, she offers stability and care, helping young people stay connected to family, school, and community. Her dedication has touched countless lives and exemplifies the power of consistent, heartfelt service.

Susan Raynak, Thunder Bay

Since 2009, Susan Raynak has been a dedicated volunteer with Hospice Northwest Services. As liaison to the board, she shares powerful stories that deepen understanding of hospice care. Her work on promotional materials, events, and outreach has significantly expanded the organization's visibility, while her warmth and commitment continue to strengthen community connections and support for hospice services.

Dorothy Soo-Wiens, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Since 2003, Dorothy Soo-Wiens has been a cornerstone of the Niagara-on-the-Lake community. She contributes through her leadership at Cornerstone Community Church, including the Elders Board and Funeral Ministry, and as a member of the In Stitches quilting group. Her creativity and dedication shine in her work on partnerships, fundraising, public art, and community events across the region.

Richard Taylor, North Bay

For over 30 years, Richard Taylor has led the Nipissing Trackers Ski Program, opening the slopes to children with physical and developmental disabilities. Under his leadership, the free, volunteer-run program grew from 10 to over 100 participants at times—fostering inclusion, confidence, and joy for children and families across the North Bay community.

Ian White, Toronto

Ian White is a dedicated advocate and community leader for the blind and low vision community in Toronto. As founder and President of the Toronto Visionaries, he has created inclusive spaces for connection, learning, and support. Through monthly meetings, public outreach, and national advocacy, Ian empowers others and fosters a stronger, more connected community.

April Zhong, Toronto

April Zhong, a high school student at the University of Toronto Schools, founded Chess for Connection, a nonprofit uniting youth and seniors through chess. Adopted by over 10 senior residences across Toronto and Ottawa, the initiative combats loneliness and fosters cognitive engagement. With over 30 youth volunteers, it creates meaningful intergenerational connections and promotes community well-being. The initiative extends beyond local impact, reaching diverse communities globally. April was also appointed as the sole youth member on the FIDE Social Commission to bring a youth perspective and champion for social change and engagement.

Excellence in Volunteer Management - Group

Artists and Lawyers for the Advancement of Creativity, Toronto

For nearly 40 years, Artists and Lawyers for the Advancement of Creativity (ALAC), through its Artists' Legal Advice Services (ALAS), has empowered Ontario's arts community with free legal advice and education. Driven by a dedicated team of volunteer lawyers and law students, ALAC champions equity, compassion, and access to justice for artists across the province.

Excellence in Volunteer Management - Individual

Marcy Marchuk, Whitby

Marcy Marchuk has been a key leader in volunteer engagement at Community Care Durham since 2009, driving recruitment, training, and recognition across vital programs. Her innovative efforts—including volunteer fairs, corporate

partnerships, and appreciation events—have helped sustain a strong, dedicated volunteer community that supports clients across the region.

Jane Weiland, Huntsville

For over a decade, Jane Weiland was the heart of Hospice Huntsville, leading both the Visiting Volunteer and Grief and Bereavement programs. She introduced vital Complementary Therapies and built partnerships with hospitals and care homes to ensure no one faced the end of life alone. Her leadership, compassion, and innovation profoundly shaped hospice care in her community.

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Recognizing Outstanding Volunteers](#)
 - Find out how to [nominate outstanding volunteers](#) for a June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism
 - Find out how to nominate volunteers in your community for a [Volunteer Service Award](#)
 - Learn more about [volunteering in Ontario](#)
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Ontario Connecting 300,000 More People to Primary Care

Province launching over 130 new and expanded primary care teams across Ontario to connect people in underserved communities to care

June 23, 2025

[Health](#)

TORONTO — As part of its \$2.1 billion [Primary Care Action Plan](#) to connect everyone in Ontario to a publicly funded family doctor or primary care team, the Ontario government has announced a \$235 million investment to support over 130 new and expanded primary care teams that will connect 300,000 people to primary care this year.

“We are continuing to build on our government’s record investments, which have helped secure Ontario the highest rate of access to a regular health-care provider in the country,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “We are protecting Ontario’s health-care system and people’s access to convenient care by funding new and expanded primary care teams across the province, helping connect everyone in Ontario to a primary care provider.”

The over 130 primary care teams were selected through a recent [call for proposals](#) focused on communities—identified by postal code—with the highest number of residents not connected to primary care, including those on the Health Care Connect waitlist. Each successful team has established a plan to attach a high proportion of unattached people in their postal codes and demonstrated readiness to achieve significant progress within a year.

“Together we are building a primary care system that is comprehensive, convenient and connected for every single person in Ontario,” said Dr. Jane Philpott, Chair of Ontario’s Primary Care Action Team. “Through the government’s historic investments, we are making meaningful progress in expanding access to care—and this is just the beginning. In communities across Ontario, your primary care team will be your entry to care, where you will have a team of health professionals led by a family doctor or nurse practitioner to provide the care and services you need, when you need them, in a timely way.”

Minister Jones and Dr. Philpott made the announcement at Flemingdon Health Centre in Toronto, which is receiving more than \$4 million annually through this allocation to help attach more than 9,600 people to primary care through the East Toronto Health Partners Ontario Health Team. Flemingdon Health Centre will focus on stabilizing the most complex patients with the greatest needs, who often struggle to navigate the health-care system. This model helps increase system capacity across East Toronto and reduces reliance on emergency services by meeting patients' needs earlier and more effectively in the community.

Through this latest investment, the province is providing primary care teams with \$142 million in operational funding over three years to recruit and retain health-care workers. Funding can be used for non-physician team members such as nurse practitioners, registered practical nurses, physician assistants and pharmacists.

"At Flemingdon Health Centre, we have spent the last ten years building a model of community driven integrated primary health care," said Jen Quinlan, CEO of Flemingdon Health Centre. "This means prioritizing keeping people well and in the community. For the cost of a single trip to the emergency department, FHC can provide a suite of health care services to that same person for an entire year."

In addition to funding new and expanded primary care teams, the province is [investing \\$300 million](#) to build up to 17 new and expanded community-based primary care teaching clinics in communities with high rates of unattachment to primary care, allowing up to 300,000 more people to be connected to primary care.

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

Quick Facts

- The government continues to make progress on connecting everyone on the Health Care Connect waitlist, as of January 1, 2025 (235,000 individuals) to primary care by Spring 2026. To date, the number of individuals remaining on the list has decreased by over 25 per cent.
- Ontario also recently passed the [Primary Care Act](#), which establishes primary care as the foundation of Ontario's health-care system and sets out six clear objectives for Ontario's publicly funded primary care system to ensure people know what they can expect when connecting to primary care.
- Interprofessional primary care teams connect people to a range of health professionals that work together under one roof, such as registered nurses and

registered practical nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, and pharmacists, helping patients to receive more connected and convenient care.

- Eligible teams not selected for funding in this round will be encouraged to refine and resubmit their proposals for the next call for proposals, which is expected to launch in September 2025.
- In 2024 Ontario [invested \\$110 million](#) in primary care teams across the province, helping to connect 328,000 more people to primary care close to home.
- Since 2018, Ontario has added over 15,000 new physicians to its health-care workforce, including an over 10 per cent increase in family doctors.
- Ontario 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.

Quotes

"As Ontario Health works to operationalize the government's commitment, we work closely with our dedicated health system partners across regions in the primary care sector, identifying patient needs and ensuring that the necessary care delivery networks are in place. Our shared commitment is to ensure that all Ontarians are attached to a primary care provider so that their care needs are met, and that this care is delivered in an effective and integrated way."

**- Matthew Anderson
President and CEO, Ontario Health**

"At the East Toronto Family Practice Network, we are proud to be at the forefront of transforming primary care delivery. With this funding, we are expanding access to team-based care through our innovative neighbourhood model, including launching a Primary Care Access Clinic in partnership with Michael Garron Hospital. This clinic will improve timely access to primary care, advance training for family medicine residents, and strengthen connections to ongoing community care."

**- Dr. Catherine Yu
Chair, East Toronto Family Practice Network; Medical Director, Health Access Thorncliffe Park; and Chief and Program Medical Director of Family and Community Medicine at Michael Garron Hospital**

"East Toronto Health Partners Ontario Health Team has a bold vision for building a healthier East Toronto together. Through initiatives like Health Access Thorncliffe Park and Health Access Taylor-Massey, we've seen firsthand the impact of integrated, locally delivered care that responds to neighbourhoods' unique needs. This investment will enable us to expand our capacity to serve more people across East Toronto — particularly in communities facing the greatest barriers to access."

- Anne Wojtak
Co-Lead, East Toronto Health Partners Ontario Health Team

"The OMA supports the efforts of Health Minister Sylvia Jones and Dr. Jane Philpott's primary action team to help attach more patients to family doctors. We're encouraged that communities with the highest rates of unattached patients are getting some much needed relief. The OMA looks forward to continuing to work with government to increase access to family medicine, so more Ontario patients are able to get the health-care services they need."

- Dr. Zainab Abdurrahman
President, Ontario Medical Association

"We're encouraged to see the Primary Care Action Team (PCAT) moving forward with its goal of connecting more Ontarians to a family physician and primary care team. This investment is an important step toward ensuring people across the province can access the care they need, when they need it. As the rollout continues, we look forward to working with PCAT to ensure that all family physicians — across all models and settings — are supported in delivering high-quality, comprehensive care. With the right, well-resourced supports in place, we can retain the family doctors we have today and help more physicians choose family medicine for the long term."

- Deepy Sur
CEO, Ontario College of Family Physicians

"We applaud the Ontario government's investment in primary care teams as a vital step toward improving access and supporting the dedicated professionals delivering front-line care. This funding will make a real difference in recruitment, retention, and team stability—helping ensure more Ontarians get the care they need, when they need it."

- Jess Rogers

CEO, Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario

"The Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario (NPAO) welcomes the provincial government's continued efforts on ensuring Ontarians receive timely, high-quality care, when and where they need it by connecting them to a family doctor or nurse practitioner. Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are integral members of primary care teams, working hard to serve patients across the province. We remain committed to continuing our work with the Government of Ontario to ensure patients from across the province can access care quickly and as close to home as possible."

- Dr. Michelle Acorn

CEO, Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario (NPAO)

"The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) 54,400+ registered nurses (RN) and nurse practitioner (NP) members applaud the provincial government for its investment in more than 130 new and expanded primary care teams across the province. Prioritizing communities with the greatest needs is critical to expand access to high-quality, team-based care for people in underserved areas. NPs and RNs are essential to the success of these teams – and we welcome the emphasis on their retention and recruitment. This investment responds directly to RNAO's long-standing call to build a health system rooted in strong community care – anchored in primary care, centred on people, integrated across sectors, grounded in equity and social determinants of health, and delivered through publicly funded, not-for-profit models. We look forward to continuing collaborating with government and partners to ensure that every person in Ontario is connected to a family doctor or nurse practitioner and can access the timely, comprehensive care they need – close to home."

**- Dr. Doris Grinspun, RN, PhD, O.ONT.
CEO, RNAO**

"The Indigenous Primary Health Care Council applauds the Ontario government's investment in expanding access to primary care across the province. We understand the unique barriers Indigenous communities continue to face in accessing timely, culturally safe health services. This funding represents a meaningful step toward closing those gaps and bringing care closer to home for the people we serve. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure that Indigenous-led solutions are central to building an inclusive and accessible primary care system for all that focuses on appropriate attachment for the patients and clients in our communities."

**- Caroline Lidstone Jones
CEO, Indigenous Primary Health Care Council (IPHCC)**

Additional Resources

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

Related Topics

Government

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

[Learn more](#)

Health and Wellness

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

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Ontario Protecting Workers and Jobs in Rural Communities

Province accepting applications for new Rural Ontario Development program

June 24, 2025

[Rural Affairs](#)

CLINTON — The Ontario government is now accepting applications for the new [Rural Ontario Development \(ROD\) program](#) to help support economic growth, protect jobs and improve infrastructure in small communities. In January, the government [announced \\$20 million](#) over the next two years to help rural communities attract investment and create new jobs and opportunities for rural workers. In the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty, this expanded funding will support the government's plan to protect rural Ontario communities by encouraging economic development and helping keep workers on the job.

“Our government has doubled its investment in the Rural Ontario Development program to drive economic growth and increase the workforce across rural Ontario,” said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs. “The expanded program will benefit rural communities and rural businesses by attracting investment, creating jobs and building rural Ontario.”

Eligible rural municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, Indigenous communities and small businesses can apply to four funding streams:

- **Economic Diversification, Competitiveness and Capacity Building:** building economic development capacity and implementing strategies that increase competitiveness to retain businesses, attract investment and enhance growth.
- **Workforce Development, Attraction and Retention:** investing in strategies and/or to undertake initiatives for attracting and retaining workers.
- **Community Infrastructure Enhancements:** investing in community infrastructure and improving public spaces or existing community assets.
- **Business Development:** investing in projects that support businesses to be financially sustainable and competitive, including cyber security initiatives, accessibility enhancements or expansion to new markets.

The Rural Ontario Development program is a key component of [Enabling Opportunity: Ontario's Rural Economic Development Strategy](#).

Quick Facts

- [Applications for the first intake of the Rural Ontario Development program are now open](#) and will close on September 24, 2025 at 5 p.m.
 - In January 2025, the government [announced an increase of \\$20 million over two years](#) for the Rural Ontario Development program, previously known as the Rural Economic Development program.
 - Since 2019, the government has invested \$27.5 million towards supporting 473 projects through the Rural Economic Development Program.
-

Quotes

"AMO applauds the province's two-year, \$20 million investment in the Rural Ontario Development program. This commitment demonstrates leadership in protecting and strengthening local economies, which is vital amidst current trade disruptions, tariffs and looming economic downturn."

- Robin Jones

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

"ROMA thanks the Ontario government for enhancing the Rural Ontario Development program. Its new design directly responds to rural needs by doubling funding, setting a higher cost-sharing ratio, adding planning and strategy investments as eligible costs and maintaining sector training and application support. ROD will empower rural municipalities to attract and retain investment, driving provincial prosperity."

- Christa Lowry

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

"The newly enhanced Rural Ontario Development Program is a vital tool for strengthening the heart of our rural communities. In Huron County, we see every day how targeted investments can make a real difference for families, farmers, local businesses and community organizations. We're thankful to Minister Thompson and the Ontario government for recognizing that when rural Ontario succeeds, all of Ontario benefits."

- Jamie Heffer
Warden of Huron County

Additional Resources

[*Enabling Opportunity: Ontario's Rural Economic Development Strategy*](#)

[Rural Ontario Development Program Guidelines and Application](#)

[Ministry of Rural Affairs at Ontario.ca](#)

Related Topics

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Ontario Celebrates Outstanding Seniors

Province awards 22 recipients for their achievements building a stronger Ontario

June 25, 2025

[Seniors and Accessibility](#)

TORONTO – The Ontario government is recognizing 22 exceptional seniors with the 2024 [Ontario Senior Achievement Award](#) for their outstanding contributions to the province and their communities. The 2024 recipients have made lasting impacts through volunteerism, charitable fundraising and advocacy around the province.

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to acknowledge the work of 22 impressive Ontario seniors who have done so much to uplift and support their communities," said the Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. "These awards recognize the wisdom, generosity, and positive impact of seniors in all aspects of daily life."

The Ontario Senior Achievement Award recognizes individuals who are making a meaningful difference in the lives and well-being of people in Ontario of all ages through community service and humanitarian efforts. This year's recipients have made lasting contributions to their communities and empowered fellow seniors by leading cultural, artistic, educational and health-care initiatives that foster engagement and inclusion.

"It is inspiring to see so many individuals across our province making meaningful contributions to improving the lives of other seniors and building a stronger province," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "On behalf of all Ontario, I congratulate all the Ontario Senior Achievement Award recipients for their commitment to protect and support seniors now and for years to come."

The [Ontario Senior Achievement Award](#) was created in 1986 to recognize outstanding seniors who, after the age of 65, have made significant contributions to their communities.

Quick Facts

- To see the full list of the 2024 Ontario Senior Achievement Award recipients, visit: <https://news.ontario.ca/en/backgrounder/1006104/2024-ontario-senior-achievement-award-recipients>.
- Recipients are being recognized June 25th, by the Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Minister Cho, at a ceremony at Queen's Park.
- [As of this year, there are three million older adults in Ontario](#) – the fastest growing demographic group in the province.

Quotes

"Congratulations to all the recipients of the 2024 Ontario Senior Achievement Award. Your years of dedicated service have made a lasting impact in your communities and helped shape a strong, more prosperous Ontario."

- Graham McGregor
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Additional Resources

- [2024 Ontario Senior Achievement Award Recipients](#)
- Please visit [Ontario Senior Achievement Award](#) for more information on how to recognize an exceptional individual.
- The province annually bestows thousands of honours and awards. Discover more about Ontario's [medal and recognition programs](#).

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Ontario Launches Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan

Province protecting forestry jobs and building homes and buildings faster by promoting the use of advanced wood construction

June 26, 2025

[Natural Resources](#)

KITCHENER — The Ontario government has released the [Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan](#) to increase the manufacturing and use of high-quality made-in-Ontario wood building products. To support the government's plan to protect Ontario, the use of prefabricated and modular wood-based building materials, known as advanced wood construction, will help build more homes faster and create a more resilient forestry sector in response to U.S. tariffs by attracting investment, increasing revenues and providing economic opportunities that create and sustain local jobs.

"As our government delivers on its plan to protect and build Ontario, this action plan will help promote and prioritize wood-based building with made-in-Ontario wood construction products," said Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources.

"Advanced wood construction is a new opportunity that can help get more homes built faster and build a stronger, more competitive forest sector that can withstand whatever comes our way."

Locally made mass timber and wood construction can be used to build modular and prefabricated buildings, including mid-rise and tall multi-family homes and a wide variety of commercial and industrial buildings. Advanced wood construction can complete projects up to 50 per cent faster and cut costs by up to 20 per cent, making it essential to achieving the government's goal of building more homes.

The [Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan](#) focuses on four objectives:

- Support initiatives that create awareness and encourage the use advanced wood construction
- Identify and remove barriers in codes, standards and regulations for the use of advanced wood construction

- Stimulate innovation and investment in advanced manufacturing facilities to grow Ontario's advanced wood construction sector
- Demonstrate and display examples of advanced wood construction to instill confidence in adopting new Ontario wood building products

"We're harnessing forest sector innovation to enhance how we build our homes, businesses and communities," said Kevin Holland, Associate Minister of Forestry and Forest Products. "Our government recognizes the potential of advanced wood construction – and our action plan is bringing its benefits to Ontario."

To date, Ontario has committed over \$13 million to enhance the province's advanced wood construction capacity, including:

- Over \$8 million to establish and scale up production at Element5: Ontario's first state-of-the-art, fully-automated manufacturer of cross-laminated timber
- Close to \$3M for wood-based construction education, research and training led by organizations such as the Canadian Wood Council and Canadian Wood Construction Research Network, to support building with wood
- Over \$1.5 million towards the construction of educational buildings incorporating mass timber at George Brown College and the University of Toronto
- Over \$750,000 to support FPInnovations' research and testing of wood-based construction materials and development of technical resources
- Over \$300,000 to help the University of Toronto's Mass Timber Institute develop ways to use more underused wood for advanced wood construction and study modular housing deployment to maximize environmental and economic benefit

Releasing the *Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan* advances Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy commitments to increase wood use, grow markets and encourage forest sector innovation. To learn more about the plan,

visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/advanced-wood-construction-action-plan>

Quick Facts

- The *Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan* complements the government's ongoing actions to increase wood-based building, including supporting building code amendments, developing technical resources and engaging with fire services, insurers and other key stakeholders to build acceptance of wooden construction.
- A draft of the *Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan* was posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario for review and public comment in July 2024.

- The forest sector generated \$21.6 billion in revenue from the sale of manufactured goods and services in 2023 and supported 128,000 direct and indirect jobs in 2024.

Quotes

"Coupled with the acceleration of traditional construction methods, advanced wood construction presents an opportunity to leverage Ontario's leading solid wood manufacturing facilities to address housing availability and affordability challenges. Members of the Ontario Forest Industries Association are excited to work with Premier Ford, Minister Harris, and Minister Holland to implement the Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan, drive change, strengthen domestic supply chains, and provide economic growth opportunities for all Ontarians."

- Ian Dunn, R.P.F.
President & CEO, Ontario Forest Industries Association

"Kitchener is pleased to see the Ontario government promoting the use of lumber in construction while also embracing innovative and sustainable building practices that will help us to achieve our mutual housing goals and build a thriving economy. This initiative, coupled with other investments from the province of Ontario, is helping Kitchener and builders in our community exceed its housing targets while protecting local jobs and accelerating economic activity."

- Berry Vrbanovic
Mayor of Kitchener

"RESCON is pleased to support the Government of Ontario's latest initiative to make more housing available in our province. Effectively meeting the challenge of housing affordability and supply requires investment in all forms of housing options including cross-laminated timber, a major component of advanced wood construction. The Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan will help build homes faster and we congratulate the province for this strategy to improve housing affordability."

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

"It is inspiring and deeply meaningful to me to see the Province step forward with such a clear and confident endorsement of advanced wood construction—a technology whose time has truly come. This strategic investment supports a smarter, more resilient approach to building in Ontario. By backing industrialized construction processes, the government is not only helping to unlock the means to deliver urgently needed housing supply, but also accelerating private investment, generating high-quality skilled jobs, and positioning Ontario as a leader in next-generation construction. This is about solving today's challenges while laying the groundwork for long-term economic growth—with industrialized wood construction driving that transformation forward."

- Steven Street

Executive Director, WoodWorks Ontario, Canadian Wood Council

"Fueled by over 100,000 workers, Ontario's forestry industry has earned a proud reputation of excellence in developing and manufacturing innovative and affordable wood-based products. As countries around the world look for fast, sustainable, and high-quality building solutions, our government's Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan provides the blueprint to meet the moment. Alongside our industry leaders, we look forward to utilizing this plan to strengthen our province's leadership in advanced wood-based construction and seize new global opportunities for our forestry workers and businesses."

- Vic Fedeli

Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

"In every corner of our province, we need more homes. Our government is addressing this challenge head-on by investing in infrastructure and making legislative changes, and wood construction is just one more tool in our toolbox to get shovels in the ground. Together, we are supporting local economies while bringing the dream of homeownership back within reach for more people."

- Rob Flack

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

"Through the Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan's roadmap, Ontario has outlined objectives to increase the use of Ontario wood in the province, accelerate home construction, and support one of Ontario's largest natural resource sectors. FPInnovations is proud to work with the Province of Ontario to provide applied science for advanced wood construction."

**- Stéphane Renou
President and Chief Executive Officer, FPInnovations**

"The increased use of wood products in building construction will help reduce carbon footprint of building construction, enhance economic growth in the forestry sector and address the affordable housing crisis in Canada. The Canadian Wood Construction Research Network (CWCRN) manages over 40 research projects on mass timber construction at 14 Canadian universities, including 5 from Ontario. This multi-institutional research network is developing crucial science-based information to support the use of wood products in non-traditional applications, such as tall buildings. Funding from Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources, and other partners, including federal and provincial government departments and industry, is instrumental in supporting the research program managed by CWCRN."

**- Ying Hei Chui, PhD, P.Eng., FCAE
Lead of the Canadian Wood Construction Research Network and Director
of the Nasser School of Building Science and Engineering, University of
Alberta**

"We enthusiastically endorse Ontario's measures to support modular housing deployment, including the release of the Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan. These initiatives promise scalable, sustainable, and cost-effective responses to the province's most pressing housing challenges. Emphasizing resource efficiency, construction innovation, and integrated community planning aligns precisely with our mission to foster a resilient, equitable bioeconomy—one that supports both environmental stewardship and inclusive growth."

- Rasoul Yousefpour

Director of the Mass Timber Institute and Assistant Professor in Forestry at the University of Toronto's John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design

"Ontario's investment in projects like the Academic Tower and the release of the Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan signal a bold commitment to sustainable design and innovation in the built environment. By advancing a wood-first policy, supporting Ontario-based mass timber manufacturing, and ensuring the sustainable management of our Crown forests, the province has a unique opportunity to become an international leader in low-carbon, high-performance wood construction."

- Professor Robert Wright

Principal Investigator, Mass Timber Institute, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, University of Toronto

"We are grateful for the Government of Ontario's support toward the construction of Limberlost Place, a landmark project that marks a bold step forward in sustainable building design and education. As one of Ontario's first institutional buildings made from mass timber and designed to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, it strengthens George Brown College as a leader in green innovation and workforce development while supporting the province's Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan. Together, we are building a cleaner, stronger, and more resilient future for all."

- Dr. Gervan Fearon

President of George Brown College

Additional Resources

- [Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan](#)
- [Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy](#)
- [Building with Wood](#)
- [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#)

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Ontario Reducing Wait Times for MRIs, CT Scans and Endoscopies

Province investing \$155 million for 57 community surgical and diagnostic centres to connect 1.2 million people to publicly funded procedures

June 27, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

[Health](#)

RICHMOND HILL — The Ontario government is investing \$155 million over two years to add 57 new community surgical and diagnostic centres licensed to deliver MRI and CT scans, and gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy services across the province. The expansion will help 1.2 million people access publicly funded procedures faster and is part of the government's plan to invest in and protect Ontario's health-care system.

"The 57 new centres we are rolling out across Ontario will make a huge difference for people in the province, helping them get the care they need, when they need it," said Premier Doug Ford. "It's all part of our plan to protect and improve our health-care services, all while ensuring people always receive the care they need with their OHIP card."

Following a Call for Applications, licences will be issued starting this summer for:

- **MRI and CT Scan Services:** 35 newly licenced centres will deliver MRI and CT scans, connecting up to 828,000 more people over two years to vital diagnostic imaging — more than four times the province's original goal. This expansion of services will reduce wait times and ensure patients receive scans within the medically recommended timeframe in regions where the centres will operate.
- **GI Endoscopy Services:** 22 newly licenced centres will deliver GI endoscopy procedures, adding up to 420,000 procedures over two years, more than three times the province's original goal. This expansion will ensure that every patient in the province in need of a GI endoscopy procedure receives it within the medically recommended timeframe.

The announcement was made at the Schroeder Ambulatory Centre in Richmond Hill. The Centre is receiving \$14 million to provide MRI and CT scans, as well as GI Endoscopy procedures to over 115,000 patients over two years, significantly reducing wait times in the region. The other recipients will be announced in the coming weeks.

“When it comes to wait times for surgeries and procedures, the status quo is not acceptable. That’s why our government is taking bold, decisive action to protect Ontario’s health-care system by boosting access to vital surgeries and diagnostic imaging so that families can conveniently access the care they need sooner,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “By licensing 57 new community surgical and diagnostic centres across Ontario, we are reducing wait times and ensuring more people can receive timely care in their community, for years to come.”

As the government significantly expands the number of surgeries and procedures being done through community surgical and diagnostic centres, it is ensuring these centres are integrated and linked with the broader public-health system. This includes requiring new facilities to provide detailed staffing plans that protect the stability of staffing resources at public hospitals, report into the province’s wait times information system and participate in regional central intakes, where available, to ensure people get the care they need as quickly as possible. All community surgical and diagnostic centres are under the [oversight of Accreditation Canada’s](#) new quality assurance program, which provides the same strong requirements as public hospitals to improve quality standards at facilities and ensure consistent patient safety and quality care.

As part of [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#), the government is taking action to protect Ontario by reducing surgical and diagnostic backlogs to make it easier and faster for more people to connect to publicly funded surgeries and procedures, when and where they need it.

Quick Facts

- For over 30 years, community surgical and diagnostic centres have been providing publicly funded diagnostic imaging, surgeries and procedures.
- There are currently over 900 community surgical and diagnostic centres across the province; the majority provide diagnostic imaging services.
- New community surgical and diagnostic centres build on the progress the Ontario government has made since the launch of A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care including:

- Achieving the shortest surgical wait times for key procedures of any province in Canada in 2024 with over 83 per cent of people receiving their procedure within clinically recommended target times
- Funding up to 65,568 MRI and 31,220 CT operating hours in existing community surgical and diagnostic centres over the past year
- Adding 50 new MRI machines in 43 hospitals across the province to increase MRI capacity and services
- Adding four new licensed cataract centres to provide more publicly funded cataract and other eye surgeries. In the past year, the government has funded 40,000 eye surgery procedures at community surgical and diagnostic centres
- Eliminating the backlog of cervical cancer screening tests at the end of August 2023. Testing turnaround times returned to the pre-pandemic standard of 10 to 14 days.
- Existing centres have transitioned to the new quality assurance (QA) program. Routine inspections by Accreditation Canada's new QA program began October 2024.
- No centre can refuse an insured service to a patient who chooses not to purchase uninsured upgrades and no patient can pay to receive insured services faster than anyone else.

Quotes

"Our government's \$155 million investment is protecting Ontario's health-care system by reducing wait times and connecting more people to surgical and diagnostic care, where and when they need it. The approval of Schroeder Ambulatory Centre's license to provide diagnostic imaging and GI endoscopy services will ensure thousands of people in Richmond Hill can connect to the publicly funded care they need with their OHIP card faster."

- Daisy Wai
MPP, Richmond Hill

"Hard-working York Region families and seniors deserve the very best publicly funded health services, including faster and more convenient diagnostic care. Today's announcement shows our government is listening and we are once again taking action. By delivering MRI, CT and GI endoscopy services, the Schroeder Ambulatory Centre will play a vital role in connecting people in Richmond Hill and across York Region to quality care in our community sooner."

- Michael Parsa
MPP, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

"We are delighted to be licensed under this new framework and look forward to opening our doors later this year. Our goal is simple: reduce pain, increase mobility and ease pressure on hospitals by providing high-quality, same-day care in partnership with the public system — all following a strictly not-for-profit mandate that keeps the focus on patients, not profit."

- Raj Kothari
Board Member, Schroeder Ambulatory Centre Foundation

Additional Resources

- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Learn more about community surgical and diagnostic centres](#) including services, locations, patient safety and more
- [Learn about what OHIP covers and how to contact the Ministry of Health if you believe you may have been charged incorrectly](#)
- [Ontario Taking Next Steps in Plan to Further Reduce Wait Times for Surgeries and Diagnostic Procedures](#)
- [Ontario Reducing Wait Times for Surgeries and Procedures](#)

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Ontario Taking Action to Make Conservation Authorities More Effective

Province appoints Burlington Chief Administrative Officer Hassaan Basit as first-ever Chief Conservation Executive

June 27, 2025

[Environment, Conservation and Parks](#)

TORONTO — Ontario is taking action to enhance the effectiveness of the province's conservation authorities, which will create consistency, reduce costs and drive faster outcomes for the communities they serve. These changes will support the government's commitment to protect Ontario's economy by speeding up critical infrastructure and housing development, while safeguarding the environment. To lead these efforts, Hassaan Basit, a well-respected and non-partisan leader with deep experience with local conservation authorities, will serve in a newly created role as the Chief Conservation Executive, effective August 4, 2025.

"Our government recognizes the vital role that Ontario's conservation authorities play in watershed management and protecting communities from natural hazards," said Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. "I am looking forward to leading our government's efforts to bring common sense conservation principles to the role of conservation authorities and this newly created role under Hassaan's leadership will support these efforts across the province."

Since 2019, Ontario has been working to improve the operations of conservation authorities to better ensure they have the required tools to protect the communities they serve, through legislative and regulatory changes that have significantly improved governance, oversight, transparency and accountability of conservation authorities, while streamlining decision-making processes.

"I'm honoured to join the Province of Ontario at this pivotal moment for conservation," said Hassaan Basit, newly appointed Chief Conservation Executive. "Over my 20 years in the conservation sector, I've learned that effective flood protection is not just about safeguarding the environment — it's about enabling prosperous, sustainable communities. Conservation authorities were created to

strike that balance, and they have worked for decades to protect people and property while supporting economic prosperity. As we move forward, modernization is essential to ensure they remain focused, effective, and ready to meet Ontario's growing needs — whether it's mitigating flood risks, enabling housing supply or supporting long-term resilience."

Mr. Basit is currently the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Burlington. Prior to this, Mr. Basit was President and CEO of Conservation Halton, where he led initiatives in flood risk management, environmental restoration, sustainable development, and outdoor recreation. During this time, Mr. Basit also chaired a provincial working group that advised government on the implementation of key changes to improve the ability of conservation authorities to protect Ontario's water, land and natural resources. He holds an Executive MBA in Digital Transformation and a Governance Certification from McMaster University, a Master of Science in Science Communication from Queen's University Belfast, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Political Science from the University of Toronto.

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is served by 36 conservation authorities.
- In Ontario, conservation authorities develop and deliver local, watershed-based resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities, including programs aimed at preventing floods and other natural hazards, drinking water source protection and surface water and groundwater monitoring programs.
- Conservation authorities in Ontario were established in 1946 by the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- Conservation authorities play a role in reviewing development applications near or within hazardous lands.

Additional Resources

[Learn about conservation authorities](#)

[Find your local conservation authority or visit a conservation area](#)

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Ontario Capping Rent Increases at the Rate of Inflation

Province protecting tenants with 2.1 per cent cap, the lowest in four years

June 30, 2025

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is protecting tenants by capping rent increases for 2026 at 2.1 per cent. This cap is based on Ontario's Consumer Price Index, a measure of inflation calculated by Statistics Canada using data that reflects economic conditions over the past year.

"Our government knows tariffs and economic uncertainty are creating challenges for many people in Ontario, including renters, which is why we are capping rent increases for 2026 at 2.1 per cent," said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "This cap is the lowest in four years, which demonstrates our commitment to protecting tenants across our province as we continue searching for ways to keep costs down across the province."

From January 2025 to May 2025, Ontario saw 6,977 rental starts, an increase of 25 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. This is the second-highest level of rental starts on record for this time of the year, after 2023, and showcases the government's plan to get shovels in the ground to build more homes, faster.

Quick Facts

- Ontario's cap on rent increases, the rent increase guideline, is the maximum amount most landlords can increase rent during the year without approval from the Landlord and Tenant Board. Ontario has one of the lowest annual caps for residential rent increases across Canada.
- The rent increase guideline applies to the vast majority – approximately 1.4 million – of rental households covered by the *Residential Tenancies Act*. It does not apply to rental units occupied for the first time after November 15, 2018, vacant residential units, community housing, long-term care homes or commercial properties.
- Rent increases are not automatic or mandatory. Landlords may only raise rent if they give tenants at least 90 days' written notice using the [correct form](#).

- Tenants who need help to pay rent are encouraged to contact their local [service manager](#) to see what housing supports are available in their community.
-

Additional Resources

- Learn more about [renting in Ontario](#) and your rights as a tenant, including easy-to-understand rental leases and protections against wrongful or bad faith evictions.
 - Learn about [the rules for rent increases](#), including rent increase guidelines and resolving issues about rent control.
 - [Navigate Tribunals Ontario](#) to learn about your rights and responsibilities and the rules and processes at the Landlord and Tenant Board.
 - [Visit Ontario's website for information on how to solve a disagreement with your landlord or tenant](#), and learn how we can help if a landlord or tenant breaks a rule under the *Residential Tenancies Act*.
-

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Ontario's Energy Plan Unlocking Opportunities in the Digital Economy

New measures will prioritize electricity for data centres that create good-paying jobs and strengthen Ontario's economy

July 02, 2025

[Energy and Mines](#)

KITCHENER – The Ontario government is taking action to prioritize electricity for data centres that support the province's economic interests, including those that create high-quality jobs, assist in domestic data hosting and strengthen Ontario's position in the digital economy. As part of the government's plan to protect Ontario, the province is embracing the growth of the data centre sector as a strategic opportunity to drive investment, innovation and job creation. This approach is grounded in Ontario's new integrated energy plan, the province's strategy to secure the clean, reliable and affordable power needed to support economic growth in high-demand sectors like digital technology.

This Canada-first plan will prioritize and accelerate approvals for data centres that deliver measurable benefits to both local communities and to the province's long-term competitiveness. This will include good-paying jobs for Ontarians, securing local data storage and creating a stronger, more competitive economy. This new plan will:

- Ensure that data centres that support the province's economic interests, including those that create high-quality-jobs, strengthen our digital economy and support domestic data housing are quickly approved for connection to the grid.
- Ensure Canadian data stays in Canada and is protected from misuse and weaker foreign privacy regimes.
- Explicitly require approval before certain data centres can connect to Ontario's electricity grid, ending automatic approval for large energy-intensive loads so that the province can prioritize data centres that support its plan to protect Ontario.

The current load data centres requesting to be connected to Ontario's grid represents approximately 30 per cent of Ontario's peak demand in 2024, or the output of a nuclear plant the size of Bruce Power Nuclear Generating Station. With over 6,500 megawatts of data centres requesting to be connected to the grid, demand for electricity from the data centre industry, which includes artificial intelligence and cloud computing, is growing and expected to represent 13 per cent of new electricity demand in Ontario by 2035.

"Technology is the future. To ensure we are always on the leading edge as we attract good-paying jobs, we need to further protect Canadian sovereignty and data," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "These measures will ensure we're not just plugging in servers – we're powering Canadian opportunity, protecting Canadian data and jobs and making sure energy is used where it delivers real value to our country."

As global demand for AI, cloud computing and data processing increases, the government introduced new legislative measures in the [Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act, 2025](#), that will, if passed, require data centres to obtain approval before connecting to the electricity grid. Currently, electricity utilities are required to connect all data centres indiscriminately, regardless of economic impact or energy consumption needs. These changes will welcome new investment and job creation by allowing Ontario to manage electricity connection requests and prioritizing data centres that deliver real local, strategic and economic benefits that enhances Ontario's competitiveness, energy security and long-term prosperity.

"Ontario's data centres are a vital part of our province's technology landscape, as they provide the foundation of our growing digital economy and the security of our data," said Sam Oosterhoff, Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries. "As we experience increasing energy demands — not only from our energy-intensive industries, but also from the pressures of attracting new investment to the province — we have to ensure we are taking action to prioritize projects that create good jobs and get these projects connected to the energy they need. This policy will protect and promote data centres, while also protecting our ability to attract large manufacturing facilities to our province."

This initiative is part of [Energy for Generations](#), the government's 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 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.

Quick Facts

- According to the [National Cyber Security Index](#), Canada scores 96.67 out of 100, ranking second in the world. The ranking is based on the nation's preparedness in preventing and managing cybersecurity threats. The exceptional ranking signals to data centre providers that Canada is a safe and dependable location for new data center developments.
 - The worldwide data centre construction market is projected to reach \$49 billion by 2030. Canada is among the top ten largest data centre markets, with \$8 billion in revenue, and it has the potential to move up to the top five. Spending on servers is the fastest-growing segment of the data centre sector in Canada, and it is forecasted to grow by 66 percent by 2029, reaching approximately \$4 billion in value.
 - The 2021 report '[Foreign Interference Threats to Canada's Democratic Process](#)' specifically noted that Canada's abundance of natural resources makes it a target for foreign interference.
 - Ontario's electricity grid is one of the cleanest in the world with a diverse supply mix made up of nuclear, hydroelectric, natural gas, wind, solar and bioenergy.
 - By 2035, electricity demand from electrifying Ontario's industrial sector is expected to increase by 58 per cent – the equivalent of adding 2.7 million homes to the grid.
 - [Energy for Generations](#) builds on the 2024 vision paper [Ontario's Affordable Energy Future: The Pressing Case for More Power](#) that received 136 submissions to the public consultation from Indigenous communities, municipalities, utilities, stakeholders and the public.
 - The [Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act, 2025](#), if passed, will support major growth in the province's energy system to meet rising demand, while keeping energy affordable, secure, reliable and clean for generations to come.
-

Quotes

"The Ontario government is taking strategic action to prepare for the future of our digital economy by ensuring that the growth of data centres aligns with our province's priorities. By leveraging Canadian data, intellectual property, and homegrown AI capabilities, we're protecting our interests and setting the stage for innovation that benefits Ontarians."

- Mike Harris

Member of Provincial Parliament, Kitchener-Conestoga

"I know how vital it is that our growing communities have access to reliable, affordable energy that helps our economy flourish and drives long-term economic growth in Cambridge and Waterloo Region. This legislation ensures that data centres connecting to our grid bring real value to Ontario—protecting our clean energy supply, our privacy, and our future."

- Brian Riddell

Member of Provincial Parliament, Cambridge

"Securing Ontario's electricity grid is not just about keeping the lights on; it's about powering the next era of technological advancement. With the tech power houses we have in Waterloo, this is a welcome move that will protect the energy infrastructure that fuels our digital economy. This will help ensure our region and Ontario remain a leader in innovation."

- Dorothy McCabe

Mayor, City of Waterloo

"As Ontario rapidly scales its leadership in artificial intelligence, advanced computing, and digital infrastructure, securing our energy system is essential. This legislation helps ensure that our clean electricity powers the right kind of growth; high-value innovation, homegrown job creation, and technologies that reflect our priorities and protect our data. At the Ontario Centre of Innovation, we support the companies building Ontario's digital future, and this approach provides the confidence and clarity they need to thrive right here at home."

- Claudia Krywiak

President and CEO, Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI)

"The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce is pleased to see the advancements made by the government to protect our province in the face of a rising digital economy. This is an important investment which will ensure that Canadian data does not fall in the hands of foreign adversaries, while also supporting Ontario's economic interests and creating high-quality-jobs."

- Ian McLean

President and CEO, Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce

"The Ontario Energy Association (OEA) supports the Government of Ontario's efforts to grow the digital economy and create high-quality jobs for Ontarians. The Government's Energy for Generations integrated energy plan provides an excellent framework to meet Ontario's growing energy needs, and the OEA looks forward to bringing forward solutions to support that growth to underpin job creation and economic opportunity."

- Vince Brescia

President & CEO, Ontario Energy Association

"Ontario's focus on protecting data sovereignty is a smart and necessary move. As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to evolve, it's more important than ever to ask who controls our data and how we keep it safe. By focusing on infrastructure that supports AI adoption and protects our data, we're laying the groundwork for our innovation community to continue to grow and lead."

**- Sheldon McCormick
CEO, Communitech**

"The Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) welcomes the province's leadership in aligning energy policy with economic development priorities. Supporting data centres that create high-value jobs, promote domestic data sovereignty, and contribute to Ontario's growing digital economy reflects a thoughtful, strategic approach. These measures will help ensure that Ontario's energy infrastructure continues to support community resilience, innovation, and long-term economic competitiveness."

**- Stephanie Crilly
Executive Director, Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO)**

"Ontario's new measures reflect a forward-thinking approach to balancing energy security with digital innovation. At the University of Waterloo, we understand that a strong, sovereign digital infrastructure is essential for protecting Canadian data, supporting research, and enabling the responsible growth of AI and emerging technologies. This policy ensures that our province remains a trusted and competitive home for tech talent, research, and investment."

**- Vivek Goel
President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Waterloo**

"As we grow, we need to prioritize strategic action and investments that will serve our communities for years to come. Protecting Ontario's energy grid for future need is critical in ensuring we can sustainably welcome new economic development opportunities, support our growing technical needs, and ensure we all have the energy required to power our day to day lives."

- Karen Redman
Regional Chair, Waterloo Region

"Prioritizing data centers that support our economic interest when they connect to the electrical grid is a critical step in strengthening Ontario's digital economy and supporting domestic data housing. This aligns perfectly with MIX's mission to establish Ontario as a global leader in health innovation, ensuring our companies have the infrastructure, resources and security they need to succeed and provide Ontarians with access to the world's most advanced health solutions."

- Elliot Fung
Executive Director, Medical Innovation Xchange

"Conservative estimates are that by 2035 North America will need 3-5x the amount of electricity it consumes today to keep up with demand for AI data centers. Anything that the province can do to promote an increase in electricity production and development of domestic data centres is positive."

- Amber French
CEO, Catalyst Ventures

Additional Resources

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

[Integrated Energy Resource Plan Consultation](#)

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Ontario Supporting Long-Term Care Residents with Complex Needs

\$35 million Local Priorities Fund invests in specialized equipment and innovative programs

July 03, 2025

[Long-Term Care](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$35 million to help long-term care homes across the province support residents with complex needs. The Local Priorities Fund (LPF) is designed to support programs that connect people with the right care for them, reducing emergency department visits and hospital stays. This investment is part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by ensuring long-term care residents get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve.

“Our government is protecting our long-term care system by investing in the tools and training to ensure residents can get the right care in the right place,” said Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. “This funding will expand the specialized equipment and innovative services available at long-term care homes across our province, so those with complex needs get the support they deserve.”

Originally launched in 2022, the LPF provides specialized equipment, services and staff training to enable long-term care homes to admit new residents with specialized needs and support current residents with complex needs. Since its launch, the fund has supported approximately 2,500 projects across Ontario.

In 2024-25, the LPF supported more than 900 projects including:

- 139 projects in northern Ontario, with a \$9.5 million investment, to support residents with specialized needs including complex dementia, mobility issues and cardiovascular conditions, and improve their care.
- In the Greater Toronto Area, Women's College Hospital and the Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety are receiving \$1 million to coordinate with Toronto hospitals and long-term care homes on the prevention of avoidable emergency department visits.

- In eastern Ontario, the government is investing \$500,000 to purchase bariatric equipment across 30 long-term care homes. The equipment will reduce barriers to admission for residents with weight management needs and help the staff provide high-quality care.

Helping long-term care residents with complex needs is one more way the province is taking action to meet the needs of Ontario's aging population and their caregivers by improving and expanding supports for seniors living in long-term care, congregate settings and in the community. The government's plan to improve long-term care for residents is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe, and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

Quick Facts

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

Additional Resources

- [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)
 - [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
-

Related Topics

Government

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

[Learn more](#)

Health and Wellness

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

Home and Community

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

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Ontario Building More Accessible Communities

Applications now open for \$2.2 million in community accessibility grants

July 04, 2025

[Seniors and Accessibility](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$2.2 million to help protect and strengthen access to inclusive spaces for all Ontarians. The Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant awards up to \$60,000 for projects that improve accessibility and support active lifestyles for people with disabilities and older adults.

"With the launch of the EASE Grant, we are taking action to ensure more seniors and people with disabilities can participate fully in their communities," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government will continue to protect Ontario by investing in infrastructure projects that create jobs and allow people to live healthy and active lifestyles."

EASE Grants will provide municipalities, non-profit organizations and Indigenous governing bodies funding for capital projects and retrofits that help older adults and people with disabilities participate in community life. Examples of potential projects include installing charging stations for mobility devices, installing mobility mats at beaches and building accessible washrooms at parks.

To protect seniors, the Ontario government is investing in a [historic number of community programs](#) and active living centres that support healthy and socially connected living. This includes an additional \$1 million designated for programs dedicated to improving the quality of life for senior veterans and 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.

Applications for EASE Grants are now open at Ontario.ca/GetFunding. Eligible organizations have until August 14, 2025, to submit their applications.

Quick Facts

- To support interested applicants for the EASE Grant, the ministry will be hosting four webinars during the application window to provide program information and guidance on completing and submitting the application form. To register for a webinar, please click one of the links below:
 - [July 17, 2025 English webinar](#)
 - [July 17, 2025 French webinar](#)
 - [August 6, 2025 English webinar](#)
 - [August 6, 2025 French webinar](#)
- Eligible organizations must apply for an Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone Grant through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#).
- The new program replaces the EnAbling Change Program and the Inclusive Community Grants Program to maximize impact for older adults and people living with a disability.

Additional Resources

- [Creating a more inclusive Ontario: age-friendly community planning guide for municipalities and community organizations](#)
- [Accessibility in Ontario](#)
- [Programs and services to support Ontario's seniors](#)

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Ontario and Alberta Working Together to Build New Energy and Trade Infrastructure

Provinces sign agreements to get Ontario's critical minerals and Western Canada's oil and gas to new markets

July 07, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

CALGARY — Today, Ontario Premier Doug Ford and Alberta Premier Danielle Smith signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to support Canadian workers by [building new pipelines, rail lines and other energy and trade infrastructure](#) that will diversify Canada's trading partners by unlocking new markets for Ontario's critical minerals and Western Canada's oil and gas. Built using Ontario steel, new pipelines will connect western Canadian oil and gas to new and existing refineries in southern Ontario and will expand export opportunities, including by way of a new James Bay deep-sea port in northern Ontario. New rail lines, also built using Ontario steel, will connect Ontario's Ring of Fire region, critical mineral mining projects and processing facilities to western Canadian ports as Ontario builds an end-to-end critical minerals supply chain.

"In the face of President Trump's tariffs and ongoing economic uncertainty, Canadians need to work together to build the infrastructure that will diversify our trading partners and end our dependence on the United States," said Premier Ford. "By building pipelines, rail lines and the energy and trade infrastructure that connects our country, we will build a more competitive, more resilient and more self-reliant economy and country. Together, we are building the infrastructure we need to protect Canada, our workers, businesses and communities. Let's build Canada."

"Alberta and Ontario are joining forces to get shovels in the ground and resources to market," said Premier Smith. "These MOUs are about building pipelines and boosting trade that connect Canadian energy and products to the world, while advocating for the right conditions to get it done. Government must get out of the way, partner with industry and support the projects this country needs to grow. I

look forward to working with Premier Doug Ford to unleash the full potential of our economy and build the future people across Alberta and across the country have been waiting far too long for.”

To move these projects forward, Ontario and Alberta will soon launch a joint feasibility study to help determine the optimal route and endpoints for new economic and energy corridors, what financing or commercial tools may be necessary and how to best leverage home-grown supply chains to build these projects, including Ontario steel. As these projects advance, Ontario and Alberta will continue to fulfill their duty to consult with Indigenous communities.

As part of the MOUs, [Ontario and Alberta agreed](#) to advocate for a federal regulatory environment that encourages private-sector investments in new energy and trade infrastructure projects, as well as to cooperate to advance the development of nuclear energy, including sharing of technologies and expertise in small-modular and large-scale reactors to support new nuclear facilities in Alberta and Ontario to meet growing needs of the electricity grid and industrial energy needs for power and steam. Ontario and Alberta also agreed to support the prioritization of made-in-Canada vehicles for the Alberta government’s fleet of vehicles and to support the increased presence of Alberta beer, wine, liquor and other alcoholic beverages on Ontario store shelves. These measures build on the MOU that was signed between Ontario and Alberta on June 1, 2025 in Saskatoon, with the aim of tearing down trade barriers between the two provinces.

Since April 2025, Ontario has signed agreements supporting the removal of interprovincial trade barriers with six provinces. Ontario also passed the *Protect Ontario Through Free Trade Within Canada Act*, which received royal assent on June 5, 2025, and was the first jurisdiction in Canada to eliminate all of its party-specific exceptions under the [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#). With this new legislation and growing number of signed MOUs, Ontario is leading the country in expanding the trade of goods and services across Canadian jurisdictions, cutting the unnecessary red tape holding back Canadian businesses and opening new pathways for the movement of qualified, in-demand workers throughout the country.

Two-way trade in goods and services between Ontario and other provinces and territories was valued at more than \$326 billion in 2023. The Ontario government will continue to work with its federal, provincial and territorial partners through the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and other trade-enhancing initiatives to advance interprovincial trade across Canada.

Quick Facts

- The total value of annual interprovincial trade between Ontario and Alberta for 2021 (the most recent year for which figures are available) was \$62.4 billion.
- In 2023, Ontario exported \$183.9 billion of goods and services to other provinces and territories and imported \$142.7 billion, resulting in two-way trade of \$326.6 billion and a trade surplus of \$41.2 billion.
- Ontario recently launched its \$50 million [Ontario Together Trade Fund](#) to assist local businesses in taking advantage of new interprovincial trade opportunities.
- Thirty-five per cent of Canada's overall trade takes place within its own borders.
- Ontario is committed to fulfilling its duty to consult with Indigenous partners and communities, while supporting their involvement in nation-building projects with [historic funding](#) to help First Nations become equity partners.

Quotes

"In signing these two new agreements with Alberta, our government is advancing Ontario's commitment to building a more integrated and prosperous Canadian economy, while leveraging the strength of our critical mineral and steel manufacturing supply chains. By tearing down interprovincial trade barriers and investing in strategic infrastructure, we are strengthening vital industries, attracting new investment and ensuring a resilient, prosperous future for businesses and workers here at home and across the nation."

- Vic Fedeli

Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

"There has never been a more pressing time to build one strong Canadian economy. Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan is laying the groundwork for an east-west energy corridor, anchored by nation-building infrastructure and pipelines that finally gets our resources to tidewater. The time is now to send President Trump a message: Canadians are ready to move with speed to protect our economy and sovereignty."

- Stephen Lecce

Minister of Energy and Mines

"These agreements reflect the spirit of true Canadian collaboration. By working side by side with Alberta, we're advancing shared priorities — strengthening domestic supply chains, leveraging Canadian expertise and resources and delivering better value for taxpayers through smart, nation-building procurement. Together, we are building a more resilient, more self-sufficient Canada that supports workers, businesses and communities from coast to coast."

- Stephen Crawford

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement

Additional Resources

- [Cooperation agreement on pipelines, critical minerals and responsible energy development: Ontario and Alberta](#)
- [Cooperation agreement on procurement and retail: Ontario and Alberta](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Alberta](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Nova Scotia](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and New Brunswick](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Manitoba](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Saskatchewan](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Ontario and Prince Edward Island](#)

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Council and Committee Monthly Summary

June 2025

Below you will find highlights of the County of Renfrew County Council and Committee meetings held June 12 and June 25, 2025.

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

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

The [June 12, 2025](#) and [June 25, 2025](#) meetings are on YouTube.

Warden's Address

Key highlights

- On June 12, Warden Peter Emon welcomed Councillor Rob Tripp as an alternate member of Council representing Greater Madawaska; he congratulated Councillor Glenn Doncaster on his appointment to the FCM Board of directors; he congratulated Councillor Lori Hoddinott on receiving the Academic Excellence Award in Municipal Law at the recent AMCTO conference and he congratulated the Township of Greater Madawaska on the tremendous success of their inaugural Guitars and Gasoline Music Festival.
- The Warden acknowledged June as Pride Month, a time to celebrate the diversity, resilience, and contributions of 2SLGBTQI+ communities across our region and beyond; as National Indigenous History Month, which offers an opportunity to honour the rich history, heritage, and ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples across Canada; as Seniors Month, a time to honour the amazing seniors and to recognize the hard work that they have done all their lives to make the County of Renfrew into the great place it is today.
- The 18th Annual Renfrew County Warden's Golf Tournament was held on June 20th at Dragonfly Golf Links. He shared that the event raised over \$8,500 in support of two local charities: the Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County Darlene Aikens Memorial Fund, and the County of Renfrew's Homelessness and Housing Fund. He thanked the generous sponsors and supporters, County of Renfrew staff, and staff at Dragonfly Golf Links for making this fundraiser a success. Congratulations to Team Sweetness on winning the tournament.
- The Warden also attended John Yakabuski's retirement dinner, where he had the opportunity to thank him for his 22 years of dedicated service representing the people of Renfrew–Nipissing–Pembroke and wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement.
- This summer he encouraged everyone to THINK about their activities and buying power and to support our local businesses, noting every dollar spent in Renfrew County helps sustain local jobs, strengthens our economy, and preserves the unique identity and vibrancy of our communities.

Delegations

- Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services/Chief, Paramedic Service, presented the Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery to retired Paramedic Brad Smith for his heroic actions on February 12, 2012. On that day, a snowmobiler had fallen through the ice on Calabogie Lake. Brad was among the first to respond. With no time to spare and no thought for his own safety, he located a nearby canoe, entered the icy waters, and paddled out using only his hands. Upon reaching the stranded individual — who was being supported by another courageous citizen — Brad worked to bring them to safety. During the rescue, Brad himself ended up in the freezing water. Despite this, he remained focused, resilient, and determined.
- Shanna Armstrong, member, and Jennifer Doelman, vice-chair, made a presentation on behalf of the [Renfrew County Agriculture Economic Development Committee](#). This Committee provides guidance and feedback on the state of the agriculture sector within Renfrew County and recommends and assists with possible initiatives in support of agricultural economic and business development. They highlighted economic contributions of the local agricultural community and noted challenges and opportunities for the industry.
- Darren Waters and Ryan Vandenberg, from the Ministry of Transportation, provided an update on several [MTO projects](#) in Renfrew County, including the twinning of Highway 17, Highway 148 in the Township of Laurentian Valley and City of Pembroke, and the preliminary design of Highway 60 and County Roads 30 and 60 in North Algona Wilberforce Township.
- MPP Billy Denault made his first official visit to County Council. Looking forward to his role as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, a position that is applicable to the riding in terms of local economic development, working to build relationships with local councils necessary to assist where issues arise. He spoke about the Provincial Government's focus on health care with the Primary Care Action Plan headed by Dr. Jane Philpott. He acknowledged it has been a learning curve since taking office, but he called it a privilege and honour to advocate for the riding of Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke at Queen's Park.
- At the June 12 Community Services Committee, County of Renfrew Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley and Sabine Mersmann, CEO of Pembroke Regional Hospital, provided an update on the activities to date towards the establishment of the Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub in Pembroke. The HART Hub will provide low-barrier access to services, ensuring that clients can receive support regardless of their current stage of readiness for change; eliminate common barriers to care, such as rigid requirements or limited access points; offer immediate access to intensive wellness supports, such as stabilization services and onsite care for individuals with complex needs and lead comprehensive care planning by conducting physical and mental health assessments and delivering treatments based on those assessments.

Announcements

- County Councillor Jennifer Murphy stated her intention to run for Renfrew County Warden for 2026. She thanked Warden Peter Emon for his support in the past six months in helping her to prepare for the role, which she previously held from 2017-2019.

Development & Property Committee

Presented by: James Brose, Chair

- County Council adopted a by-law to enter into a lease agreement with the Ontario Addiction Treatment Centre (OATC), located at 156 John Street, Pembroke, Ontario, for a three-year term commencing May 1, 2025, for the purpose of a warming/cooling centre as part of the Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub.
 - County Council approved the implementation of a regional incentive program, referred to as the Helping Your Place Excel (HYPE) program.
 - County Council adopted a by-law to approve Official Plan Amendment No. 47, which allows the County to provide grants/loans to local municipalities that support their Community Improvement Plans (CIPs).
 - County Council has approved moving forward with the new Pembroke Paramedic Base at 330 Boundary Road. A consulting firm, Greenview Environmental Management, of Bancroft, Ontario, has been hired to help design and plan the project. The total cost for their services is \$227,970 plus taxes. The County will apply to Infrastructure Ontario to help fund the renovations.
 - County Council has approved the construction of a new paramedic base in the Township of Whitewater Region. The project will be led by R.K. Porter General Contracting Inc. (Perth), working with J.L. Richards and Associates (Ottawa) and Egis Group (Kanata). The total cost is \$3.25 million (plus rebatable taxes). Funding will come through a financing arrangement with Infrastructure Ontario.
 - A total of 13 applications were received to fill the 7 available spots in the [2025 Summer Company program](#). The successful participants are Jazmin Clark (Whitewater Region) – Pottery; Page Hodgson (Arnprior) - Crochet products and clothing; Noah Obrien (Madawaska Valley) - Apparel brand; Hunter Prince (Horton) - 3D Printing; Minnah Rehn (Arnprior) - Henna services and products; Nella Rosandic (Killaloe-Hagarty-Richards) - Handmade stickers and buttons and Emmanuel Young (Arnprior) - Lawn care business.
- The Summer Company program supports students aged 15-29 who start and run their own summer business. Students are provided with business planning and operational guidance, in addition to a \$1,500 non-repayable grant at the start of the program. Upon program completion, students are awarded an additional \$1,500 non-repayable grant.

Operations Committee

Presented by: Glenn Doncaster, Chair

- County Council adopted a revised by-law to Regulate the Operation of Off-Road Vehicles on County of Renfrew Roads. The amendment permits Off-Road Vehicles on the following sections of County Roads in the Town of Petawawa: County Road 16 (Victoria Street), between Laurentian Drive and Petawawa Boulevard; County Road 25 (Laurentian Drive), between Victoria Street and Petawawa Boulevard; County Road 26 (Doran Road), between Petawawa Boulevard and Highway 17; County Road 37 (Murphy Road), between Petawawa Boulevard and Highway 17; County Road 51 (Petawawa Boulevard), between B-Line Road and civic address 2991 Petawawa Boulevard. Crossings of County Road 51 (Petawawa Boulevard) at the Fred Street/Norman Street and Victoria Street/Portage Road intersection is also permitted.

- The approved contracts/tenders were as follows:
 - For the purchase of a Boom Mower from Colvoy Enterprises 2012 Ltd., Courtland, Ontario, in the amount of \$49,998, plus applicable taxes.
 - For rehabilitation of County Road 26 (Doran Road) from Black Bay Road to County Road 51 (Petawawa Boulevard), Town of Petawawa, as submitted by Greenwood Paving (Pembroke) Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,165,971.50, plus applicable taxes.
 - For supply and delivery of bulk coarse highway salt for a two-year period as submitted by Windsor Salt Ltd., Mississauga, Ontario, in the amount of \$3,918,915, plus applicable taxes.
 - For rehabilitation of both County Road 52 (Burnstown Road) from B123 (Burnstown Bridge) to Picket Hill Road and County Road 508 (Calabogie Road) from Stacey Drive to Civic Address 1803, Township of McNab/Braeside, as submitted by Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited, Ottawa, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,044,335.53, plus applicable taxes.
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 4 (Storyland Road), from Eady Road to Alex Lane, a distance of approximately 2.69km, Township of Horton awarded to Greenwood Paving (Pembroke) Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,390,750.40.
 - For supply and delivery of granular material on County Road 69 (Siberia Road), from River Road to Sunny Hill Road, a distance of approximately 4.46km, Township of Madawaska Valley awarded to Bonnechere Excavating Inc., Renfrew, Ontario in the amount of \$357,212.
 - For paving, shouldering and guide rail installation on County Road 69 (Siberia Road), from River Road to Sunny Hill Road, a distance of approximately 4.46km, Township of Madawaska Valley, awarded to Bonnechere Excavating Inc., Renfrew, Ontario in the amount of \$947,266.25.
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 70 (Ruby Road), from Gorman Road to Wolfe Road, a distance of approximately 3.25km, Township of Bonnechere Valley, awarded to Bonnechere Excavating Inc., Renfrew, Ontario, in the amount of \$756,960.12.
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 512 (Foymount Road), from Silver Lake Road to Highway 41, Township of Bonnechere Valley, as submitted by Greenwood Paving (Pembroke) Limited, Pembroke, Ontario, in the amount of \$3,022,967.80, plus applicable taxes.

Community Services Committee

Presented by: Anne Giardini, Chair

- County Council authorized County of Renfrew staff to undertake all necessary actions to implement the Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub project as outlined, including but not limited to executing the Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Health, Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario Health, and any other designated ministry or agency with responsibility for funding of the HART hub(s), fulfilling reporting obligations, hiring or assigning staff as appropriate, entering into agreements with partner agencies, procuring goods and services within approved budgets, and performing any other activities necessary to bring the project to fruition.

- As part of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Annual General Meeting, Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Community Housing, and Kevin Raddatz, Manager of Real Estate, highlighted aspects of the [2024 Renfrew County Housing Corporation Annual Report](#). Mr. Raddatz overviewed the RCHC portfolio, which includes 1,029 Residential Units across apartments, townhouses, and single/semi-detached homes. He highlighted some capital projects completed, noted some emergency repairs required for some units and in looking ahead noted the 2025 priority of long-term stability for the RCHC. Ms. Dombroskie highlighted the Collaborative Model of Care when it comes to Community Housing in Renfrew County – from Community Housing Caseworkers, to maintenance staff and the Community Paramedic/RCHC collaboration towards improved health and wellness for tenants.
- A new Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement was executed with Paradise Children’s Programs Inc., myFM Centre Recreation Complex, Renfrew, Ontario. In accordance with the County of Renfrew’s Directed Growth Strategy, the three non-CWELCC centres (Paradise Children’s Programs Inc., myFM Centre Recreation Complex), Kinder Connection Nursery School, and Deep Roots Nature & Nursery School) were given the first opportunity to opt in, followed by an application-based process to determine the allocation of remaining spaces.

Health Committee

Presented by: Michael Donohue, Chair

- County Council directed staff to establish a volunteer-based Disaster and Emergency Local Team Activation (DELTA) Program within the County of Renfrew, including the development of operational supports necessary for implementation. This strategy aims to build a robust infrastructure of trained, skilled, and community-based volunteers who can respond effectively alongside professional emergency services during times of crisis.
- County Council authorized County of Renfrew to undertake all necessary actions to implement the Renfrew County Substance Use, Mental Health and Housing Mesa Systems Integrated Navigational Tool, including but not limited to executing the Transfer Payment Agreement with Health Canada, fulfilling reporting obligations, entering into agreements with partner agencies, procuring goods and services within approved budgets, and performing any other activities necessary to bring the project to fruition.
- County Council adopted a by-law authorizing the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer to sign the Lease Agreement between the County of Renfrew and Carefor Health and Community Services, 425 Cecelia Street, Pembroke, Ontario, for tenant office space for the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) for a one-year term commencing April 1, 2025.

Corporate Services Committee

Presented by: Jennifer Murphy, Chair

- County Council approved the Audited Financial Statements for the County of Renfrew for the year ended December 31, 2024. At the beginning of the meeting, Lori Huber, Partner KPMG, provided a high-level overview of the [clean audit report](#).

- County Council approves the following Corporate Policies: Retirement and Early Retirement (amended); Contract Employees (new); Hours of Work and Overtime (amended); Employee Recognition Program (amended). Copies of the policies are available from Human Resources.

Additional Information

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**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

RELEASE DATE:

June 26, 2025

County of Renfrew Paramedics respond to surge in emergencies during extreme weather events

The County of Renfrew Paramedic Service faced significant operational demands during the extreme heat wave that impacted the region from Sunday, June 22 to Tuesday, June 24.

Compared to call volumes from June 2024, this year's heat wave led to a marked increase in emergency responses, with Paramedics treating seven patients for heat-related illnesses – six serious and one critical. This surge highlights the growing strain on vulnerable populations and the frontline crews providing care.

An Imperfect Storm: In anticipation of the risks posed by the extreme heat and severe storm activity on the evening of June 21 into June 22, the Community Paramedic Program mobilized quickly. Their proactive outreach included 30 phone check-ins for clients experiencing power outages, 30 for heat-related concerns, and 77 in-person wellness visits to vulnerable Mesa and Community Paramedic clients. Paramedics also visited local cooling centres 17 times to support access to hydration and relief from the heat.

The County's Sierra Team also responded to six remote and complex incidents during this period. These included serious injuries at the Eagles Nest lookout in Greater Madawaska, a double medical response on the shoreline of Gun Lake in Madawaska Valley and overnight extractions, the first of a youth with multisystem trauma at North Depot Lake and the second an adult male impaled by a falling tree at Opeongo Lake in Algonquin Park.

The team also led a large-scale multi-person response following tornadic storm activity at Opeongo Lake, where multiple individuals were assessed and assisted.

Additional responses included supporting a multi-agency, mass casualty incident operation at Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park and a skydiving accident near Lanark County at Road 29/Upper Dwyer Hill Road adjacent to the Arnprior Airport.

Working closely with partner agencies such as the Ontario Provincial Police, Ontario Parks, ORNGE, and the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre out of Trenton, the Sierra Team deployed specialized tools including rescue boats, UTVs, rope kits, hypothermia gear, and thermal imaging drones.

Ongoing and increasing community needs demonstrate the vital role that specialized Paramedic programs play and their impact in ensuring specialized medical care across Renfrew County's diverse area and adventure activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tina Peplinskie

Media Relations Coordinator

613-735-7288

Introducing the 2025 Summer Company Participants

Posted on Monday, June 30, 2025



RELEASE DATE:

June 30, 2025

Seven young entrepreneurs will run their own businesses this summer

Pembroke, ON: Celebrating youth entrepreneurship, Enterprise Renfrew County proudly presents this year's Summer Company Program participants; seven ambitious students turning their business dreams into reality across Renfrew County.

Introducing Paiges Projex by Paige Hodgson (Arnprior) offering handmade crochet clothing; Nellart Commissions by Nella Rosandic (Killaloe) offering custom-designed stickers and buttons; Moose 3D Printing by Hunter Prince (Horton) offering custom 3D printing projects; Sprout Wings by Jazmin Clark (Pembroke) offering Pottery and ceramic art; Wisdom By Words by Noah O'Brien (Barry's Bay) offering Inspirational clothing apparel; Manny's Mowing by Emmanuel Young (Arnprior) offering lawn care services; NoorHenna by Minnah Rehan (Arnprior) offering Henna tattooing and accessories.

Meet these inspiring young entrepreneurs on July 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the beautiful Waba Cottage Museum & Gardens in White Lake (Township of McNab/Braeside) for a special mid-season feature taking place at HerbFest.

The Summer Company Program empowers students aged 15 to 29 to launch their own businesses, fosters entrepreneurial skills and provides crucial startup funding. Participants receive up to \$1,500 initially after completing training, with the potential for an additional \$1,500 based on their summer business performance.

For more information about the Summer Company Program and upcoming application deadlines, visit www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/summer-company.

Enterprise Renfrew County is a non-profit government organization funded by the Government of Ontario, County of Renfrew, Town of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke. Its mandate is to encourage and contribute to the enterprising spirit and economic development of Renfrew County by assisting entrepreneurs with the development of new or existing companies. The Summer Company Program is delivered by Enterprise Renfrew County on behalf of the Government of Ontario.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Hillary Panke	Program Coordinator	613-312-9355
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Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288
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By [GHD Digital](https://www.govstack.com) (<https://www.govstack.com>).



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

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, July 02, 2025)

Public Health Units Unite to Promote Summer Safety Across the Eastern Region

As summer temperatures rise, Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU), Ottawa Public Health (OPH), and Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) are uniting to promote seasonal summer safety messaging. This regional collaboration aims to provide residents across the region with clear, consistent guidance on staying safe and healthy during the summer months.

Stay safe during extreme heat

Summer heat can be enjoyable, but it is important to stay safe when it turns extreme. Watch for the effects of heat illness including swelling, rash, cramps, fainting, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and the worsening of some health conditions. Extreme heat affects everyone, but the risks are higher for young children, pregnant individuals, older adults, people with chronic illnesses, those who work or exercise outdoors, individuals without air conditioning, and people experiencing homelessness. Heat-related illnesses and deaths are preventable.

During [extreme heat events](#), stay up to date with local weather forecasts and alerts - tune in to local news, radio, and download the [WeatherCAN app](#). Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated and eat fruits and vegetables with higher water content. Limit alcohol and caffeine. Avoid strenuous outdoor activity, especially during peak heat hours. Dress in light, loose-fitting clothing, wear a hat and sunscreen, and carry water and an umbrella if you need to be outside. Cool off in air-conditioned places like malls, libraries, or community centers, or find shade in parks and green spaces. Use fans, take cool showers, or soak your hands and feet in cool water. If you're breastfeeding, follow your child's cues and stay well-hydrated. Check in on people at higher risk, like older adults, people with chronic medical conditions, and anyone living alone.

During extreme heat and a power outage, stay cool by keeping blinds closed, using battery-powered fans, avoiding heat-generating appliances, staying in the coolest area of your home or visiting a local mall, library, or community centre with air conditioning.

Protect yourself during poor air quality events

Poor air quality poses serious health risks, even at relatively low levels. Exposure to pollutants can cause a variety of health problems, ranging from mild symptoms such as dry or irritated eyes, nose, throat, or skin, and coughing or difficulty breathing, to more serious health

complications. Individuals most at risk during poor air quality events include older adults, pregnant individuals, young children, people with heart or lung conditions, and those who work or exercise outdoors.

Download the [WeatherCAN app](#) to receive real-time alerts about air quality, extreme heat, and other weather-related risks. Check the [Air Quality Health Index \(AQHI\)](#) for your region and follow public health recommendations. For up-to-date health guidance during wildfire smoke events, visit the [Special Air Quality Statement website](#).

When air quality is poor, stay indoors and keep windows closed, if possible use your HVAC system to help filter indoor air, limit outdoor activities and plan your day accordingly.

Sun safety

While enjoying the sun, it's important to protect yourself from harmful UV rays. The [UV Index](#) is a helpful tool - when it's 3 or higher, sun protection is strongly recommended for all skin types. Overexposure to UV radiation can lead to sunburn, premature skin aging, eye damage, and an increased risk of skin cancer which is the most common and most preventable type of cancer. Individuals most at risk include babies and young children, whose skin is especially sensitive, as well as people who spend extended time outdoors for work or recreation.

To stay informed, check the daily [UV Index](#) in your local weather forecast or through apps like [WeatherCAN](#). One of the most effective ways to protect your skin is by using [sunscreen](#). Choose a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Apply it generously at least 20 minutes before going outside, and reapply every two hours, or more often if you're swimming or sweating. However, sunscreen alone isn't enough - it's best used in combination with other protective measures.

Wearing protective clothing is another way to protect oneself. Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and a wide-brimmed hat to shield your skin. Sunglasses that block 100% of UVA and UVB rays are essential for protecting your eyes. During peak sun hours - typically between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. - try to stay indoors or in the shade.

Whenever possible, seek shade under trees, umbrellas, or shelters, especially during midday. Additional precautions should be taken with babies and young children; keep infants out of direct sunlight, dress them in protective clothing, and use baby-safe sunscreen on small exposed areas if necessary.

Water safety

Our region has beautiful water ways to enjoy and pools provide a fun seasonal way to cool off. Water safety is everyone's responsibility and essential to ensure a safe experience. Drowning can happen quickly and silently. Be prepared for emergencies by learning CPR and knowing how to call 9-1-1. Stay alert to changing weather conditions such as lightning, strong winds, and heavy rain as they can develop quickly and pose a serious risk.

Where possible, swim in areas supervised by lifeguards, and keep children within arm's reach at all times around water - never leave children unattended, even for a moment. Ensure that children and less experienced swimmers wear properly fitted life jackets or personal flotation

devices. Avoid alcohol, cannabis, or drugs when swimming or supervising others, as these substances can impair judgment and reaction time. While swimming lessons are valuable, they do not eliminate the risk of drowning, constant supervision remains critical - avoid swimming alone.

To help prevent illness and injury from recreational water use, Public Health Units inspect and test public beaches during swimming season. Municipal beaches are tested regularly, and other popular public-access beaches may be tested if there's a health risk. Water is tested for E. coli, which signals recent contamination from sources like swimmers, weather, wildlife, runoff, sewage, or boats. Check online ahead to see if the beach you are interested in visiting is either open, or posted. When the beach is "posted", a sign is put up. The sign is removed when further tests show that the water is safe for swimming again.

Vector-borne disease prevention

Spending time outdoors in the warmer months is something to look forward to, but it's important to protect yourself from the risks that come with [ticks and mosquitoes](#). Ticks and mosquitos present some unique risks - they can carry vector-borne diseases like [West Nile virus](#) and [Lyme disease](#). Mosquitoes and ticks are most active from spring through fall, especially in wooded or grassy areas. Populations most at risk include individuals who spend a lot of time outdoors, such as hikers, campers, gardeners, and outdoor workers. To stay informed, check local public health updates and resources for information on tick and mosquito activity in your area.

To reduce your risk, apply a Health Canada approved [insect repellent](#) containing DEET or icaridin to exposed skin and clothing. Wear long sleeves, pants, socks, and closed shoes when spending time outside, particularly at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. Light-colored clothing can help you spot ticks more easily, and tucking your pants into your socks adds an extra layer of protection. After outdoor activities, do a full-body tick check and shower within two hours to help remove any ticks that may have latched on. Keep mosquitoes away by repairing window screens and eliminating standing water around your home.

Contacts

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Media inquiries: media@rcdhu.com | Website: www.rcdhu.com

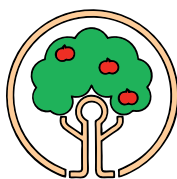
Ottawa Public Health

Media inquiries: OPHmedia@ottawa.ca | Website: www.OttawaPublicHealth.ca

Eastern Ontario Health Unit

Media inquiries: media@eohu.ca | Website: www.eohu.ca

Renfrew County and District Health Unit
Fax: 613-735-3067
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www.rcdhu.com



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

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, June 25th, 2025)

RCDHU Launches Free Online Prenatal Program: Bump to Baby

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU), in partnership with South East Health Unit, is pleased to announce the launch of **Bump to Baby**, a free online prenatal education program.

Bump to Baby is designed to support parents-to-be with information and resources that can be completed at their own pace, providing flexibility to learn when it's most convenient.

The program guides expectant parents through all stages of pregnancy, birth, and newborn care, with topics including:

- Pregnancy
- Labor and delivery
- Feeding your baby
- Caring for your baby and keeping them safe
- Parenting
- Helpful services available in the community

RCDHU encourages families to register for this free and comprehensive prenatal education program.

Registration Information:

To register for Bump to Baby, visit: <https://www.rcdhu.com/clinics-classes/prenatal-education/>

For questions about Bump to Baby or other Family Health services:

Call: 613-735-9774 or 1-800-267-1097 ext. 589

Email: familyhealth@rcdhu.com

- 30 -

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Fax: 613-735-3067

media@rcdhu.com

www.rcdhu.com

Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - June 19, 2025



June 19, 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.
- Reduce employee group benefits costs.
- Provide sewer and water protection for homeowners.
- DUC's naturalized stormwater and habitat solutions for municipalities.
- Elected officials encouraged to attend LTC Engagement Day.
- Pembina Institute Guide on Assessing Energy Projects.
- Reducing Winter Salt Limited Liability webinar.
- Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant application now open!
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- 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.

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.](#)

LAS

Our [Group Benefits Service](#) partners with Mosey & Mosey to help municipalities of all sizes save hundreds of dollars each year. Contact them today to customize a plan that works for your staff and elected officials.

Residential property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the buried water and sewer lines that run from the municipal connection to the exterior of their home. Learn how you could help them save money through our [Sewer and Water Line Warranty](#) program.

Municipal Wire*

Ducks Unlimited Canada's Conservation PRO team [has resources available for municipalities](#) to turn stormwater facilities into natural assets and provides habitat restoration services on land and water.

The [Ontario Long Term Care Association's LTC Community Engagement Day](#) is on September 12, 2025. This annual event invites elected officials to visit long-term care homes in their communities. Contact info@oltca.com to learn more.

The Pembina Institute has released the first installment of its [Power Playbook](#) series which supports Ontario municipalities in navigating the IESO's ongoing long-term electricity procurements and assessing energy development proposals.

[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.

Careers

[Economic Partnership Advisor - City of Toronto](#). Closing Date: June 24, 2025

[Director, Legal Services - City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: July 13, 2025

[Deputy Clerk - Town of Midland](#). Closing Date: July 1, 2025.

[Supervisor, Enforcement Services - City of Vaughan](#). Closing Date: July 2, 2025.

About AMO

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AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

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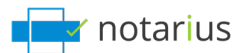
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From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - June 26, 2025



June 26, 2025

In This Issue:

- Rural Ontario Development Program opens for applications.
- Provincial consultations on Electricity Transmission Planning.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Gen Z Potential in the Municipal Workplace webinar - Today, June 26, 11 am-12 noon.
- Ontario's premier municipal event - AMO 2025 Conference - Register today.
- Check out AMO's pre-conference workshop line up!
- AMO Guide to Delegation Meetings: Be prepared for your ministerial delegations.
- AMO Trade and Tariff Forum - October 24.
- Blog: Prepare Your Home for Vacation.
- BPS Energy Reporting: Final countdown.
- Streetscan is now CityLogix.
- DUC's naturalized stormwater and habitat solutions for municipalities.
- Elected officials encouraged to attend LTC Engagement Day.
- Roundtable on Municipal Support Confirmations for Energy Projects.
- Pembina Institute Guide on Assessing Energy Projects.
- Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant application open.
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- Careers.

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Rural Affairs is accepting applications to the modernized Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program. [Applications are being accepted](#) through four intakes with the first open from June 24 - September 24, 2025.

The provincial government is soliciting feedback on electricity transmission projects including the [Greenstone Line](#), [Windsor to Lakeshore Line](#), [Bowmanville to GTA Line](#), [Orangeville to Barrie Line](#), and [Barrie to Sudbury Lines](#).

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LAS

Worried about the security of your home and belongings while on vacation? Our home and auto insurance provider, Cowan Insurance, [explores how to achieve peace of mind](#) while you're away.

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

Our program partner for [Road & Sidewalk Assessments](#) and [Asset Management & Work Order Software](#) has rebranded from Streetscan to Citylogix. [Check out their new website](#) to see how they can help your municipality operate more efficiently, and [contact Tanner](#) to get started.

Municipal Wire*

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Join the Pembina Institute's virtual roundtable on July 7 from 12-1 pm to discuss best practices for assessing energy development proposals and granting Municipal Support Confirmations. [To participate, please register online](#).

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Careers

[Director, Government Relations - County of Bruce](#). Closing Date: July 11, 2025.

[Strategic Initiatives & Engagement Manager - County of Bruce](#). Closing Date: July 11, 2025.

[City Manager - City of Cambridge](#). Closing Date: July 27, 2025.

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To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - July 3, 2025



July 03, 2025

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- Rural Ontario Development Program opens for applications.
- Provincial consultations on Electricity Transmission Planning.
- Ontario's premier municipal event - AMO 2025 Conference - Register today.
- Check out AMO's pre-conference workshop line up!
- AMO Guide to Delegation Meetings: Be prepared for your ministerial delegations.
- AMO Trade and Tariff Forum - October 24.
- Upgrades needed: Federal deadline for PCB light ballasts.
- Roundtable on Municipal Support Confirmations for Energy Projects.
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- Feedback Requested – Survey on Gender-Based Violence prevention resource.
- Long Term Care Community Engagement Day Event.
- Careers.

Provincial Matters

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LAS

The [Canadian Environmental Protection Act](#) prohibiting the continued use of PCB-containing lighting ballasts comes into effect December 31, 2025. Take advantage of [LAS' Facility Lighting Service](#) for an LED upgrade solution to keep your municipality compliant. Don't wait - [contact Christian](#) to get started.

Municipal Wire*

Join the Pembina Institute's virtual roundtable on July 7 from 12-1 pm to discuss best practices for assessing energy development proposals and granting Municipal Support Confirmations. [To participate, please register online](#).

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Municipalities are invited to provide feedback on a research report for [An Equity-Focused Population Health Approach to Gender-based Violence Prevention](#). Their survey closes Friday, July 4. Contact lia.depauw@kflaph.ca with questions.

The [Ontario Long Term Care Association's LTC Community Engagement Day](#) is on September 12, 2025. This annual event invites elected officials to visit long-term care homes in their communities. Contact info@oltca.com to learn more.

Careers

[Database Applications Specialist I, BI & Data Analytics - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: July 17, 2025.

[Database Applications Specialist and BI Analytics Specialist III - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: July 17, 2025.

[Business Systems Analyst, SAP Finance - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: July 17, 2025.

About AMO

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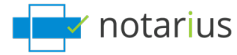
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To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Response on Bill 17, Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan



Policy Update - Response on Bill 17, Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan

AMO's Response on Bill 17 – *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act*

AMO has [submitted comments](#) to the province on legislative changes made under Bill 17, which was fast-tracked through the legislature and has received Royal Assent.

The legislation incorporates several joint recommendations from AMO and the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) regarding development charge (DC) modernization. Bill 17 contrasts significantly with the broad, across-the-board reductions introduced by Bill 23, offering instead a framework for changes with details to be developed through further consultation. AMO supports this collaborative approach, as it provides municipalities a valuable opportunity to apply their expertise and shape effective on-the-ground implementation. AMO will structure further collaboration with the municipal sector and OHBA to advise government on successful implementation. Advice will focus on these elements of the DC regime included in the bill for later regulatory implementation, which modernize calculations and their transparency:

- Merging DC service categories for credit purposes
- Defining a local service
- Deferring payment of DCs for residential developments
- Limiting recoverable capital costs
- Prescribing methodologies for calculating the benefit of new infrastructure to existing development, and

- Various measures to increase transparency

The ongoing housing crisis and challenging development market create an imperative for the province to act quickly. AMO will need to be nimble, working quickly and efficiently with our sector and home builders to influence regulations. We will jointly develop initial advice to support broader subsequent municipal engagement.

In our Bill 17 comments and in its broader advocacy, AMO continues to call on the province for predictable, sustainable, and adequate funding for municipal infrastructure to support unprecedented growth, address aging assets, and increase climate resilience.

AMOs' comments on Bill 17 also included implementation advice on other elements including:

- Planning regime changes, e.g. expanding as-of-right permissions, how to determine what constitutes a complete planning application, considerations for relying on stamps by certified professionals, etc.
- A recommendation that the new Minister of Infrastructure's Minister's Zoning Order authority for transit-oriented communities is only used in collaboration with municipalities, including securing a formal council resolution
- Balancing the standardization and streamlining of building approvals with a strong green building and energy efficiency standards, and
- Recommending ongoing engagement with the municipal sector in support of provincial consultations announced with the bill on new water and wastewater services governance and technology as well as road construction standardization.

Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan for Ontario

The Minister of Energy and Mines has released Ontario's first [Integrated Energy Plan](#) which outlines the province's vision to meet energy demand while prioritizing affordability, reliability, energy security, and clean energy. This plan gives municipalities a framework to inform local decisions about energy projects, and reinforces the role of municipalities in the energy system. The plan reflects [AMO's advocacy](#) to the province on energy including committing to:

- Continuing to ensure project proponents in competitive electricity procurements are required to obtain a supportive municipal council

resolution for new projects, and encouraging projects to provide meaningful local benefit agreements

- Maintaining a mix of energy sources including renewable electricity, nuclear, hydroelectric, natural gas, and low-carbon fuels to balance the goal of a clean energy supply with flexibility for residents and businesses to use the energy type that fits their needs
- Ensuring reliability and affordability, particularly in rural and northern communities, including through expanded electricity transmission infrastructure
- Working with local distribution corporations (LDCs) to modernize the electricity distribution grid including identifying new infrastructure funding approaches, and technology to ensure residents can connect and access electricity when and where they need it

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

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, July 4, 2025 3:26 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – IESO Releases Final LT2 Documents, AMO Hosts Oxford Economics Trade and Tariff Webinar



Policy Update - IESO Releases Final LT2 Documents, Trade and Tariff Webinar

IESO Launches Second Long-Term Electricity Procurement

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has [posted the final documents](#) for the second long-term procurement (LT2) of electricity generation and storage projects. This marks the official launch of LT2 during which municipalities will be asked to make decisions about local support for projects in advance of the project submission deadlines. LT2 is divided into two separate streams with different deadlines. The deadline for Energy Stream projects (e.g. renewable electricity generation) is October 16, 2025. The deadline for Capacity Stream projects (e.g. battery energy storage sites) is December 18, 2025.

The IESO has forwarded [a letter to municipal officials](#) with context about LT2 and the municipal role, and has released a [guide about the requirements](#) for municipalities and developers during the LT2 process. The IESO is also [hosting a webinar](#) on July 10 to review the LT2 guidelines. They are also hosting a [webinar for municipalities and Indigenous communities](#), along with a [dedicated municipal breakout session](#) on July 17.

Earlier this year, AMO released [Guidance Resources for Electricity Procurements](#) to support municipalities in their important decision making role as part of the province's ongoing electricity procurements.

AMO to host Trade and Tariff Webinar led by Oxford Economics

In a rapidly shifting trade landscape, understanding macro-economic trends is crucial for our sector's planning and financial sustainability. To support elected officials better navigate this turbulent time, AMO has partnered with Oxford Economics to host a webinar on **July 30, 2025 from 4:00pm – 5:00pm** titled *Navigating Economic Headwinds: Impacts on Municipal Infrastructure & Finance and Local Economies*. The webinar will provide essential context and insights to help municipal elected officials anticipate, explain and adapt to potential challenges and opportunities, particularly concerning critical infrastructure investments. [Register now over Zoom](#). Engagement is limited to the first 500 registrants.

The webinar will include content on:

- Canadian economic outlook with a focus on the global trade war and other key drivers of the forecast
- How Canadian macro trends translate to Ontario and its local economies
- The potential impact of tariffs on municipal infrastructure construction costs
- Q&A with panelists

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Events <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 1:01 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Join Us for AMO's 2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forum – October 18–19 in Toronto



AMO's 2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forum

October 18 – 19, 2025

Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Ontario

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is hosting its 2nd annual Healthy Democracy Forum. The 2025 Forum will focus on two initiatives underway to support AMO's members in the lead up to the 2026 municipal elections and beyond.

The Forum is an initiative of [AMO's Healthy Democracy Project](#), which is a unique project inspired by AMO's Board of Directors in 2022 that is focused on:

- Attracting more diverse candidates to municipal office.
- Promoting more respect for the people engaged in democratic processes.
- Encouraging greater participation in local democracy and an increase in voter turnout.
- Promoting greater civic engagement and greater awareness of the role of municipal government.

Day 1—Strategies to encourage and increase voter turnout, candidate attraction and retention

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Join an interactive day learning about AMO's public affairs campaign that includes approaches, resources and tools to help:

- increase diverse representation across municipal governments
- encourage more people to run or seek re-election for local government
- increase declining voter turnout

Day 2—Promoting civility and confronting harassment in Ontario municipalities

Sunday, October 19, 2025

AMO's Municipal Civility and Anti-Harassment Strategy is focused on supporting AMO members to address the growing incivility, harassment, and threatening behaviour directed at municipal elected officials and staff.

Join an impactful day exploring opportunities, practical tools and resources to prioritize the wellbeing of municipal public servants and foster safer and more respectful municipal environments.

To see how the 1st Annual Healthy Democracy Forum went, [take a look here](#).

Registration

Full Event: \$150.00 +HST

Single Day: \$75.00 +HST

[Register Here](#)

Accommodations

[Westin Harbour Castle](#), 1 Harbour Square, Toronto, M5J 1A6

AMO has secured preferred rates of \$314 per night until September 25, 2025. After that date, rooms may be available at the Westin Harbour Castle at market rate.

[Click here to book your accommodations](#)

Together, let's draft a blueprint to a more engaged, informed, and vibrant local democracy.

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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Notice of Public Hearing
Application for Minor Variance

In The Matter of Section 45, of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990; and
In The Matter of an application for minor variance, with respect to the following:

Take notice that the minor variance application will be heard by the Committee of Adjustment for the Town of Arnprior on **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior, ON.

Location of Property: 55, 59 and 63 Leo Moskos St., Arnprior ON

Purpose and Effect of Minor Variance Application:

Permission is requested for variance from Section 6.4.2 g) of the Town of Arnprior Zoning By-law No. 6875-18, to increase the maximum driveway width from “50% of the frontage of the lot up to a maximum of 7.0 meters” to “50% of the frontage of the lot up to a maximum of 9.0 meters”

Official Plan: Low/Medium Density Residential Area
Zoning: Residential Three Exception 11 (R3*11)

If you are receiving this notice because you are the owner of property in the area of the minor variance that contains seven or more residential units, you must also post this notice in a location that is visible to all of the residents of your property.

Copies of the proposed minor variance, and any additional information relating to the proposal, are available for inspection by contacting the Planning office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1816 during regular office hours or by emailing planning@arnprior.ca.

Key Plan:



Dated this 27th day of June 2025

Alix Jolicoeur, M. Pl.
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
(613)-623-4231 or planning@arnprior.ca
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8

Notice of Public Hearing
Application for Minor Variance

In The Matter of Section 45, of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990; and
In The Matter of an application for minor variance, with respect to the following:

Take notice that the minor variance application will be heard by the Committee of Adjustment for the Town of Arnprior on **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior, ON.

Location of Property: 23 and 27 Leo Moskos St., Arnprior ON

Purpose and Effect of Minor Variance Application:

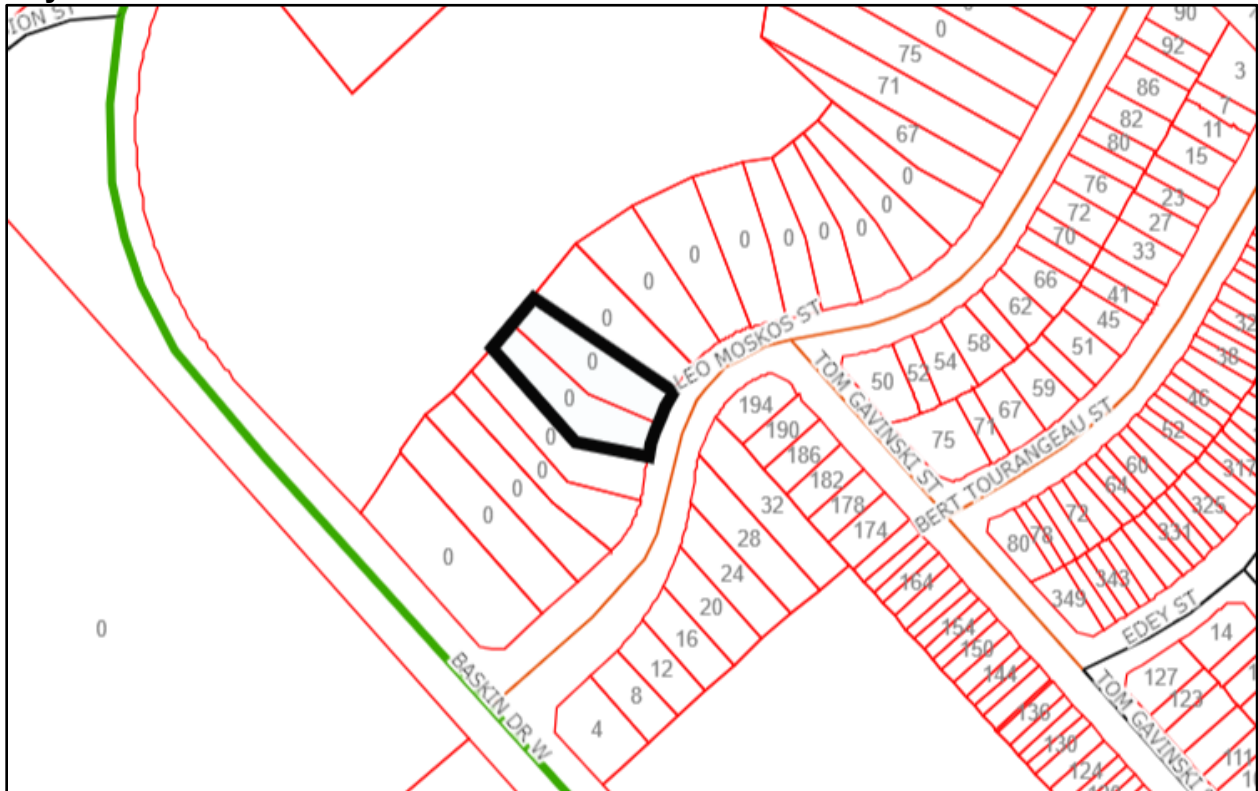
Permission is requested for variance from Section 4.15.3 a) of the Town of Arnprior Zoning By-law No. 6875-18, to reduce the required setback to watercourse from 30 m to 24.4 m for 23 Leo Moskos St. and to 27.0 m for 27 Leo Moskos St.

Official Plan: Low/Medium Density Residential Area
Zoning: Residential Three Exception 11 (R3*11)

If you are receiving this notice because you are the owner of property in the area of the minor variance that contains seven or more residential units, you must also post this notice in a location that is visible to all of the residents of your property.

Copies of the proposed minor variance, and any additional information relating to the proposal, are available for inspection by contacting the Planning office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1816 during regular office hours or by emailing planning@arnprior.ca.

Key Plan:



Dated this 27th day of June 2025

Alix Jolicoeur, M. Pl.
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
(613)-623-4231 or planning@arnprior.ca
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8

Notice of Public Hearing
Application for Minor Variance

In The Matter of Section 45, of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990; and
In The Matter of an application for minor variance, with respect to the following:

Take notice that the minor variance application will be heard by the Committee of Adjustment for the Town of Arnprior on **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior, ON.

Location of Property: 63 Victoria St., Arnprior ON

Purpose and Effect of Minor Variance Application:

Permission is requested for variance from Section 6.6 of the Town of Arnprior Zoning By-law No. 6875-18, to reduce the required minimum front yard setback from 6.0 m to 3.5 m for an addition to the second storey to support a ninth residential unit.

Official Plan: Established Residential Area
Zoning: Residential Two (R2)

If you are receiving this notice because you are the owner of property in the area of the minor variance that contains seven or more residential units, you must also post this notice in a location that is visible to all of the residents of your property.

Copies of the proposed minor variance, and any additional information relating to the proposal, are available for inspection by contacting the Planning office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1816 during regular office hours or by emailing planning@arnprior.ca.

Key Plan:



Dated this 26th day of June 2025

Alix Jolicoeur, M. Pl.
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
(613)-623-4231 or planning@arnprior.ca
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8



Committee of Adjustment for the Town of Arnprior

File No. B2 to B5-25

Notice of Public Hearing
Application for Consent

In The Matter of Section 53, Chapter P.13 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990; and
In The Matter of an application for consent, with respect to the following:

Location of Property: 43, 47, 51 and 55 Leo Moskos St., Arnprior, ON

Purpose and Effect of Consent Application:

The purpose of the applications is to adjust the lot lines between four existing parcels to better fit the model of homes being proposed.

55 Leo Mokos St. is also subject to minor variance application A03-25.

Take notice that the consent applications will be heard by the Committee of Adjustment for the Town of Arnprior on **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior, ON.

A key plan is attached. Additional information and materials regarding this application are available for inspection during regular office hours at Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior.

You are entitled to attend this Public Hearing in person to express your views about the application or you may be represented by Counsel for this purpose. If you wish to make written comments on this application, they may be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment at the address below. If you do not attend the hearing, it may proceed in your absence.

If a person or public body has the ability to appeal the decision of Corporation of the Town of Arnprior in respect of the proposed consent to the Ontario Land Tribunal but does not make written submissions to Corporation of the Town of Arnprior before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Corporation of the Town of Arnprior in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior at Town of Arnprior 105 Elgin Street W., Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8

Dated this 27th day of June 2025.

Alix Jolicoeur, M. Pl.
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
(613)-623-4231 or planning@arnprior.ca
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8

Subject: Canadian Red Cross Announces Wild Fire N95 Mask Program

Subject: Canadian Red Cross Announces Wild Fire N95 Mask Program

From: Jade Nauman

Sent: July 2, 2025 2:53 PM

Subject: Canadian Red Cross Announces Wild Fire N95 Mask Program

Sent on Behalf of Liane Fernandes, VP, Ontario, Canadian Red Cross

Please feel free to share this opportunity across your networks

Dear Colleagues,

As part of our ongoing commitment to support people impacted by wildfires across Canada, the Canadian Red Cross is distributing N95 respirator masks, free of charge, to organizations located in communities where exposure to wildfire smoke may impact air quality. This support is offered on behalf of the Government of Canada.

As an organization that plays an essential role in serving your community, we invite you to be part of this program. To distribute N95 respirator masks, free of charge, within your community, please submit your order form to request N95 respirator masks by visiting the following link: redcross.ca/maskdistribution.

I have also attached an overview of the program to this email. For additional information, visit redcross.ca/n95-respirator-masks where you can access and download the following materials, in both English and French:

- For your awareness, technical specification sheets for the N95 respirator masks that are available through this program.
- Tipsheets by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Canadian Red Cross with health and safety guidance on using respirator masks during wildfire smoke events.

For any questions regarding the Canadian Red Cross N95 Respirator Mask Distribution Program, please email maskdistribution@redcross.ca.

Please note:

- This program will operate on a first-come, first-served basis **from May until October 2025**.
- There is **no cost** associated with receiving the shipment of these masks from the Canadian Red Cross.
- Masks will be distributed as is and fit testing will not be available from the Canadian Red Cross.
- Orders will be processed in bulk by cases. The minimum order quantity is one (1) case, which includes between 440 and 500 masks depending on the type of masks requested by organizations. Organizations who wish to place larger orders (for example, a pallet or more), should indicate this in the order form. A member of our team will contact organizations to arrange a shipment that is suitable to their community's needs.

We encourage you to share this information with other organizations who may be interested in this program.

Kind regards,

Liane



Liane Fernandes

Vice President, Ontario

Canadian Red Cross | Croix-Rouge canadienne
5700 Cancross Court
Mississauga ON Canada L5R 3E9

www.redcross.ca | www.croixrouge.ca

Jade Nauman
Regional Director
Renfrew County
United Way East Ontario

C:

E:

United Way East Ontario | Centraide Est de l'Ontario
UnitedWayEO.ca | CentraideEO.ca



United Way
East Ontario



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Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: CANtrade™ is a new financing program

From: Gallant, Cheryl - M.P. <cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca>

Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 2:24 PM

To: Group Arnprior <arnprior@arnprior.ca>

Subject: CANtrade™ is a new financing program



CHERYL GALLANT

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
ALGONQUIN-RENFREW-PEMBROKE**



Dear Nick Smith Center,

Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation (RCCFDC) has a new opportunity for local businesses looking to adapt and grow in today's evolving economy.

CANtrade™ is a new financing program designed to help local entrepreneurs adapt to changes in trade, supply chains, and market conditions. With flexible loan options and reduced interest rates, this program makes it easier to invest in your business and plan for the future.

CANtrade™ was created to help with that. It supports projects such as:

- Expanding into other provinces
- Moving supply chains closer to home
- Hiring staff or upgrading equipment
- Exploring new markets
- Developing new products or services
- Meeting new local or export standards

CANtrade™ offers practical, affordable financing for growth-minded businesses. Key features include:

- Loan amounts from \$5,000 to \$150,000
- Interest rates from Prime to Prime +2%
- Repayment terms up to 60 months
- Interest-only payments for the first 6 months
- No prepayment penalties

Applications are open now through October 31, 2025, or until all funds are allocated.

To learn more visit rccfdc.org/financing-funding/cantrade.

Sincerely,

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

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE

Room 604, Justice Building
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Tel: (613) 992-7712
Fax: (613) 995-2561
www.cherylgallant.com

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

84 Isabella St.
Pembroke ON K8A 5S5
Tel: (613) 732-4404
Fax: (613) 732-4697
Toll Free: 1-866-295-7165
cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca

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Sent by Email

June 30, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park Room 281
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Subject: Opposition to Bill 5 and Request to Repeal

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on June 23, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2025, the Government of Ontario brought forth Bill 5: *Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025*, a broad omnibus legislation that proposes to make various changes to existing planning, consultation, approval, authority, and protection frameworks found in Provincial statutes in relation to major infrastructure, mining and resource development projects;

And Whereas, on June 4, 2025, Bill 5 passed its third and final reading in the Ontario legislature, but has not yet come into force;

And Whereas, Bill 5 granted broad powers by creating provincial “authority to designate special economic zones”, which allows for the suspension of constitutionally protected rights of Indigenous peoples and the suspension of powers of municipal governments and environmental authorities;

And Whereas, Bill 5 provides powers for the Province that First Nations governments in Ontario have stated would be contrary to Treaty agreements with the Crown;

And Whereas, amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990, fail to address systemic issues in archaeological resource management, such as delayed consultation with Indigenous communities and unilateral provincial control over Indigenous artifacts and cultural heritage. Additionally, the amendments exacerbate already weakened heritage protections brought in Report #2025-CG-7 Page 2 of 10 through Bill 23. Any exemptions under the Ontario Heritage Act could result in negative impacts, including the destruction of Indigenous artifacts and burial sites;

And Whereas, Bill 5 repeals the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and degrades protections for the environment and circumvents policies that have kept Ontarians safe

and healthy for decades, including regulations that prevent the contamination of Ontario's water and the means by which water contamination is identified;

And Whereas, the new regime for endangered species and at-risk species is designed for more flexible permitting and registry-based approvals, rather than automatic prohibitions on activities that harm listed species or their habitats. Additionally, narrowing the definition of habitat in the ESA to just the immediate area surrounding dwelling sites excludes protection of broader ecosystems that endangered and at-risk species rely on for survival. There are more than 230 species at risk in Ontario, many of which are in Durham, including numerous birds, fish, insects, reptiles and plant species. These species have experienced population declines over the past several decades and are at risk of being lost completely. While these changes could expedite development approvals, they may also reduce environmental oversight resulting in devastation to populations of endangered species;

And Whereas, the 'trusted proponent' model under the Special Economic Zones Act, 2025, may create a two-tier development system, favouring select private businesses with fewer regulations, thereby undermining labour standards and enabling potentially exploitative and unsafe working conditions;

And Whereas, Bill 5 enables the Province to override municipal authorities and planning activities without consultation or warning, including the ability to upend planning processes already long underway and future planning processes being considered or yet to be contemplated;

And Whereas, Bill 5 undermines the practice and spirit of democracy and a rights-based system in the Province of Ontario, and to date has garnered the public opposition of the Chiefs of Ontario, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Anishinabek Nation, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Sandy Lake First Nation, Neskantaga First Nation, Grassy Narrows First Nation, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Amnesty International Canada, the Canadian Environmental Law Association, World Wildlife Fund – Canada, David Suzuki Foundation, The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Ontario Biodiversity Council, Ontario Nature, Legal Advocates for Nature's Defence, Environmental Defense, Wildlands League, Wildlife Preservation Canada, Ecojustice, the Toronto Zoo, Mining Watch Canada, Democracy Watch, municipalities in Ontario, and numerous other pan-regional and local organizations across Ontario;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation for the City of Pickering:

1. Opposes the Government of Ontario's Bill 5 due to its infringement on Indigenous rights, assignment of powers to arbitrarily override and ignore long-established areas of municipal government authorities, risks to the long-term health of important ecosystems and the environment generally,

and circumvention of numerous democratic rights and oversight responsibilities;

2. Calls upon the Government of Ontario to immediately repeal Bill 5;
3. Urges the Government of Ontario, in accordance with the recommendation of Grand Chief Joel Abram of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, to “engage in a comprehensive redrafting process with full First Nations participation” and to likewise engage with municipalities and other affected stakeholders in the same comprehensive redrafting process, maintaining a rights-based foundation, inclusive of an evidence-based approach to environmental protections;
4. Supports efforts to streamline the approvals process for mining projects in Ontario when it does not come at the expense of safeguarding against environmental and community impacts, nor negate or remove the duty to consult with our Indigenous stakeholders such as the Mississauga’s of Scugog Island First nation (MSIFN), and those Indigenous Nations adjacent to the designated “Ring of Fire” mining zone;
5. Is supportive of mechanisms that would result in increased local procurement in the electricity sector; however, we wish it to be noted that limiting competition could increase costs if local or preferred suppliers are more expensive than international alternatives, which may result in increased electricity prices for ratepayers; and,
6. Directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth; the Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation and Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire Economic and Community Partnerships; Chief Kelly LaRocca of the Mississauga’s of Scugog Island First Nations; all treaty members of the William Treaties signatories; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Region of

Durham; and all municipalities in Ontario.

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: The Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines
The Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks
The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Hon. George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth
The Hon. Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation and Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire economic and Community Partnerships
Chief Kelly LaRocca, Mississauga's of Scugog Island First Nations
Chief Joanne P. Sandy, Beausoleil First Nation
Chief Ted Williams, Rama First Nation
Chief Donna Big Canoe, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation
Chief Keith Knott, Curve Lake First Nation
Chief Laurie Carr, Hiawatha First Nation
Chief Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation
Alexander Harras, Director of Legislative Services and Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of Durham
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Chief Administrative Officer

June 26, 2025

To our Municipal Clients:

Re: Regulatory Registry Proposal 25-MMAH011 Comments – Assessment of Proposed Regulatory Changes to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the Development Charges Act, 1997

In our continued efforts to keep our clients up to date on legislative changes that may impact them, we are writing to inform you of proposed regulatory changes to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the *Development Charges Act, 1997* (D.C.A.). This letter provides a summary of the proposed changes and commentary on potential impacts to municipalities.

The Province is seeking comments via the Regulatory Registry at the following link: <https://www.regulatoryregistry.gov.on.ca/proposal/50953>. We will be submitting our comments prior to the deadline of July 23, 2025.

1. Overview

There are two proposed changes to Ontario Regulation 82/98:

1. Enable Use of the Statistics Canada Non-Residential Building Construction Price Index for London; and
2. Expand the Requirement for Municipalities to Spend or Allocate 60% of Development Charge Reserve Funds to all Eligible Services.

The proposal only provides a summary of the proposed changes and not the exact wording to be included in the regulation. As such, the following commentary is based on the summary provided by the Province and will be further reviewed upon release of the actual amendment to the regulation.

Furthermore, no implementation dates for the proposed regulatory changes have been provided.

2. Enable Use of the Statistics Canada Non-Residential Building Construction Price Index for London

Currently, municipalities with development charge (D.C.) by-laws may include provisions in the by-law to index the charge to reflect changes in construction costs. Section 7 of Ontario Regulation 82/98 provides the prescribed index to be used for indexing a D.C. The Ottawa-Gatineau or Toronto series of the Statistics Canada Non-



Residential Building Construction Price Index is to be used by municipalities as appropriate.

The proposed changes would allow for the London series (recently added by Statistics Canada) to be utilized as an index for municipalities in Southwestern Ontario who elect to index their D.C. by-laws. This series would also be available for use by municipalities whose D.C. by-law does not specify a series (i.e., Ottawa-Gatineau vs. Toronto series). A D.C. by-law amendment, however, would be required to facilitate the use of the London series for municipalities in Southwestern Ontario whose D.C. by-laws currently specify the use of the Ottawa-Gatineau or Toronto series. Alternatively, the municipality could continue to use the Ottawa-Gatineau or Toronto series until a new D.C. by-law is adopted.

This appears to be a reasonable addition to the legislation as it will better align the D.C. with the underlying changes in capital costs within the area.

3. Expand the Requirement for Municipalities to Spend or Allocate 60% of Development Charge Reserve Funds to all Eligible Services

Section 35 of the D.C.A. requires municipalities to annually spend or allocate at least 60% of the balance in the D.C. reserve fund for water services, wastewater services, and services related to a highway. The proposed regulatory change would impose the same requirements for all D.C.-eligible services. This change would increase reporting transparency, better aligning reserve fund balances with specific capital projects in the D.C. background study and capital budget. The additional reporting, however, will impose an administrative burden on municipal staff to ensure adherence to this requirement for all D.C. services.

Although this change appears to simply include all D.C. services in the current practice of spending or allocating 60% of the reserve fund balances, the exact wording of the regulations will need to be reviewed to ensure no variation in current processes will be required.

4. Concluding Remarks

The proposed changes to Ontario Regulation 82/98 appear to be minimal; however, they do provide for improved alignment of charges with underlying capital costs and increased transparency regarding the planned use of D.C. funds collected. There will be an additional administrative burden for municipalities, however, due to the increased reserve fund reporting. As noted, we will be submitting our comments on the proposed regulation to the Province via the Regulatory Registry.



We anticipate further regulatory changes to the D.C.A., as noted by the Province's release of Bill 17, *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*. We will continue to monitor any changes and inform you of the potential impacts to municipalities.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned or send an email to info@watsonecon.ca.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

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Minnah [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Arnprior, Ontario
[REDACTED]

Date: July 2nd 2025

Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, Ontario
K7S 0A8

Re: Thank You – Town of Arnprior Secondary School Bursary

To the Town of Arnprior,

I hope this message finds you well. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay—I've been quite busy with graduation and preparations for post-secondary, but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for awarding me the Town of Arnprior Secondary School Bursary.

Receiving this bursary truly means a lot to me. Although I wasn't born in Arnprior, it has become a place I'm proud to call home. I'm grateful for the recognition of my efforts through this award, and it will go a long way in supporting my journey into post-secondary education and hopefully, one day, into a meaningful career that serves the community!

Thank you again for your support and for investing in local students like me.

Warm regards,
Minnah [REDACTED]