



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: November 24th, 2025
Correspondence Package No. I-25-NOV-20**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-25-NOV-20 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Letter from Minister Flack re: Bill 60, *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025*
- b) A Plan to Protect Ontario
- c) Ontario Helping Veterans Find Rewarding Careers Faster
- d) Ontario Launches Pothole Prevention and Repair Program
- e) Ontario Breaks Ground on Canada's Largest Battery Storage Project
- f) Ontario Investing \$180 Million to Boost Nursing in Long-Term Care
- g) Ontario Launching New Student and Family Support Offices at Every School Board
- h) Ontario Launching Road Safety Initiatives Fund
- i) Ontario Investing in Mental Health Supports to Protect Public Safety Personnel
- j) Ontario Investing \$3 Million to Boost Sport Tourism
- k) Ontario Protecting Families by Holding Impaired Drivers Accountable
- l) Ontario Protecting Ratepayers by Expanding Energy Savings Program

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Councillors Michael Donohue and Jennifer Murphy nominated for 2026 County of Renfrew Warden

- b) Construction Update – November 2025
- c) AI for SME Success
- d) Beyond the Mic: Intro to Podcasting
- e) Business Coaching
- f) Services & Funding Orientation with RCCFDC
- g) Unlocking Growth: How Small Business Grants Drive Success

3. Correspondence from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit

- a) First local influenza case of the 2025/2026 season

4. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Policy Update – 2025 Federal Budget Focuses on Infrastructure and Responding to Ongoing Trade Uncertainty
- b) Watchfile – November 6th, 2025
- c) Policy Update – Fall Economic Statement
- d) Policy Update – Changes to OMERS Governance
- e) Watchfile – November 13th, 2025
- f) Policy Update – Special Economic Zones Advocacy, CWELCC Program Extended, Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, New Road Safety Initiatives Fund
- g) Free Workshop: Insights & Strategies for 2026 Municipal Candidates from Underrepresented Communities

5. Algonquins of Pikwakanagan Newsletter

- a) November 7th, 2025 Newsletter
- b) November 14th, 2025 Newsletter

6. Correspondence from Other Municipalities

- a) Town of Ajax – Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support
- b) Town of Petawawa – Aerial Spraying of Glyphosate
- c) Township of Selwyn – Curbside Recycling Eligibility for Non-Profit Organizations

- d) Township of McGarry – GST HST on New Homes
- e) Town of Deep River – Support for the Future Use and Development of Canadian Nuclear Energy
- f) Township of South-West Oxford – Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras
- g) Municipality of Wawa – Rent Protection for Tenants
- h) City of Whitby – Extended Producer Responsibility for Blue Box Recycling Collection and Impacts to Small Businesses located in Mixed-Use Properties
- i) Municipality of Wawa – Accessible and Effective Alcohol Container Return Systems in Ontario

7. Correspondence from Arnprior Cares

- a) Invitation to Holiday Event

8. Correspondence from Ottawa Valley Affordable Housing Inc.

- a) Introductory letter

9. Correspondence from Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

- a) AORS Advance Fall 2025

10. Correspondence from École élémentaire catholique des Deux-Rivières

- a) Request for Donation

11. Correspondence from MP Cheryl Gallant

- a) Canada Summer Jobs

November 12, 2025

Dear Head of Council,

On October 23, 2025, our government introduced the *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025* ([Bill 60](#)). Through this legislation and other changes, we are protecting Ontario's economy and keeping workers on the job by cutting red tape, getting shovels in the ground faster and supporting the construction of homes, roads and infrastructure.

The bill contains bold actions, creating the conditions for building housing and transportation infrastructure faster to support families, attract investments, create good jobs and keep Ontario competitive.

You are invited to review the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) and [Regulatory Registry of Ontario](#) posting links provided with this letter and share any feedback you may have.

If you have any questions, please reach out to my Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Tanner Zelenko, at Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca.

In the face of economic uncertainty, we must protect Ontario. I look forward to continued collaboration with you, our municipal partners, to build the more prosperous, resilient and competitive economy that Ontario needs today, tomorrow, and in the decades to come.

Sincerely,



Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks & Acting
Minister of Infrastructure
Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Laura Smith, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Brian Saunderson, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Caspar Hall, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Municipal Chief Administrative Officers

Development Charges Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 3 of the Bill would make amendments to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.

Land Acquisition Costs

A new subsection 7 (3.1) of the *Development Charges Act, 1997* would require development charge-eligible land acquisition costs to be part of a class in a development charge by-law consisting only of those costs. Land acquisition costs would, pursuant to a new section 5.3, be exempted from the historic service level cap, and these costs, for certain services, would be limited to those that relate to the ten-year period after the background study.

A new subsection 35 (1.1) of the Act would provide that money in an existing reserve fund established to pay for growth-related capital costs of eligible services can continue to be used for growth-related land acquisition costs of the applicable service, so long as those costs are not being paid from the reserve fund for the land acquisition class.

Requiring Local Service Policies

A new subsection 59 (2.2) of the Act would require municipalities that levy development charges to establish local service policies for each service to which the by-law relates and for which a part of the service would be provided as a local service.

The local service policy must identify the works or classes of works that are intended to be for the provision of local services. It could also identify works or classes of works that are not intended to be for the provision of local services (e.g. works that would be funded through development charges) or works or classes of works that would only partially be intended to be for the provision of local services.

A municipality could not require a work for the provision of local service to be paid for or constructed as a condition of land division if it is not identified as being intended to be so provided in the local service policy. This rule applies on the earlier of 18 months after Royal Assent or the day on which the local service policy is established.

The municipality would need to send a copy of the local service policy to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on request, by the date specified in the request.

If a local service policy has been established, it must be reviewed and a resolution passed by council at the same time as a development charge by-law is passed, indicating whether revisions would be needed.

Requiring Treasurer's Statements to be Submitted by a Specific Date

Subsection 43 (1) of the Act is amended to require the municipal treasurer to give council a development charges financial statement (commonly referred to as the treasurer's statement) on or before June 30 annually. Subsection 43 (3) of the Act is amended to require the treasurer to give a copy of the financial statement to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing no later than July 15 of the year in which the statement is provided to council.

Requiring Municipal Documents to be Submitted to the Ministry on Request

A new subsection 10 (5) of the Act would require municipal councils to give a copy of the development charge background study to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on request, by the deadline specified in the request

A new subsection 13 (5) of the Act, requires municipal councils to give a copy of the development charge by-law passed by the municipality to the Minister on request, by the deadline specified in the request.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997* through the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([25-MMAH018](#)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Municipal Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 7 of the Bill propose changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to transfer jurisdiction over water and wastewater (sewage) services from Peel Region to the lower-tier municipalities of Mississauga and Brampton, and Caledon, effective January 1, 2029, or a different date as prescribed by the Minister. The proposed amendments prevent the transfer of jurisdiction over water and wastewater back from the lower-tier municipalities to Peel Region using existing authority to transfer services in the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001*. through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([025-1098](#)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Planning Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 10 of the Bill proposes the following amendments to the *Planning Act* that would help create the conditions necessary to support housing and community development. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Provide authority for the Minister to make regulations that would remove the need for certain minor variances,
- Allow certain official plan amendments modifying the authorized uses of land within a Protected Major Transit Station Areas (PMTSA) to be exempt from Minister's approval,
- Make provincial policy statements inapplicable with respect to all Minister's decisions under the *Planning Act* outside the Greenbelt Area. A transparent and accountable oversight framework would be developed to support implementation,
- Enable all upper-tier municipalities to establish regional Community Improvement Plans (CIPs) without being prescribed, allow municipalities to fund the CIPs of their respective upper- or lower-tier municipalities, and, for upper-tier municipalities without planning responsibilities, to revive CIPs that were in effect on the day before the municipality lost its planning responsibilities, and
- Enable Minister's zoning orders (MZO) to be made by non-regulatory orders and require them to be published on a Government of Ontario website.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario and the Ontario Regulatory Registry from October 23, 2025, to November 22, 2025:

- [ERO 025-1097](#) Proposed Planning Act Changes (Schedule 10 of Bill 60 - *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025*).

We are also interested in receiving any comments you may have on associated consultation postings:

- [ERO 025-1099](#): Consultation on simplifying and standardizing official plans.
- [ERO 025-1100](#): Consultation to better understand the linkage between minimum lot sizes on urban residential lands and increased housing options and affordability.
- [ERO 025-1101](#): Consultation to understand current municipal practices with respect to green development standards at the lot level (outside of building) in order to assess whether future changes are needed to prohibit mandatory green development standards in order to improve consistency and clarity across Ontario.

The Environmental Registry postings provide additional details regarding the proposed changes.

City of Toronto Act, 2006 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The proposed change would, through a proclamation order, remove the City of Toronto's authority, under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, to require green roofs or other alternative roof surfaces on buildings, effective November 3, 2025.

Residential Tenancies Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing / Ministry of the Attorney General

Schedule 12 of the Bill amends the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006* (RTA) to help address delays and support backlog reduction efforts at the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) and adjust the balance of landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Remove the requirement for a landlord to provide compensation to a tenant when evicting for personal use of the rental unit, if the landlord gives at least 120 days' notice of termination, instead of the required 60 days' notice;
- Shorten the notice period a landlord must provide to a fixed-term or month-to-month tenant to evict them for rent arrears from 14 days to 7 days;
- Remove a tenant's ability to raise issues that could otherwise be the subject of a tenant application to the LTB as part of a rent arrears hearing, if the tenant has not paid at least half of the rent arrears claimed in the application filed by the landlord;
- Remove a tenant's ability to raise issues that could otherwise be the subject of a tenant application to the LTB on the day of a rent arrears hearing, if the tenant has not given prior notice in accordance with LTB timelines;
- Specify a 15-day period for a landlord or tenant to request internal review of a final order or decision of the LTB; and

- Create new regulation-making authorities for the government to prescribe:
 - The form of a notice given by a landlord or tenant to terminate a tenancy.
 - Rules and guidelines for determining what qualifies as a “persistent” failure to pay rent / monthly housing charges, when they are due, by a tenant / member of non-profit housing co-operative.
 - Limitations on the LTB’s ability to postpone the enforcement of an eviction order and/or factors the LTB must consider before postponing enforcement.
 - Limitations, conditions, or tests related to a tenant / member of non-profit housing co-operative making a motion to set aside an eviction order that has been issued, without a hearing, when the tenant/member has given notice of termination to a landlord/co-op, or the parties have entered into an agreement to end a tenancy.
 - Limits or conditions on the power of the LTB to review its final decisions and orders.

The proposed amendments would come into force on a day to be named by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change through the Ontario Regulatory Registry from October 23, 2025, to November 22, 2025 at the links below:

- [RR 25-MMAH019](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to the Rules Related to Tenants Raising New Issues at a Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) Rent Arrears Hearing
- [RR 25-MMAH024](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to Shorten the Rent Arrears Eviction Notice Period
- [RR 25-MMAH025](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to the Compensation Requirements for Landlord's Own Use Evictions
- [RR 25-MAG017](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendment to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) to Shorten the Period of Time Available to Request a Review of an LTB order

Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 16 of the Bill proposes a new Act which sets out a framework for a new delivery model for water and wastewater services. The new framework will include legislative authority for the Minister to:

- Designate corporations as water and wastewater public corporations by regulation.
- Require prescribed municipalities to deliver water and wastewater exclusively through a water and wastewater public corporation beginning on a date as prescribed.

Under the new framework, the Minister will have regulation-making authority, including the ability to:

- Prescribe duties and responsibilities for the water and wastewater public corporation.
- Govern the transfer, issuance, redemption and purchase of shares and dividends of a water and wastewater public corporation.
- Govern requirements related to the nomination, appointment, election, resignation or removal of members of the board of directors of the corporation.
- Govern powers for the water and wastewater public corporation to impose and collect fees and charges. If required by LGIC regulation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing would have oversight powers over rate plans (and additional plans that may be prescribed in regulations).
- Provide for additional transitional matters.

Subject to future regulations setting out the share allocation, the first corporation would provide water and wastewater services in Peel Region and would be jointly owned by Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon. A corporation would be incorporated under the *Ontario Business Corporations Act* at the direction of the Minister that the Minister would designate as a water and wastewater public corporation.

The council of a municipality prescribed by the regulations shall, by the date specified in the regulations, make by-laws transferring employees, assets, liabilities, rights and obligations of the municipality to a water and wastewater public corporation for the purpose of providing water and wastewater services.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([025-1098](tel:025-1098)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

GO Transit Station Funding Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

Schedule 4 of the Bill proposes changes the *GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023*, to enable Municipalities the flexibility to specify payment of a transit station charge, in respect of any part of a development that consists of residential development, upon occupancy and require financial security to secure the payment of any transit station charge that is required to be paid upon occupancy of residential development.

Additional amendments will provide for the determination of a transit station charge that is payable upon occupancy of residential development.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](tel:025-1182) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

The proposed amendments to the *Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act, 2002* would extend the mandate of Waterfront Toronto from 2028 to 2035, and allow for a further extension up to 2040.

The amendments also include provisions relating to a strategic review of Waterfront Toronto in 2031-32 that may inform the extension, a provision requiring the provincial government to consult with the federal government and City of Toronto prior to winding-up the corporation, and the repeal of provisions in the Act that are no longer applicable.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act, 2002* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Transit-Oriented Communities Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

Schedule 15 of the Bill proposes to amend the *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020*, which may allow the Minister to establish a Transit-Oriented Communities Advisory Panel. The Minister may appoint up to four individuals to this Advisory Panel and appoint a Chair from among them.

The Transit-Oriented Communities Advisory Panel would advise and make recommendations to the Minister, in respect of such matters as the Minister directs, related to infrastructure, transit-oriented community projects, land designated as transit-oriented community land under the Act, and other related matters.

The amendments will also enable the Minister to make an order requiring an owner of land designated as transit-oriented community land to enter into an agreement with a municipality addressing any matters that the Minister considers necessary for the appropriate development of the transit-oriented community land.

Municipalities will also be required to designate a municipal officer or employee to give to the Minister such information as the Minister requests with respect to the implementation of transit-oriented community projects that are located within that municipality.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Construction Act - Ministry of the Attorney General

Schedule 2 of the bill proposes the following amendments to the *Construction Act* that would, if passed, refine the new annual release of holdback system that was enacted in 2024 but that is not yet in force:

Section 30 is re-enacted in order to apply with respect to the abandonment or termination of a contract or subcontract, rather than to a circumstance in which a contractor or subcontractor defaults in the performance of a contract or subcontract.

Not-yet-in-force amendments to section 31 that would have been made by section 27 of Schedule 4 to the *Building Ontario For You Act (Budget Measures), 2024* – providing for annual lien expiry – are repealed. Section 31 is amended to retain the provisions of those amendments dealing with notice of termination and its effects. The not-yet-in-force re-enacted version of section 26 (payment of basic holdback) is consequently amended to require the annual release of holdback without the expiry of liens.

Section 87.4 is amended by adding a separate transition rule for alternative financing and procurement arrangements (otherwise known as “public-private partnerships”) and to adjust the transition rules respecting amendments made to section 31.

Transitional regulation-making authority in section 88 is made more generally applicable and is transferred from the Lieutenant Governor in Council to the Minister.

The amendments are to come into force at the same time as related amendments to the Act made by the *Building Ontario For You Act (Budget Measures), 2024*, except for the transitional regulation-making authority which comes into force on Royal Assent.

Ontario Water Resources Act - Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Schedule 8 of the bill proposes amendments to the *Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA)* that would, if enacted, would reduce the time and costs with providing on-site sewage treatment to on-farm worker housing by allowing larger systems (comprised of multiple systems with design capacities no greater than 10,000 L/d each and up to 50,000 L/d total per lot or parcel of land) to be regulated under the Ontario’s Building Code and exempting these systems from existing *Ontario Water Resources Act* requirements for environmental compliance approvals.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Ontario Water Resources Act* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [ERO 025-0900](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025. In parallel, the government is also consulting on a policy proposal on how the Ontario Building Code will continue to provide protection to human health, the environment, and neighbouring properties in relation to these on-farm systems. You may provide comments on this supporting policy proposal to the Ontario Building Code through Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-0899](#) from October 24, 2025 to December 7, 2025.

Building Transit Faster Act, 2020 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 1 of the bill proposes amendments to the *Building Transit Faster Act, 2020* (BTFA) that, if passed, would remove barriers and streamline processes that may otherwise result in delays to the timely completion of provincial transit projects by:

- Reducing the notice period to property owners from 30 to 15 days for Metrolinx to conduct due diligence work (e.g., carrying out inspections, removing obstructions), extending access to municipal right-of-way and third-party lands to the operation and maintenance of projects, and expanding the application of Minister's access orders to additional infrastructure (e.g., tunnels, life safety systems, buildings, bridges). Amendments will also create Minister's regulation-making authorities to name additional infrastructure and to delegate powers for access orders to Metrolinx or to an MTO official.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the BTFA through the Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1035](#).

Highway Traffic Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 5 of the bill amends the *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) to require applicants for a Driver's Licence, Photo Card and Registrant Identification Number demonstrate that the person is a resident of Ontario, that the person has legal status in Canada and, with respect to an application for a commercial class driver's licence, that the person is lawfully able to work in Canada.

The Schedule also makes amendments to Part II.1 of the HTA to address concerns about the impact of vehicle lane reductions on traffic flow, congestion, and transportation efficiency. Amendments to s.195.3 would prohibit all municipalities from reducing the number of motor vehicle lanes when installing new bicycle lanes. Regulation-making authority is also proposed that would allow the Minister to expand the prohibition to include other municipal activities or provide exemptions to the prohibition altogether.

Finally, amendments to s. 195.9 would streamline the process for reimbursement regarding the existing bicycle lane provisions.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes through Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1071](#) and Regulatory Registry notice [RR 25-MTO019](#).

Local Roads Boards Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 6 of the bill amends the *Local Roads Boards Act* to allow owners of certain tax-exempt lands to make voluntary payments to their local roads boards. If approved by the Minister, the voluntary payments would be eligible for matching provincial government funding. The Minister is provided regulation-making authority to prescribe lands for this purpose, as well as to establish an approvals process for such payments. Other related amendments are made regarding record-keeping.

Photo Card Act, 2008 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 9 of the bill amends the *Photo Card Act, 2008*, to require that an applicant for a photo card establish that they are a resident of Ontario, and that they are in Canada lawfully.

Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 11 of the bill adds a new section to the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act (PTHIA)*, stating that various things under the Act do not constitute an expropriation or injurious affection.

This Schedule also repeals and replaces s. 117 of the Act. The Minister of Transportation has existing authority under this section to set mandatory standards for highways, including for municipal roads; however, there is no such regulation currently in place. Proposed amendments would support implementation of common road construction standards across the province by creating new regulation-making authorities to allow the province to prescribe requirements for road construction contracts, establish an exemption process, and set reporting requirements pertaining to road standards. Amendments also allow the Minister to require input from stakeholders regarding standards upon request.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the PTHIA related to road construction standards through the Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1140](#).

Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 14 of the bill amends the *Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021*, such that tow operators and vehicle storage operators are not required to submit their rates to the ministry for a service where a maximum amount for that service has been set by regulation.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes through Regulatory Registry notice [RR 25-MTO017](#).

A Plan to Protect Ontario

Ontario's 2025 Fall Economic Statement delivering on the province's plan to build a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy

November 06, 2025

[Finance](#)

TORONTO — Today, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy released the [2025 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#), which supports the government's plan to protect Ontario by building a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy by cutting red tape, investing in infrastructure, supporting workers, improving services and making life more affordable.

"With tariffs taking direct aim at Ontario workers and communities, it has never been more important for the government to deliver on its plan to protect Ontario. We continue to make historic investments in highways, transit, health care and all the other services our communities rely on, so we can build for our growing province. We are doing this all while keeping costs down for families and helping to unleash Ontario's full economic potential," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "We are able to take unprecedented steps to protect Ontario thanks to our commitment to fiscal prudence, which has put Ontario's finances in the strongest position they have been in over a decade."

Highlights of the *2025 Fall Economic Statement* include:

- Rebating the full provincial portion of the HST for first-time home buyers of most new homes. Subject to passage of federal legislation, Ontario's new rebate would eliminate the full 8 per cent provincial portion of the HST for first-time home buyers on qualifying new homes valued up to \$1 million, saving home buyers up to \$80,000 off the cost of a new home when combined with existing provincial relief.
- Delivering on its plan to protect Ontario workers, businesses and communities from the impacts of U.S. tariffs, through the development of Ontario's Tax Action Plan. This work will focus on updating Ontario's personal and corporate income taxes to encourage and attract more business investment, help improve Ontario's competitiveness in the G7 and lower costs or provide relief for

individuals and families in the years and decades to come. An update on the Tax Action Plan will be provided in the *2026 Ontario Budget*.

- Investing an additional \$100 million in the Ontario Together Trade Fund (OTTF) to further help small and medium-sized enterprises diversify into new markets and strengthen trade resiliency. This brings total program funding to \$150 million over three years, starting in 2025–26. The increased support will enable businesses affected by U.S. tariffs to pivot production, forge new sales partnerships and expand interprovincial trade.
 - Helping Ontario manufacturers and processors lower their costs, innovate, and become more competitive by introducing legislation to enhance and expand the Ontario Made Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit (OMMITC). This includes proposing to temporarily enhance the tax credit rate from 10 per cent to 15 per cent and expand access to the tax credit as a 15 per cent non-refundable version to corporations that are not Canadian-controlled private corporations (CCPCs). In addition, the government is now proposing to amend the OMITC eligibility criteria for investments in machinery and equipment to provide greater flexibility for businesses.
 - Investing \$1.1 billion over three years to extend home care services and the Hospital to Home (H2H) program. The government's investment includes \$982 million to strengthen critical home care services and more than \$170 million to enhance and expand the H2H program. These investments will ease pressures on the health care system and hospitals, helping ensure people receive the right care in the right place.
 - Supporting sectors affected by U.S. tariffs through the \$5 billion Protecting Ontario Account. In August, the government launched the initial \$1 billion of the Protect Ontario Financing Program (POFP), which is already supporting Ontario-based businesses directly impacted by higher tariff rates in the steel, aluminum, copper and auto sectors by helping them keep their doors open and keep workers on the job. The government is now developing the second and third streams, to be supported by the remaining \$4 billion. These streams will fortify Ontario's economic resilience, fuel innovation, and fast-track high-growth firms to sharpen Ontario's global edge.
 - Continuing to invest in the province's most ambitious capital plan, with planned investments totalling more than \$201 billion over 10 years, including over \$33 billion in 2025–26. This plan will help keep workers on the job in the face of economic uncertainty caused by tariffs.
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Quick Facts

- Ontario's real GDP is projected to rise 0.8 per cent in 2025 and 0.9 per cent in 2026, in line with the *2025 Budget* outlook.
- Ontario's 2025–26 deficit is projected to be \$13.5 billion — an improvement of \$1.1 billion from the outlook published in the *2025 Budget*. Over the medium term, the government is forecasting a deficit of \$7.8 billion in 2026–27 and a surplus of \$0.2 billion in 2027–28.
- The government's approach maintains a path to balance the budget by 2027–28 as part of its fiscal plan. Ontario is prepared to do whatever it takes to provide critical financial supports to protect Ontario workers and jobs.
- The provincial net debt-to-GDP ratio in 2025–26 is now projected to be 37.7 per cent, 0.2 percentage points lower than forecast in the *2025 Budget*. Over the medium-term outlook, the net debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to remain modestly lower than the forecasts in the *2025 Budget* and continues to remain below target levels.
- In the recently released *Public Accounts of Ontario 2024–2025*, Ontario reported a \$1.1 billion deficit in 2024–25, compared to a forecasted deficit of \$9.8 billion in the *2024 Budget*. The government remains focused on reducing the debt burden and bringing Ontario's finances back to balance.
- In the near future, the government will launch consultations to help inform the next phase of the plan to protect Ontario as part of the *2026 Ontario Budget* and hear from the people of Ontario and their ideas on protecting Ontario's economy and workers, creating more jobs, keeping taxes low and costs down, delivering better services and getting critical infrastructure projects built.

Additional Resources

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

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Accessibility

Privacy

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Ontario Helping Veterans Find Rewarding Careers Faster

Investment will help veterans turn military experience into college and university credits

November 07, 2025

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

LONDON— The Ontario government is investing \$575,000 to help Canadian Armed Forces members turn the skills they developed during their service into the postsecondary credits they need to land in-demand jobs. This investment will make it easier and faster for veterans and other military-connected learners to transition to civilian life, while building on the province's historic measures and investments to build a strong, resilient workforce that can support the most competitive economy in the G7.

"Our government will always stand up for those who have put their lives on the line to protect Ontario," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "By recognizing the valuable skills veterans have gained through their service, we're helping them enter rewarding and in-demand careers faster while strengthening Ontario's highly skilled workforce."

Through this investment, the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) has launched [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition](#) (PLAR) projects at six publicly funded colleges and universities across Ontario, including: Fanshawe College, Georgian College, Canadore College, Lakehead University, the University of Waterloo and the University of Windsor.

These projects include:

- Recognizing the skills and experiences gained from the Canadian Armed Forces as credits toward a university-level Bachelor of Engineering.
- Developing AI-powered tools to automate and speed up prior learning assessment and recognition processes for military-connected learners.
- Creating a new platform to help postsecondary administrators identify course equivalencies based on military records.
- Creating a course credit bank that allows veterans to quickly identify options for accessing postsecondary programs.

- Standardizing the prior learning assessment and recognition of military training and experience.

“As we commemorate Veterans’ Week, our government is undertaking meaningful action to help support our veterans as they transition to civilian life,” said Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. “This investment will ensure the skills obtained from those who have served are recognized by postsecondary institutions and used to fuel their future careers.”

The Canadian Military, Veteran and Family Connected Campus Consortium is also receiving funding to identify and develop best practices for the recognition of Canadian Armed Forces training within the Ontario postsecondary system.

“Military-connected learners enrich classrooms and campuses with their insightful perspectives, diverse experiences and tremendous work ethic,” said Dr. Adrienne Galway, President and CEO, Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT). “ONCAT is honoured to steward new postsecondary initiatives that recognize the transferability of military training and empower learners to pursue their next education and employment goals.”

“As a Military-Connected College, we support Canada’s military members and veterans because it’s a great opportunity to tap into their skills and knowledge while helping them progress in their military careers or make the transition to civilian life,” says Fanshawe President Peter Devlin. “The PLAR is an important tool to assess veterans’ military experiences, ensuring their transition to a civilian career is smooth and to provide credit or advanced standing for their previous learning.”

This Veterans Week, Ontario is proud to honour veterans and their families by helping them find rewarding careers that reflect their skills and dedication. Recognizing military experience as part of Ontario’s postsecondary system supports the province’s broader strategy to address the need for skilled trades workers for in-demand jobs and deliver on its more than \$201 billion plan to build more hospitals, schools, highways and other important infrastructure.

Quick Facts

- There are over 149,000 Canadian Armed forces veterans residing in Ontario.
- Each year, about 8,000 to 9,000 Canadian Armed Forces members are released from military service.
- The Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) puts learners first by making it easier to navigate Ontario’s postsecondary system. ONCAT advances learner mobility and recognition of prior learning through pathway

development, funding and research. Funded by the Government of Ontario, ONCAT is helping build a more seamless, student-focused postsecondary system. Learn more at oncat.ca.

- The new [Ontario Veterans Award for Community Service Excellence \(OVACSE\)](#) launched earlier this year to recognize veterans who have made significant contributions to their communities through exceptional community service.

Quotes

"Ontario's universities are proud to support veterans and military-connected learners as they transition to new careers and opportunities through higher education. By recognizing the skills and experience gained through military service, this initiative will help open new academic and career pathways to postsecondary."

- Steve Orsini

President and CEO, Council of Ontario Universities

"This investment in ONCAT's Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition projects for veterans and other military-connected learners marks an important milestone for military-connected campuses. It builds on the long-standing partnerships between colleges and the Canadian Armed Forces to support military members through career development and occupational training."

- Maureen Adamson

President and CEO of Colleges Ontario

"Georgian is honoured to be part of this important initiative supporting Canada's veterans and military-connected learners. We deeply value – and are known for – experiential learning, so it's especially meaningful to help turn military service into academic credit. This investment recognizes the incredible experience and leadership these individuals bring to our classrooms and communities, while helping them build rewarding careers that strengthen Ontario's workforce and economy."

- Kevin Weaver

President of Georgian College

"Canadore College is honoured to collaborate with members of the Canadian Armed Forces to ensure they are well prepared for meaningful civilian careers following their military service. The professionalism and dedication demonstrated by the personnel of 22 Wing, Canadian Forces Base North Bay, exemplify the highest standards of service that will transfer to civilian careers. Canadore College is proud to support CAF members by recognizing their valuable skills and fostering successful career outcomes to contribute to the continued strength and resilience of Ontario's economy."

- George Burton
Canadore College President and CEO

"Lakehead University is proud to be part of this important initiative to recognize the knowledge and expertise of those who have served our country. We are grateful to the Ontario government for its leadership in honouring veterans by supporting pathways that value military experience as academic achievement. Together, we're helping veterans transition successfully into civilian life while strengthening Ontario's skilled workforce."

- Dr. Gillian Siddall
President and Vice Chancellor, Lakehead University

"This project will allow Waterloo's Faculty of Engineering to develop pathways for Veterans, Reservists and other Military-Connected Learners to achieve their goals of becoming engineers through the recognition of their experience, technical and leadership training, the construction of academic bridging programs to prepare them for success in first year, and the development of supports structures for success throughout the program. Military-Connected Learners will enhance our engineering community. We look forward to helping them thrive at the University of Waterloo."

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

"The University of Windsor is proud to be part of this important initiative that honours the experience and expertise of those who have served our country," said Dr. J.J. McMurtry, University of Windsor President and Vice-Chancellor. "Building on UWindsor's recent commitment to support military-connected students and their families, Ontario's investment will help ensure that the skills and leadership gained through military service are fully recognized on our campus and beyond."

**- Dr. J.J. McMurtry
President of the University of Windsor**

"As a national consortium focused on the supportive role postsecondary institutions play in Canada's defence modernization, the CMVF3C is proud to support Ontario's focus on military education and training recognition. We are excited to see so many of our partnering institutions growing in this critical space, signaling the importance of our strategic collaboration in the post-secondary sector. Military PLAR pathways will offer opportunities to amplify the highly skilled nature of Canadian Armed Forces training, benefiting those who serve, have served, and Canada coast to coast to coast."

**- Donald Moore
Military Education & Training Recognition WG Chair, Canadian Veteran and Family Connected Campus Consortium**

"The Coding for Veterans program at the University of Ottawa welcomes the Ontario Government's funding announcement to support military veterans transitioning from deployment to employment. Recognizing and translating the skills gained through military service into post-secondary credits will streamline career pathways and open new opportunities for veterans entering the civilian workforce."

**- Jeff Musson
Coding 4 Veterans**

Additional Resources

[Ontario Helping Veterans Start New Careers in the Skilled Trades](#)

[Supports and resources for veterans in Ontario](#)

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Ontario Launches Pothole Prevention and Repair Program

Funding will support critical road maintenance in smaller communities

November 10, 2025

[Transportation](#)

SHANNONVILLE — The Ontario government is investing \$10 million to make roads safer by preventing accidents and damage that can occur from potholes. Under the new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, municipalities with populations of up to 10,000 people can apply for funding to support critical road maintenance and pothole repair. The program is part of the government's work to protect Ontario by making record investments in infrastructure that will keep communities safe, keep workers on the job and support economic growth.

"This funding will help small municipalities repair potholes before they cause costly vehicle damage, helping families to travel safely and businesses to keep goods moving," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "In addition to this important program, our government is investing nearly \$30 billion to build, repair and expand highways, roads and bridges across Ontario, connecting more communities to jobs, housing and economic opportunities."

The Pothole Prevention and Repair Program is designed to support smaller communities that do not have the same capacity or funding base as larger municipalities. Eligible municipalities can receive up to \$38,000 for projects.

"This new program is a win for smaller municipalities across Ontario," said Ric Bresee, MPP for Hastings—Lennox and Addington. "By investing in local transportation infrastructure, we're helping communities protect and extend the life of their roads while keeping drivers safe and supporting economic growth. When we give municipalities the tools they need, we build a stronger Ontario for everyone."

Applications for the [Pothole Prevention and Repair Program](#) are now open. Eligible municipalities can apply until December 12, 2025.

Quick Facts

- The *Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024*, included a commitment by the Ontario government to consult with municipalities on the development of the Pothole Prevention and Repair program.
- Based on Statistics Canada census data, 263 of Ontario's 444 municipalities – almost 60 per cent – are eligible for the Pothole Prevention and Repair program.
- Ontario is investing nearly \$30 billion in highways, roads and bridges over the next 10 years.

Quotes

"The Ontario Pothole Prevention and Repair Program will be valued by rural municipalities throughout the province because maintenance of country roads is a priority as we work together to ensure safe and strong communities."

- Lisa Thompson
Minister of Rural Affairs

"Clearway Construction strongly supports the Ontario government's new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program. By helping municipalities take a proactive approach to road maintenance, the program will reduce repair costs, prevent vehicle damage, and improve safety for all drivers. We're proud to support efforts that strengthen Ontario's infrastructure and keep our province moving forward."

- Anthony Di Battista
President, Clearway Construction

"The Pothole Prevention and Repair Program is great news for Northwestern Ontario's smaller and rural municipalities. This investment will help local governments tackle long-standing maintenance needs, protect critical transportation corridors, and improve safety for families and workers who rely on these roads every day. We commend the province for recognizing the unique infrastructure realities of the Northwest and for continuing to invest in programs that strengthen our communities and keep the region moving."

- Rick Dumas
President, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)

"This new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program is welcome news for Northern Ontario communities. With 105 of our member municipalities eligible, this investment will help maintain safer roads, support local economies, and reduce the financial strain of emergency repairs. FONOM appreciates the province's continued attention to the unique infrastructure needs of small and rural municipalities."

- Dave Plourde

President, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

"As a proud partner of the Ontario government, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus — representing 103 municipalities — commends the Ontario government for its investment in municipal roads. Programs like the Pothole Prevention and Repair Program are vital for protecting municipal assets and ensuring municipal roads continue to serve communities across eastern Ontario."

- Bonnie Clark

Chair, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC)

"CAA South Central Ontario commends the Government of Ontario for its commitment to improving road safety and maintenance through the new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program. This investment will provide important support to smaller municipalities in addressing local infrastructure needs and enhancing the overall driving experience for Ontarians."

- Lauren Fisher

Manager, Government and Stakeholder Relations, CAA South Central Ontario

Additional Resources

[Ontario Fighting Gridlock and Making Life Easier for Drivers](#)

[The Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024](#)

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Ontario Breaks Ground on Canada's Largest Battery Storage Project

Skyview 2 storage facility will have enough capacity to power nearly 400,000 homes

November 12, 2025

[Office of the Premier](#)

[Energy and Mines](#)

EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL — Construction is now underway on the single largest battery storage facility ever procured in Canadian history, supporting the Ontario government's plan to deliver reliable, affordable and clean energy to power the province's growing economy and communities. Once complete, the new Skyview 2 Battery Energy Storage System will provide enough capacity to power nearly 400,000 homes, strengthening the province's electricity grid and protecting Ontario workers and jobs by supporting a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant provincial economy.

"As part of our plan to protect Ontario, we're making record investments in energy generation, transmission and storage to make our province an energy superpower," said Premier Doug Ford. "Skyview 2 is an important part of that plan and will be a game-changer for Leeds and Grenville's economy, as well as our First Nations partners. It will help to deliver the reliable, clean and affordable energy needed to power our growing communities and economy for generations to come."

With electricity demand in Ontario forecasted to increase significantly by 2050, Skyview 2 marks an important milestone in Ontario's clean energy transition and will play a vital role in supporting the province's clean electricity grid. Once operational in 2027, the facility will store electricity from Ontario's clean electricity grid during periods of low demand and return that stored power to the system when demand is higher, while creating up to 300 jobs during construction and additional operational positions following completion.

"Ontario is building big and for future generations as we lead the largest nuclear and energy storage expansion in Canadian history," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "With shovels in the ground on Canada's largest battery storage

facility, our government is proud to support Canadian workers, Indigenous communities and affordability for all Ontarians."

The Skyview 2 project is a lithium-ion battery energy storage facility procured through the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) [Long-Term 1 Request for Proposals](#) (LT1 RFP). Developed in partnership between [Potentia Renewables Inc.](#) and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, the facility builds on other projects such as the [Oneida Energy Storage facility](#), to bring Ontario's total energy storage capacity to nearly 3,000 megawatts (MW) and collectively create up to 3,000 jobs across the province.

"On behalf of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, I want to thank our partners at Potentia, our project team and all those who have supported this important work", said Chief Greg Sarazin of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. "Together, we are showing that when First Nations are included as full participants in Canada's energy landscape, everyone benefits. Chì Mìgwech. Thank you."

Building the largest battery storage fleet in the country is a key pillar of [Energy for Generations](#), Ontario's long-term roadmap to deliver reliable, affordable and secure energy to power the most competitive economy in the G7. The plan also underscores the province's commitment to ensuring Indigenous partners share in the economic growth and prosperity generated by energy development in their territories as Ontario expands its electricity system. With a clear path forward, *Energy for Generations* is not only meeting the demands of today, but it is protecting jobs, supporting workers and powering economic growth for generations to come, while supporting economic reconciliation for generations to come.

Quick Facts

- Energy storage will allow the storage of baseload generation like nuclear and hydro while also supporting the integration of intermittent resources like wind and solar.
- Through the Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposals (E-LT1 RFP) and LT1 RFP procurements, Ontario has secured almost 3,000 MW of battery storage capacity, the largest single battery storage procurement in Canadian history.
- Nine out of 10 of the selected storage projects under the LT1 RFP have Indigenous ownership, representing more than 1,400 MW of capacity.
- The Ontario government has also launched the [Second Long-Term Request for Proposals](#) (LT2 RFP), the largest competitive energy procurement in the province's history.

- The government's series of competitive procurements are designed to attract a diverse mix of technologies through open, transparent processes that will secure the electricity Ontario needs to support the building of new homes, businesses and communities.

Quotes

"I'm proud that we're breaking ground on Canada's largest battery storage facility right here in Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal has demonstrated real leadership on this project, which brings together the private sector, municipalities, First Nations and our government. Today marks a significant milestone in building a cleaner, more reliable energy future that will power economic growth in Eastern Ontario and across the province."

- Steve Clark

MPP for Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes

"Edwardsburgh Cardinal is ready to lead. The groundbreaking of the Skyview 2 Battery Energy Storage System project marks a historic moment for our township and for Ontario's energy future. As the largest battery energy storage initiative in Canada, this project reflects our council's bold leadership, our proven ability to deliver and our commitment to supporting the infrastructure this province needs. We are a thankful and willing host because we know projects like this strengthen and protect Ontario jobs and contribute to Canada's economic resilience. I'm proud of our council for stepping up and saying yes to opportunity. With available land, a clear vision and the will to support critical infrastructure, Edwardsburgh Cardinal is doing its part and positioning itself as a driving force in the growth and resilience of the St. Lawrence region."

- Tory Deschamps

Mayor of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal

"The Skyview 2 Battery Energy Storage System reflects what's possible when partnership and collaboration come first. Working alongside the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal and the IESO, we're not only building Canada's largest battery energy system, we're building relationships that will deliver lasting benefits to all stakeholders."

**- Ben Greenhouse
CEO, Potentia Renewables**

"Ontario's electricity system plays a critical role supporting the province's economic growth, and the construction of Canada's largest battery storage project will help attract investment by keeping our grid reliable and affordable. The Skyview 2 project is a testament to the great things we can accomplish when Indigenous communities, municipalities, private industry and government work in partnership to shape our shared energy future."

**- Lesley Gallinger
President and CEO, Independent Electricity System Operator**

"Skyview 2 is a landmark achievement and a powerful demonstration of how Ontario is leading the country on energy storage procurement. This project strengthens reliability and positions the province to compete for the next generation of investment. Energy Storage Canada recently released a Canadian Market Outlook for storage which shows that Canada will require more than 30 gigawatts of energy storage by 2050 to meet growing electricity demand and achieve a net-zero grid. Ontario's proactive investment through projects like Skyview 2 and its record-setting storage focused procurements sets the pace for the rest of the country and proves the province is ready to build the reliable, clean and competitive power system that industries and communities need."

**- Justin W. Rangooni
President & CEO, Energy Storage Canada**

"The start of construction on the Skyview 2 Battery Energy Storage System is a monumental achievement and a major milestone in Ontario's clean energy transition. As the largest facility of its kind in Canadian history, this project is essential to meeting Ontario's growing electricity demand and delivers on the province's long-term plan for a secure and affordable grid. We applaud the partnership between Potentia Renewables and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, which serves as a powerful model of economic reconciliation for critical infrastructure. By enhancing the reliability and flexibility of our system, this Indigenous-led initiative is cementing Ontario's position as a global leader and the most competitive jurisdiction for energy investment in the G7."

- Vince Brescia
President & CEO, Ontario Energy Association

"We welcome today's announcement, which will strengthen Ontario's grid, boost economic prospects and help advance economic reconciliation by ensuring Indigenous communities share in the benefits of clean growth. Energy storage is critical infrastructure. Clean, reliable, affordable power is a competitive advantage and a key reason investors choose Ontario as a place to build. As energy demand surges with economic and population growth, storage helps keep costs down, improves reliability and supports more clean generation. This is how we create jobs and grow Ontario's economy — by building the clean electricity grid business can count on."

- Merran Smith
President, New Economy Canada

"Battery energy storage is essential infrastructure for Canada's clean energy future, enabling us to maximize the value of power generation while maintaining grid reliability as electricity demand increases. The Skyview 2 project embodies meaningful Indigenous partnership and innovative technology working together to deliver the affordable, reliable power that Ontario needs to meet the demands of its growing economy. We're so pleased to see CanREA Industry Leader member Potentia and its partners at the Algonquin of Pikwakanagan First Nation leading this charge. With the Ontario government's support of predictable procurements for capacity and energy, we can expect more projects like this to bring value to Ontarians."

- Vittoria Bellissimo

President and CEO, Canadian Renewable Energy Association (CanREA)

"Energy storage strengthens Ontario's grid by aligning production with consumption and reducing waste. It's exactly the kind of smart infrastructure investment Ontario Chamber members support. By building a more flexible, efficient system, Ontario is advancing the competitiveness and reliability our growing economy demands."

- Daniel Tisch

President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Additional Resources

- [Learn about *Energy for Generations*, Ontario's integrated plan to power the strongest economy in the G7](#)

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Ontario Investing \$180 Million to Boost Nursing in Long-Term Care

New incentives will bring 4,000 new nurses to long-term care and help 4,000 current nurses advance their careers

November 12, 2025

[Long-Term Care](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is delivering on its plan to protect the province's long-term care system by investing more than \$180 million to launch new programs that will attract and retain close to 8,000 highly-skilled nurses, enhancing the care residents receive.

"Our government is improving long-term care by training, hiring and retaining thousands of health-care workers," said Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. "As a registered nurse, I know how important bringing more nurses into Ontario's long-term care homes is to helping ensure residents receive the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve."

In August, the Ontario government [announced](#) \$56.8 million to expand the number of nursing training and education seats at publicly assisted colleges and universities across the province, with the goal of training 2,200 additional nurses into the health-care system. Building on this work, Ontario is now launching a new suite of initiatives to bring more nurses to long-term care:

- **Nursing Partnership for Learning, Employment, Development, Growth, and Experience (Nursing PLEDGE)** – Ontario will invest \$110 million over three years to help homes establish nursing mentorship programs that will help people build careers and skills, supporting close to 4,000 mentors and their mentees by 2027-28.
- **Jumpstart Opportunities in Nursing in Long-Term Care (JOIN LTC)** – Ontario will invest \$70 million over three years in JOIN LTC, which allows eligible nurses who commit to working in long-term care for two years to receive an incentive of \$25,000, with an additional \$10,000 available for those who commit to a rural, remote or northern home, plus \$10,000 more to help with relocation

costs. This program aims to bring 4,000 new nurses to long-term care by 2027-28.

- **Externship pilot program** – Ontario is investing \$665,000 in 2026-27 in a pilot that will enable up to 40 nursing students to work at long-term care homes and gain valuable experience as they work towards graduation.

Building a strong, resilient long-term care workforce is one more way the government is ensuring Ontarians get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve. The plan to improve long-term care 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

- Seniors — people age 65 and older — make up the fastest growing age group in the province.
- In the first quarter of the government's 2025-26 fiscal year, residents received an average of 4 hours and 5 minutes of PSW and nursing care every day.
- 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.

Quotes

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is continuing to protect Ontario's health-care system — and that includes protecting long-term care. Through this over \$180 million investment, our government is launching new programs to attract and retain highly skilled nurses, ensuring Ontario's seniors can receive the high-quality care they need and deserve, no matter where they live."

- Sylvia Jones
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

"WeRPN is pleased with the Ontario government's comprehensive approach to supporting nurses in long-term care settings — the majority of which are RPNs. This critical funding will not only attract more nurses to the sector but also ensure they are well-supported and encouraged to build lasting careers, translating to better, more consistent care for long-term care patients."

- Dianne Martin, RPN
CEO, Registered Practical Nurses Association of Ontario (WeRPN)

"This investment represents a significant step forward in strengthening long-term care (LTC) across Ontario. By supporting both new and experienced RPNs, RNs, and NPs, we are advancing the compassionate, high-quality care that residents need and deserve. Nurses play an essential role in enhancing the lives of seniors, and these programs will help build a more stable, expert, and dedicated workforce — one that honours both residents and the nurses who care for them in Ontario's LTC homes."

- Dr. Doris Grinspun, RN, BScN, MSN, PhD, LL.D(hon), Dr(hc), DHC, DHC,
FAAN, FCAN, O.ONT.
CEO, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO)

"NPAO welcomes the initiatives and investments introduced today by the provincial government. As healthcare leaders, Nurse Practitioners (NPs) play a key role in providing compassionate, holistic and high-quality care for those living in long-term care (LTC). Supporting the recruitment and retention of NPs in LTC settings is critical to supporting the health, well-being and quality of life of Ontario's seniors. We look forward to continuing to work with the provincial government to foster LTC environments where NPs can thrive, build careers, develop skills and protect Ontario's most vulnerable."

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

Additional Resources

- [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)
 - [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
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Ontario Launching New Student and Family Support Offices at Every School Board

Province building a strong, accountable education system by giving families a direct way to raise concerns, get help and find solutions faster

November 13, 2025

[Education](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is requiring school boards to establish Student and Family Support Offices, so parents and guardians have a clear, effective way to get help regarding their child’s education and find solutions faster. The offices will act as an additional way to help families get answers on broader community concerns, as well as contentious or complex issues that need to be escalated after speaking with the school. This initiative is one more way the government is delivering on its broader plan to make school boards more accountable and focused on student success with a back-to-basics approach that strengthens student achievement and prepares them for rewarding careers.

“Better access for parents means better outcomes for students,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. “Student and Family Support Offices will give families clear answers and timely solutions when it comes to their child’s education. We’re going to continue overhauling an outdated school board governance model so that more resources go into classrooms, teachers have better support and students have the best chance to succeed.”

Student and Family Support Offices will open in January 2026 at each of the five supervised school boards: Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, Thames Valley District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board and Toronto District School Board. Further details will be available on each of these school boards’ websites by January 19, 2026.

All other school boards will be expected to submit a report by March 31, 2026, outlining how they will establish an office by September 1, 2026. Each office will be led by a supervisory officer.

Student and Family Support Offices will review concerns raised by families to help resolve matters that need to be escalated following initial engagement with a child's teacher and principal. As part of their mandate, offices will streamline the feedback process to acknowledge inquiries within two business days and aim to provide a response within five business days. This will make the education system more responsive and accessible for families by ensuring existing resources can be directed to help students, parents and families navigate the education system and make sure their concerns are addressed.

These actions reflect the government's continued focus on upholding public trust in Ontario's publicly funded education system and are part of the government's plan to build a strong, accountable and well-supported public education system with a back-to-basics approach that is focused on improving student outcomes.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is providing [historic levels of education funding](#) in 2025–26, with an investment of \$30.3 billion in Core Education Funding. This funding supports a back-to-basics approach focused on strengthening core skills in reading, writing and math, supporting students with special education needs, and expanding access to mental health services.
- The government has [introduced Bill 33: Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025](#), that, if passed, would strengthen oversight of school board finances, governance and program performance and grant the Minister of Education the authority to act swiftly in matters of public interest.
- When school boards fail to meet their responsibilities, the government has not hesitated to act. Supervisors have been appointed to [five school boards](#) to address concerns regarding growing deficits, depleting reserves and ongoing cases of mismanagement.

Additional Resources

[School board reviews and investigations](#)

[Your child's education: a parent guide to our school system](#)

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

[Education funding for school boards, 2025–2026](#)

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

[Ontario Strengthening Governance, Accountability and Transparency in School Boards, Postsecondary Institutions and Children's Aid Societies](#)

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Ontario Launching Road Safety Initiatives Fund

Province supporting proven traffic-calming measures in school zones and community safety zones while keeping costs down for drivers

November 13, 2025

[Transportation](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing \$210 million through the Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) to support increased road safety in school zones and community safety zones without using speed cameras that make life more expensive for drivers and taxpayers. The RSIF will instead provide financial support for proven road safety measures that do not raise costs for drivers, including traffic-calming infrastructure like speed bumps, raised crosswalks, and roundabouts as well as high visibility signage and increased police enforcement in school zones and community safety zones where municipal speed cameras were previously deployed.

“Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is standing up for drivers by banning cash-grab speed cameras and supporting proven road safety measures that will make a real difference,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “Ontario has some of the safest roads in North America and our new Road Safety Initiatives Fund will build on this record by ensuring municipalities have the resources they need to implement proven traffic-calming measures without making life more expensive for drivers.”

As part of the RSIF, the Ontario government will provide \$42 million in immediate funding to support traffic-calming measures in school zones and community safety zones that previously deployed municipal speed cameras. Early next year, eligible municipalities will be invited to apply to the RSIF for the remainder of the funding and submit construction plans for traffic-calming infrastructure.

In response to public concerns over the increased use of municipal speed cameras as a revenue-raising tool, the *Building a More Competitive Economy Act*, which received Royal Assent on November 3, 2025, prohibits the use of municipal speed cameras as of November 14, 2025. These concerns were driven by a significant increase in the use of speed cameras by certain municipalities, with more than 700

cameras added since 2019. The use of these cameras resulted in Ontarians being charged with millions of dollars in fines, including a single camera in the City of Toronto that issued more than 65,000 tickets and took in nearly \$7 million in fines prior to 2025.

Quick Facts

- All municipalities that previously used municipal speed cameras will be eligible to apply for the Road Safety Initiatives Fund. The \$210 million in funding provided through the RSIF is one-time funding.
 - For 25 years, Ontario has ranked among the top five jurisdictions in North America for road safety, with one of the lowest fatality rates per 10,000 licensed drivers.
 - The [Road Safety Community Partnership Program](#) provides funding to not-for-profit organizations for public awareness initiatives, campaigns or events that address priority road safety issues. Municipalities can partner with applicant organizations, which are eligible to apply for funding.
 - The [Reduced Impaired Driving Everywhere \(RIDE\) grant program](#) provides funding to help police services across the province keep impaired drivers off streets and highways through year-round education campaigns and roadside spot checks.
-

Additional Resources

[Province Introducing Legislation to Protect Ontario by Building a More Competitive Economy](#)

[Ontario Protecting Taxpayers by Banning Municipal Speed Cameras](#)

Related Topics

Driving and road safety

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

Jobs and employment

Find resources and supports for job seekers and employers. [Learn more](#)

Recreation and tourism

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

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Ontario Investing in Mental Health Supports to Protect Public Safety Personnel

November 14, 2025

[Solicitor General](#)

As part of its plan to protect Ontario and keep communities safe, the Ontario government is investing \$32 million to expand access to specialized mental health services for first responders and public safety personnel.

The following emergency health, fire and police services are receiving funding through the 2025-26 Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel (MHS4PSP) program:

Emergency health services

Beausoleil First Nation - \$30,000

City of Cornwall (Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance) - \$30,000

City of Cornwall - \$25,000

City of Greater Sudbury - \$30,000

City of Guelph (Guelph Wellington Paramedic Service) - \$25,000

City of Hamilton - \$25,000

City of Kawartha Lakes - \$25,000

City of Kenora (Kenora Central Ambulance Communications Centre) - \$30,000

City of Thunder Bay (Superior North Emergency Medical Service) - \$30,000

Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board - \$30,000

County of Bruce - \$25,000

County of Dufferin - \$25,000

County of Elgin - \$25,000

County of Essex - \$25,000

County of Frontenac - \$25,000

County of Grey - \$25,000

County of Hastings - \$25,000

County of Huron - \$25,000

County of Lambton - \$25,000

County of Lanark - \$25,000

County of Lennox and Addington - \$25,000

County of Middlesex - \$25,000

County of Norfolk- \$25,000

County of Northumberland - \$25,000

County of Oxford - \$25,000

County of Perth - \$25,000

County of Peterborough - \$25,000

County of Renfrew - \$25,000

District Municipality of Muskoka - \$25,000

District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board - \$30,000

District of Rainy River Social Services Administration Board - \$30,000

District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board - \$30,000

District of Timiskaming Social Services Administration Board - \$30,000

Haldimand County - \$25,000

Municipality of Chatham-Kent - \$25,000

Nautkamegwanning First Nation - \$30,000

Oneida Nation of the Thames - \$30,000

Regional Municipality of Durham - \$25,000

Regional Municipality of Peel - \$25,000

Regional Municipality of Waterloo - \$25,000

Regional Municipality of York - \$25,000

United Counties of Leeds and Grenville - \$25,000

Weeneebayko Area Health Authority - \$30,000

Fire services

City of Barrie - \$25,000

City of Cambridge - \$25,000

City of Dryden - \$30,000

City of Greater Sudbury - \$30,000

City of Guelph - \$25,000

City of Kenora - \$30,000

City of Kenora (Ignace Fire Department) - \$30,000

City of Kenora (Sioux Lookout Emergency Services Department) - \$30,000

City of Kingston - \$25,000

City of Kitchener - \$25,000

City of London - \$25,000

City of Markham - \$25,000

City of Mississauga - \$25,000

City of North Bay - \$30,000

City of Orillia - \$25,000

City of Oshawa - \$25,000

City of Peterborough - \$25,000

City of St. Thomas - \$25,000

City of Sault Ste. Marie - \$30,000

City of Thorold - \$25,000

City of Thunder Bay - \$30,000

City of Timmins - \$30,000

City of Toronto - \$25,000

City of Waterloo - \$25,000

County of Prince Edward - \$25,000

Haldimand County - \$25,000

Municipality of Chatham-Kent - \$25,000

Municipality of Clarington - \$25,000

Municipality of North Middlesex - \$25,000

Municipality of North Perth - \$25,000

Municipality of Thames Centre - \$25,000

Six Nations of the Grand River - \$30,000

The Nation Municipality - \$25,000

Town of Ajax - \$25,000

Town of Amherstburg - \$25,000

Town of Aylmer - \$25,000

Town of Caledon - \$25,000

Town of Cobourg - \$25,000

Town of East Gwillimbury - \$25,000

Town of Essex - \$25,000

Town of Fort Erie - \$25,000

Town of Goderich - \$25,000

Town of Greater Napanee - \$25,000

Town of Iroquois Falls - \$30,000

Town of Midland - \$25,000

Town of Milton - \$25,000

Town of Minto - \$25,000

Town of Minto (Mapleton Fire Rescue) - \$25,000

Town of Minto (Wellington North Fire Services) - \$25,000

Town of New Tecumseth - \$25,000

Town of Penetanguishene - \$25,000

Town of Petawawa - \$25,000

Town of Oakville - \$25,000

Town of Orangeville - \$25,000

Township of Centre Wellington - \$25,000

Township of Conmee - \$30,000

Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley - \$25,000

Township of Huntsville - \$25,000

Township of Loyalist - \$25,000

Township of Malahide - \$25,000

Township of Malahide (Bayham Fire and Emergency Services) - \$25,000

Township of Malahide (Southwood Fire Department) - \$25,000

Township of Malahide (West Elgin Fire Department) - \$25,000

Township of Minden Hills - \$25,000

Township of North Dundas - \$25,000

Township of North Glengarry - \$25,000

Township of North Stormont - \$25,000

Township of Puslinch - \$25,000

Township of South Glengarry - \$25,000

Township of Springwater - \$25,000

Township of Stone Mills - \$25,000

Wasauksing First Nation - \$30,000

Police services

Anishinabek Police Service - \$30,000

Brantford Police Services Board - \$25,000

Brockville Police Service - \$25,000

Chatham-Kent Police Service Board - \$25,000

Cornwall Community Police Services Board - \$25,000

Durham Regional Police Service - \$25,000

Guelph Police Service Board - \$25,000

Halton Regional Police Service - \$25,000

Kawartha Lakes Police Service - \$25,000

London Police Service Board - \$25,000

Niagara Regional Police Service - \$25,000

North Bay Police Service - \$30,000

Peel Regional Police - \$25,000

Port Hope Police Services Board - \$25,000

Saugeen Shores Police Service Board - \$25,000

Sault Ste. Marie Police Service - \$30,000

Six Nations Police Service - \$30,000

South Simcoe Police Service - \$25,000

Stratford Police Services Board - \$25,000

Thunder Bay Police Service - \$30,000

Timmins Police Service Board - \$30,000

Toronto Police Service - \$25,000

Waterloo Regional Police Service Board - \$25,000

Windsor Police Service Board - \$25,000

Additional Resources

[Ontario Expanding Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel](#)

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Ontario Investing \$3 Million to Boost Sport Tourism

Province accepting applications for next round of Sport Hosting Program to support sport tourism and local economies

November 17, 2025

[Sport](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is now accepting applications for the first intake of the 2026-27 [Sport Hosting Program](#), which provides funding support to communities and sport organizations hosting national and international amateur competitions. This program is one more way the government is delivering on its plan to protect Ontario by boosting tourism, creating jobs and strengthening local economies across the province.

“Sport tourism is a powerful economic driver, and an important part of our government’s plan to protect Ontario’s economy,” said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Sport. “Our Sport Hosting Program helps communities unlock the benefits of hosting major events and gives our athletes the opportunity to compete here at home, while reinforcing Ontario’s reputation as a premier destination for world-class events.”

With an annual investment of \$3 million, the program has supported over 230 events since 2018, contributing approximately \$220 million to Ontario’s economy. Recent events supported through the program include Canada Basketball’s 2025 Globl Jam in Toronto, the 2025 World Junior Girls Golf Championship in St. Catharines, the 2025 Women’s Volleyball Nations League in Ottawa and the 2025 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball League Women’s National Championship in Durham Region.

By helping communities host these events, the program not only drives economic activity and boosts local tourism, but it also gives Ontario athletes the elite-competition experience they need to excel on the world stage, right here at home.

Organizations can apply for the Ontario Sport Hosting Program – Intake I funding online through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) until January 12, 2026.

Quick Facts

- Each year, the Ontario Sport Hosting Program brings together on average approximately 9,500 amateur athletes, 3,000 volunteers and 100,000 community supporters to Ontario.
- Successful applicants can use this funding to help with operational costs, including venue, staffing, participant expenses (such as accommodations and meals) and legacy projects.
- Through the 2025-26 Sport Hosting Program – Intake II, Ontario is investing more than \$1.6 million to support 20 national and 10 international amateur sport events, which are expected to attract 10,000 athletes and generate \$34 million in economic activity for Ontario.
- The government's investments through Ontario's \$200 million [Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund](#) are helping communities upgrade sport facilities, paving the way for more hosting opportunities.

Quotes

"Support from Ontario's Sport Hosting Program has allowed us to deliver two World Aquatics Swimming World Cups and multiple national championships, while also creating opportunities for legacy community events. This investment strengthens our ability to host world-class competition in Ontario and ensures long-term benefits for our athletes, officials, and local Ontario sport communities."

- Suzanne Paulins
CEO, Swimming Canada

"On behalf of Canada Basketball, I want to extend our sincere thanks to the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Sport for their continued partnership and support through the Ontario Sport Hosting Program. An investment in events like GLOBL JAM not only helps Canada Basketball showcase world-class basketball right here in Toronto, but also creates meaningful opportunities for young Canadian athletes to compete against the best in the world, while inspiring the next generation of players and fans across the province."

- Michael Bartlett
President & CEO, Canada Basketball

"In addition to the economic benefits of hosting a major sports event, the Ontario Hosting Program has been instrumental in bringing world-calibre volleyball to Ontario, it has elevated the performance of our women's and men's national teams and created exposure to the sport that has contributed to the growth of youth volleyball."

- Mark Eckert
President & CEO, Volleyball Canada

"The Ontario Sport Hosting Program has been instrumental in helping ONPARA deliver high-quality national parasport events that showcase Ontario's leadership in inclusion and accessibility. Support from this program made it possible to host the 2025 Wheelchair Basketball National Championships in Durham, creating a meaningful legacy for athletes and the community that will continue to strengthen parasport across the province."

- Doug Hannum
Executive Director, Ontario Wheelchair Sports (ONPARA)

"Through the support of the Province of Ontario's Sport Hosting Program, Golf Canada has been extremely fortunate to elevate the profile of multiple national championships. This program has enhanced the athlete experience, deepened community engagement, and enabled the creation of meaningful legacy initiatives that leave a lasting impact within host communities across the province."

- Garrett Ball
Chief Operating Officer, Golf Canada

Additional Resources

[Ontario Sport Hosting Program](#)

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

Related Topics

Business and economy

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

Recreation and tourism

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

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Ontario Protecting Families by Holding Impaired Drivers Accountable

Province developing requirement that would see impaired drivers causing death provide financial support for children of victims

November 18, 2025

[Attorney General](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is developing new measures that would require impaired drivers to pay ongoing child support if they kill a child's parent or guardian. The initiative would build on recent measures passed in the *Safer Roads and Communities Act, 2024*, and is part of the government's ongoing work to protect Ontario families and communities by holding impaired drivers accountable for their reckless and illegal behaviour. These financial support measures would build on existing liabilities for impaired drivers, including the ability of victims' families to sue impaired drivers in civil court.

"No child should have to bear the weight of losing a parent to impaired driving," said Attorney General Doug Downey. "The devastating impact reaches far beyond the immediate loss—it can leave children struggling emotionally and financially. That's why our government is looking at practical solutions that can ease their burden in the wake of such tragedies and provide financial stability for children who are left behind."

Impaired driving is illegal, preventable and the leading cause of death on Ontario roads. In 2021, there were 182 fatalities caused by impaired driving. This includes 96 drinking and driving fatalities and 86 fatalities due to drugs.

"When a drunk driver takes an innocent life, it imposes a life sentence on the family left behind, especially the children who are suddenly without a parent," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "Ontario already has some of the toughest penalties in North America for impaired and reckless driving. Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we are taking another step to strengthen support for victims and their families."

In 2023, Texas introduced a similar requirement that impaired drivers convicted of “intoxication manslaughter” who have killed a child’s parent or guardian pay child support until the child turns 18 or graduates high school. The province will be exploring this requirement and other examples as it considers the best way to effectively implement this proposal and hold impaired drivers accountable.

Quick Facts

- This policy proposal is part of an upcoming legislative package that will support the government’s work to hold criminals accountable and support victims of crime.
 - [Impaired driving](#) means operating a vehicle while the ability to do so has been compromised to any degree by a substance such as alcohol or drugs.
 - The [Safer Roads and Communities Act, 2024](#) introduced a lifetime licence suspension for anyone convicted of impaired driving causing death under the *Criminal Code*.
-

Quotes

"MADD Canada works with those impacted by impaired driving every day, and we know the harsh reality families face because of someone else’s harmful choices. We applaud the Ontario government for looking into additional measures that would hold offenders accountable and support victims—particularly minors—impacted by the loss of a guardian that was killed by a drunk driver."

- Steve Sullivan
CEO, MADD Canada

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Taking Impaired Drivers Off the Road](#)
 - [MADD Canada](#)
-

Related Topics

Courts, justice and law

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

Driving and road safety

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

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Ontario Protecting Ratepayers by Expanding Energy Savings Programs

New rebates and incentives will help families save money and help businesses grow

November 19, 2025

[Energy and Mines](#)

NORTH YORK – As part of its plan to protect Ontario by keeping energy costs down, the government is expanding its energy savings programs, introducing new rebates for energy-efficient home appliances and incentives for industrial, municipal, institutional and health-care organizations. Ontario’s energy savings programs are part of province’s 12-year, \$10.9 billion [Energy Efficiency Framework](#), the largest investment in energy-efficiency programs in Canadian history, and [Energy for Generations](#), the province’s first-ever integrated energy plan.

“With electricity demand rising, keeping more money in people’s pockets has never been more important,” said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. “By expanding Ontario’s energy savings programs to include energy efficient appliances, families save money and Ontario saves power – the ultimate win-win. After energy costs quadrupled under the former government, our number one priority is affordability for families, which is why we expanded this savings program, permanently cut the gas tax, and led the charge to scrap the carbon tax.”

With electricity demand projected to significantly increase over the next 25 years, maximizing available grid capacity is essential to reducing strain and lowering energy costs. Many homes and businesses still use inefficient appliances and industrial processes, which increases energy consumption and drives up costs. This presents a clear need for accessible, cost-saving solutions to help Ontarians cut energy use, lower bills, and ensure a reliable power system for the future.

Starting this fall, under the [Home Renovation Savings Program](#) (HRSP), eligible households will be able to receive rebates of up to \$200 off for a wide range of energy-efficient appliances, including refrigerators, freezers and laundry machines. Appliances can be purchased from any retailer – online or in-store – and rebates will be issued within 60 days of approval. All homes on Ontario’s electricity grid will

be eligible, including condos and apartments, as long as the appliance meets the eligibility criteria, including the replacement of existing, less energy-efficient electric appliances.

Enhancements to the HRSP also include new rebates for attic insulation without needing a home energy assessment. This will increase speed and make it easier for homeowners to apply and save money. Attic insulation is still available through the assessment-based stream, allowing for flexible consumer choice when it comes renovating your home.

On January 7, 2025, Ontario launched the first phase of the energy savings program, including savings for efficiency upgrades such as insulation, smart thermostats and rooftop solar. The energy savings program is on track to exceed its 2025 targets, with up to 685 gigawatt-hours in energy savings and 226 megawatts in peak demand reduction achieved as of June 2025 – the equivalent of taking over 220,000 homes off the grid.

The province is also expanding support for large-scale energy efficiency projects for industrial, municipal, institutional and health-care organizations. The [Save on Energy XRate Program](#) will increase the per project incentive from \$5 million to \$15 million to support large, complex, industrial capital projects that deliver measurable energy savings using proven technologies to improve efficiency and reduce electricity consumption.

Key features include:

- **Feasibility study support:** Covers 50 per cent of study costs, up to \$100,000, to help organizations scope and develop eligible projects
- **Streamlined application processes:** A single sign-off and first-come-first-served intake making it faster and easier to apply
- **Broader eligibility and longer timelines:** To support early-stage planning and implementation across a wider range of sectors

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

Ontario's [Energy Efficiency Framework](#) is forecasted to reduce the province's peak demand by 3,000 megawatts by 2036, which is the equivalent of taking three million homes off the grid. By lowering operating costs for households and businesses and freeing up electricity capacity, these measures help strengthen Ontario's competitiveness on the global stage and support the government's goal of making Ontario one of the most competitive economies in the G7.

Quick Facts

- The expanded energy programs announced today build on the 14 new and expanded energy-efficiency programs, including the [Home Renovation Savings Program](#) (HRSP) that was announced on January 7, 2025.
 - This builds on Ontario's historic [\\$10.9 billion investment in energy efficiency](#). The HRSP is a "one window" program delivered in partnership with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and Enbridge Gas, streamlining access to rebates for energy-efficient upgrades and helping Ontarians make smart choices that reduce energy use and lower monthly bills.
 - The government's \$10.9 billion investment over 12 years is also estimated to result in \$23.1 billion in nominal electricity system benefits, thereby saving ratepayers \$12.2 billion in electricity system costs by helping to avoid the build out of new generation.
-

Quotes

"As our province grows, we need to ensure Ontario's electricity system remains reliable and affordable. That is why our government is introducing new and expanded rebates that help Ontarians improve energy efficiency, cut energy use, and lower their bills. By investing in these measures today, we are strengthening the grid and securing the energy future our economy and communities need to thrive."

- Michelle Cooper
MPP for Eglinton-Lawrence

"Ontario's investment in energy efficiency shows how demand-side solutions can lower costs, create good jobs, and make our energy system more reliable. When we treat saved energy like a resource, it pays people instead of power plants — and that's a smart approach for affordability and climate progress."

- Corey Diamond
Executive Director, Efficiency Canada

"Energy efficiency is a critical part of the solution to meet our growing long-term energy needs. That's why the IESO's Save on Energy programs are so valuable. They help homeowners save money and businesses be more competitive — and they directly contribute to a more reliable and affordable electricity system."

- Lesley Gallinger
President and CEO, IESO

"Ontario Chamber members strongly support energy efficiency programs to help lower costs and meet their climate goals. By supporting businesses in doing so, today's announcement gives employers more room to invest, innovate and grow, and strengthens Ontario's competitiveness in the clean economy of tomorrow."

- Daniel Tisch
President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce

"We applaud the government for its leadership and extraordinary support for energy efficiency in Ontario. The new and expanded rebates for energy-efficiency demonstrate the government's commitment to a clean and efficient grid, by empowering consumers to make investments that help the environment and reduce energy bills."

- Vince Brescia
President & CEO, Ontario Energy Association

"Enbridge commends the government for its leadership in expanding their conservation programs. With a long history of delivering residential DSM programs, we know Ontarians want to take meaningful action to reduce their energy bills, and conserve energy. These DSM programs are among the most effective ways to do so. We are proud to partner with the government and IESO to deliver the Home Renovations Savings program, which is an important example of the renewed focus on integrated energy planning, and puts customers first by making it easier than ever to participate."

- Brian Johnson

Senior Vice President and General Manager, Enbridge Gas Ontario

"The Ontario Home Builders' Association welcomes the government's continued commitment to improving energy efficiency and reducing costs for Ontario families and businesses. These new and expanded rebates will make it easier for homeowners to invest in energy-saving upgrades while supporting our industry's efforts to build and renovate homes that are more sustainable and affordable. Programs like these not only help homeowners lower their energy bills but also strengthen Ontario's path toward a more reliable, efficient, and resilient energy future."

- Scott Andison

CEO, Ontario Home Builders' Association

"CME welcomes this important investment in energy-efficiency programs. With electricity demand expected to rise sharply in the coming decades, supporting businesses with rebates and incentives is critical to keeping costs down and ensuring a reliable power system. By expanding the Save on Energy XRate Program, the government is helping manufacturers reduce costs, improve competitiveness, and reinvest in innovation, jobs, and growth across the province."

- Dennis Darby

President and CEO, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)

"Enhancements to the Home Renovation Savings Program are a welcome change to this important initiative. Providing rebates to homeowners that assist them in acquiring energy efficient appliances helps Ontarians to upgrade their homes, supports the Ontario economy, reduces pressures on the electricity grid and helps meet our climate goals. We applaud Minister Steven Lecce's leadership and the Government's work to support Ontarians."

- Richard Lyall
President, RESCON

Additional Resources

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

[Ontario Launches New Energy Efficiency Programs to Save You Money](#)

[Save on Energy Home Renovation Savings Program](#)

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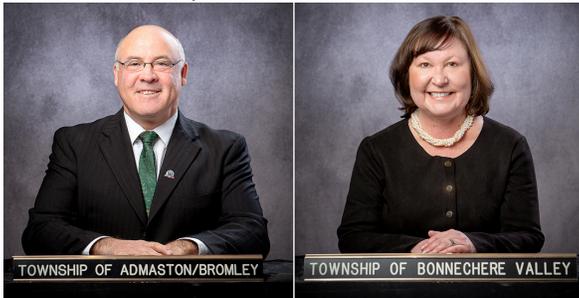
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Councillors Michael Donohue and Jennifer Murphy nominated for 2026 County of Renfrew Warden

Posted on Friday, November 14, 2025



Admaston/Bromley Mayor Michael Donohue (left) and Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy have both been nominated for 2026 Warden of the County of Renfrew. An election will take place at the Inaugural Session of County Council on December 10.

RELEASE DATE:

November 14, 2025

Election to take place December 10 at Inaugural Session

Mayor Michael Donohue of the Township of Admaston/Bromley and Mayor Jennifer Murphy of the Township of Bonnechere Valley have both been nominated for the 2026 Warden's seat.

A ballot vote by County Councillors will take place on December 10, 2025 during the Inaugural Session of County Council to decide who will assume the Office of the Warden of the County of Renfrew for 2026.

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

The Warden fulfills the role as head of council. The nomination process closed at noon on November 14, 2025 (the second Friday in November) and if there is more than one nomination, an election is required at the December meeting to determine the Warden for the upcoming year.

This marks the second consecutive year that there will be an election for Warden.

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Construction Update - November 2025

Posted on Thursday, November 06, 2025



County Road 512 (Foymount Road) - Township of Bonnechere Valley

Construction Update – November 6, 2025

The County of Renfrew's Public Works and Engineering Department provides monthly updates on construction in the area. Please visit the link below to sign up to receive these updates by email: <https://renfrew-county.civilspace.io/en/projects/2025-county-transportation-infrastructure-projects>

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

Ongoing Projects

County Road 4 (Storyland Road) – Township of Horton

Construction on Storyland Road, from Alex Lane to Highway 17, started September 22, 2025 and is expected to finish mid-November. During construction, parts of Storyland Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

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

Rock removal and widening of the causeway is complete on Matawatchan Road, about 8.2km south of Highway 41. Utility relocations have also been completed, and road construction on Matawatchan Road, from Civic Address 4882 to Centennial Lake Road, continued in mid-October and is expected to finish mid-November. During construction, areas of Matawatchan Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

County Road 512 (Foymount Road) – Township of Bonnechere Valley

Construction on Foymount Road, from Silver Lake Road to Highway 41, started September 8, 2025 and is expected to finish late-November. During construction, parts of Foymount Road will only have one lane open, with lights or workers directing traffic.

County Structure B122 (Waba Creek Bridge) – Township of McNab/Braeside

Construction on Waba Creek Bridge, which is on Burnstown Road, about 0.7 km north of White Lake Road, started July 14, 2025 and is expected to finish late-November. During construction, only one lane will be open to cross the bridge, with signals directing traffic. Pedestrians can cross the bridge during construction.

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

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

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

Construction on Broomes Creek Culvert and Dam, which is on Foresters Falls Road, about 0.1km east of Foresters Falls, started May 1, 2025 and is expected to finish in 2026, with a stoppage over winter. During construction, and over the winter, the road in this area will be closed to all traffic, including pedestrians, with signs showing the detour route. The detour will follow Kohlsmith Road and Queens Line. For more details on this project, please visit: <https://renfrew-county.civilspace.io/en/projects/c201-broomes-creek-culvert-dam-reconstruction>

Algonquin Trail – Township of Head, Clara and Maria

Construction on Algonquin Trail, from Yates Road to Crossing Road, started September 29, 2025 and will finish late-November. Stone dust surface is also being applied from Mackey Creek Road to Yates Road. These sections of Algonquin Trail will remain closed until late 2025 once construction, including signage installation is completed.

Completed Projects

County Road 20 (Castleford Road) – Township of Horton

Construction on Castleford Road, from Highway 17 to Humphries Road, started August 25, 2025 and is nearly complete, with only shoulder sealing and line painting remaining to be completed.

County Road 26 (Doran Road) – Town of Petawawa

Construction on Doran Road, from Black Bay Road to Petawawa Boulevard, started July 22, 2025 and is nearly complete, with only line painting, minor sidewalk works, and a pedestrian crosswalk remaining to be completed.

County Road 52 (Burnstown Road) and 508 (Calabogie Road) – Township of McNab/Braeside

Construction on Burnstown Road, from the Burnstown Bridge to Picket Hill Lane, and on Calabogie Road from Stacey Drive to 1803 Calabogie Road, started August 11, 2025 and was completed October 17, 2025.

County Road 512 (Foymount Road) – Township of Bonnechere Valley

Construction on Foymount Road, from Quadeville Road to McCauley Mount Road, started August 11, 2025 and finished September 29, 2025.

C134 (Campbell Drive Culvert) – Township of McNab/Braeside

Construction for slope stabilization at Campbell Drive Culvert, on Campbell Drive, approximately 2.4km north of Highway 417, started on October 6, 2025 and finished on November 4, 2025. Hydroseeding remains to be completed; at which time the roadway will be limited to a single lane of traffic with lights or workers directing traffic.

PLEASE DRIVE WITH CARE THROUGH CONSTRUCTION SITES THANK YOU FOR PATIENCE

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HOLLY MOLENAAR

PODCAST HOST | CONTENT CREATOR



10:00–11:00 AM

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DECEMBER 10



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Renfrew County and District Health Unit

"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, November 7, 2025)

First local influenza case of the 2025/2026 season

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) has received laboratory confirmation of the first local case of influenza A for the 2025-2026 season.

Seasonal influenza, commonly known as the flu, is a contagious viral respiratory illness that affects the nose, throat, and lungs. The flu vaccine (flu shot) is the most effective way to prevent influenza infection and severe illness.

Flu shots are available for anyone aged 6 months or older at RCDHU clinics across Renfrew County and District, at participating pharmacies, or from your primary care provider.

To see the full RCDHU clinic schedule and to book your flu shot, visit www.rcdhu.com or call us at 613-732-9436 or 1-833-773-0004.

- 30 -

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Fax: 613-735-3067

media@rcdhu.com

www.rcdhu.com

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 1:23 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – 2025 Federal Budget Focuses on Infrastructure and Responding to Ongoing Trade Uncertainty



AMO Policy Update – 2025 Federal Budget Focuses on Infrastructure and Responding to Ongoing Trade Uncertainty

Top Insights

- This budget marks a shift from operational to capital spending. While significant (over \$50B) deficits are planned for the next five years, this is projected to be entirely driven by capital spending by 2028-29.
- The budget includes a significant federal infrastructure investment through the Build Communities Strong Fund, which will provide \$51B over ten years and include a \$5B Health Infrastructure Fund. AMO will be working to ensure Ontario municipalities can access these new infrastructure investments without simply trading them for development charge reductions.
- Previously announced Build Canada Homes investments of \$13B over five years will support non-market and factory-built housing.
- Yesterday, AMO [posted a policy update](#) to our website covering 2026 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund allocations, Building Faster Fund advocacy, Bill 30's fast-tracking, development charge changes and resources, and the legislated ban on municipal speed cameras.

2025 Federal Budget

Infrastructure and Development Charges

AMO has long called for infrastructure investments to support growth, build more homes, and provide economic stimulus in the face of the trade dispute with the United States and global economic uncertainty.

- Budget 2025 commits to launch a new **Build Communities Strong Fund** for infrastructure with \$51 billion over 10 years starting in 2026-27, including previously committed Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) funding.
- The Build Communities Strong Fund will comprise three streams:
 - A \$17.2 billion Provincial and Territorial Stream for housing-enabling infrastructure, infrastructure for college/universities, and health infrastructure (\$5B over three years has been earmarked for this purpose).
 - A \$6 billion Direct Delivery Stream to support regionally significant projects with private investment, large building retrofits, climate adaptation, and community infrastructure.
 - A \$27.8 billion Community Stream which is a rebrand of committed CCBF funding.
- To access the provincial-territorial funding stream, provinces will need to provide cost-match funding, substantially reduce development charges, and not levy other taxes that hinder the housing supply.
- AMO will continue to work with the province to modernize the development charge system and advocate for long-term and predictable infrastructure funding to replace any revenue lost from development charge reductions.

Trade & Tariff Response

Ontario municipalities have been strong partners in responding to the ongoing trade and tariff uncertainty and have faced significant cost escalation related to US tariffs. The Budget does not include any direct funding to support communities, but includes a number of infrastructure, innovation and business-focused investments:

- Introduction of a Buy Canadian Policy for federal procurement that will prioritize Canadian suppliers and inputs, require local contracts for federal procurement, and support small and medium businesses.
- Commits \$213.8 million over five years for the Major Projects Office and outlines projects including a critical minerals strategy, and reducing timelines to start construction on the Alto Rail Project by half.
 - The Budget outlines plans for the Major Projects Office to co-ordinate financing from the private sector and provincial governments and Crown corporations to support projects.
 - An additional \$2 billion over five years is proposed to create a Critical Minerals Sovereign Fund to make investments in critical mineral projects and companies.
- The Canada Infrastructure Bank’s statutory capital envelope will increase from \$35 billion to \$45 billion.
- Proposes \$925.6 million over five years to support a public AI infrastructure project that will increase the availability of domestic capacity for public and private research.
- Commits to \$97 million over five years to improve recognition of foreign credentials with a focus on health and construction sectors to help address labour shortages.
- Introduces a Strategic Response Fund of \$5 billion over six years to help businesses impacted by tariffs to adapt, and additional industry specific investments for sectors including agriculture, biofuel, forestry, and steel manufacturing.

Affordable Housing and Homelessness

AMO has long advocated for substantial provincial and federal investment in deeply affordable housing in order to re-orient our homelessness response to long-term and stable housing. While details about ongoing funding for critical homelessness programs like Reaching Home remain unclear, the government has affirmed its commitment around Build Canada Homes.

- As previously announced, Budget 2025 provides an initial investment of \$13 billion over five years starting in 2025-26 to launch Build Canada Homes with initial investments including:
 - Developing six public land sites to build 4,000 factory-built homes, with additional capacity of up to 45,000 units across Canada Lands Company’s portfolio.
 - Protecting existing affordable housing by launching the \$1.5 billion Canada Rental Protection Fund.

- Providing \$1 billion to build transitional and supportive housing for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Child Care and Early Learning

Negotiations between the province and federal government on the next Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) transfer are ongoing. The budget does not provide an update on provincial agreements but does commit to keep and grow the program.

- Budget 2025 provides an increase in Canada-wide early learning and child care transfer payments to provinces and territories from \$7.9 billion in 2025-26 to \$8.5 billion in 2029-30, reflecting 3 per cent per year growth for four years starting in 2027-28.

National School Food Program

AMO has advocated for investments in school food programs to respond to the growing food insecurity challenges faced in communities across Ontario.

- Budget 2025 proposes to introduce legislation to make the National School Food Program permanent and provide \$216.6 million per year, starting in 2029-30, to Employment and Social Development Canada, Indigenous Services Canada, and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada for the program.

Indigenous Relations

AMO welcomes the federal government's commitment to prioritizing investment in infrastructure that will support Indigenous Peoples and communities as action towards Economic Reconciliation. Significant announcements include:

- The Major Projects Office will be considering whether a project will advance the interests of Indigenous Peoples as part of their criteria for selected projects. In addition to previously announced commitments to support consultation, the federal government has committed to upholding Section 35 and the Duty to Consult, as well as implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including free, prior, and informed consent as part of the work of the Major Projects Office.

- Providing \$2.3 billion over three years, starting in 2026-27 to renew the First Nations Water and Wastewater Enhanced Program, maintaining progress on approximately 800 active projects.
- Increasing the Canada Infrastructure Bank's target for investment in Indigenous infrastructure from \$1 billion to at least \$3 billion across priority sectors.

Additional Non-Budget Advocacy

On Tuesday, [AMO released a Policy Update](#) on their website covering a range of pressing municipal issues unrelated to the Federal Budget. Top insights included:

- Allocations for the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) have been released.
- AMO provided the province with Board-advice to improve the Building Faster Fund by fixing housing start targets and tying funding to municipally determined, locally-specific reforms that create better conditions for homebuilding.
- Bill 30 was fast-tracked, bypassing public consultation. The bill proposes giving Skills Development Fund Capital Stream recipients exemptions from the Planning Act and potentially the Municipal Act.
- AMO advocacy and new municipal resources supporting implementation of development charge modernization changes, including the payment deferral that came into force.
- Legislation prohibiting automated speed enforcement receives Royal Assent.

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - November 6, 2025



November 06, 2025

In This Issue:

- New resources added to Gender-Based Violence toolkit.
- AMO releases resource to support increasing voter turnout.
- AMO releases new version of its Local Democracy Solutions Bank.
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- ROMA Conference concurrent sessions release.
- Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as a Diverse Candidate – Dec 3rd.
- Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's new, free workshop series is for you.
- Request your delegations at the ROMA Conference.
- ROMA Trade Show - selling out fast!
- Request for Proposals for AMO AGM and Annual Conference.
- How Municipalities Can Spot – and Stop – Professional Identity Fraud.
- Provide sewer and water line protection for homeowners.
- LTC Webinar for Councillors – Recording and Presentation Deck.
- IESO LT2 Q&A Session.
- IESO Long Lead Time Procurement Webinar.
- Invasive Species Action Fund.
- Partnering for Impact: Collaborating on Municipal Solutions.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

New resources have been added to [AMO's Gender-Based Violence Toolkit](#), including the newly launched [Leader's Pledge on Preventing and Addressing Sexual Misconduct](#).

[Turn Up the Turnout: A Resource on Voter Participation in Local Elections](#) equips politicians, policymakers, civil society leaders, and citizens with evidence-based strategies to increase voter turnout. This resource is part of AMO's Healthy Democracy Project designed to support AMO members to better engage residents in their communities, help people understand the important role of their local government, and understand how their voice and votes matter.

The new version of [AMO's Local Democracy Solutions Bank](#) includes a catalogue of existing resources for candidates looking to run or seek re-election. The resources have been collected

from national and local Ontario candidate support organizations. Explore growing catalogues of local democracy solutions, candidate supports, and local democracy related reports and research.

Provincial Matters

The OEB [issued a letter](#) advising interested stakeholders that it intends to commence a generic proceeding in 2026 to review the OEB's Model Franchise Agreement.

Education Opportunities

The ROMA 2026 Conference is a vital hub for sharing innovative solutions, gaining insight into best practices and tools that can drive the sustainability of your community. View the [program outline](#) and list of topics that will be explored at the conference and [register today](#).

Focused specifically on diverse candidates, AMO's [Running for Municipal Office – Everything You Need to Know as a Diverse Candidate](#) 90-minute workshop provides useful insights and strategies to support you in getting your name on the ballot.

Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities is designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. This workshop series is being offered at no charge in two streams: those considering re-election in 2026 and a second for first-time candidates who want to explore whether elected office is right for them. [Full details and registration information here](#).

ROMA is pleased to share that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) has launched its [delegation request process](#) for the 2026 ROMA Annual Conference. Only registered ROMA Conference delegates are eligible to participate in delegation meetings with the provincial government. [Register today](#).

ROMA members represent over 2.8 million residents living in about 1,000,000 households. Connect with rural municipal leaders at the ROMA Conference trade show. [Complete your application today](#) before it is sold out.

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LAS' Electronic Signature Program partner contributes an article about identifying fraudulent identity credentials. Read about various cases and [learn how to identify and stop these occurrences](#) in your municipality.

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Municipal Wire*

A [recording and presentation slides](#) are available for AdvantAge’s webinar on the long-term care environment from a municipal perspective. Municipal councils and staff involved in LTC are encouraged to review.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is hosting an [information session](#) on November 12th on its proposed “Long Lead Time” (LLT) Procurement followed by a [breakout session for municipalities](#). Attendees must register for the session and breakout separately.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is hosting a [Q&A session](#) about the proposal process for the long-term 2 procurements on November 13. The deadline for LT2 proposals is December 18.

The Invasive Species Centre is accepting proposals to the Invasive Species Action Fund to facilitate on-the-ground monitoring and management of critical invasive species. Visit www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/grants to apply by January 9th.

Join AMO and the [Future Cities Institute](#) on November 19th at 12:00pm for an interactive session exploring how municipal and post-secondary partnerships can tackle today’s most complex local challenges. Learn practical ways municipal leaders, planners, and researchers can collaborate with academic institutions to drive innovation and change. [Register here](#).

Careers

[Director of Children and Social Services - City of Greater Sudbury](#). Closing Date: November 25, 2025.

[Senior Policy Advisor \(Labour relations and contingency planning\)/ Conseiller principal en politiques \(relations de travail et planification des mesures d'urgence\); conseillère principale en politiques \(relations de travail et planification des mesures d'urgence\)](#) - Treasury Board Secretariat/Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor. Closing Date: November 13, 2025.

[Team Lead \(Strategy and Contingency Planning\)/Chef d'équipe \(stratégies et planification des mesures d'urgence\)](#) - Treasury Board Secretariat/Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor. Closing Date: November 13, 2025.

[Licensing and Public Services Coordinator - King Township](#). Closing Date: November 17, 2025.

About AMO

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

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 5:27 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Fall Economic Statement



AMO Policy Update – Fall Economic Statement

Top Insights

- The Fall Economic Statement makes some targeted investments in response to tariffs, but no update on a much-needed property tax re-assessment.
- The government will introduce legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* which will have significant implications for municipal employers.

2025 Fall Economic Statement

The province is now projecting a \$13.5B deficit for 2025-26, down from the \$14.6B originally projected in the 2025 Budget. Projected deficits for 2026-27 remain unchanged at \$7.8B. The government is projecting a return to surplus in 2027-28.

The Fall Economic Statement largely summarizes previously announced funding initiatives. It does include \$100 million in new funding for the Ontario Together Trade Fund to help small and medium businesses affected by US tariffs to shift and diversify sales to new markets. Municipalities will not be eligible for this funding.

The government will introduce legislation that will have significant implications for OMERS governance. These changes are outlined in the [Final Report on the 2025 OMERS Governance Review](#). The [Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario \(MEPCO\)](#) is working to understand the implications of these changes and mitigate risks for municipal employers.

Unfortunately, the Fall Economic Statement included no update on the province's plans for a property tax reassessment. A provincial review of the property tax system was announced in 2023 but no results have been released. AMO will continue to advocate for a return to a regular assessment cycle to support a fair and transparent property tax system.

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

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 4:15 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Changes to OMERS Governance



AMO Policy Update – Changes to OMERS Governance

As part of the Fall Economic Statement, the Ontario Government tabled legislation that, if passed, would significantly change the OMERS governance structure. The government is proposing to dissolve the OMERS Sponsors Corporation and replace it with a Sponsors Council with diminished oversight over the pension plan.

These are significant changes that impact the nature of how decisions about pension benefits and contributions are made, moving from a model based on shared, long-term stewardship to one based on advocacy and collective bargaining. This shift creates additional financial risks for municipalities and to property taxpayers.

There are also implications for the way that costs to support pension oversight are borne, likely resulting in higher administrative costs for municipalities.

AMO and MEPCO are currently reviewing details with a view to mitigating new financial risks for municipalities and ensuring that plan sponsors retain strong oversight over plan design and performance. AMO and MEPCO will also work to minimize instability for plan governance that the implementation of these significant changes will create.

Further updates and opportunities for engagement for AMO and MEPCO members to follow.

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - November 13, 2025



November 13, 2025

In This Issue:

- AMO's new voter turnout resource is full of strategies and tactics.
- Take a look at AMO's updated Local Democracy Solutions Bank.
- Pothole Prevention and Repair Program.
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- Applications now open: Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy.
- ROMA Conference program update.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as a Diverse Candidate - Dec 3rd.
- Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's new, free workshop series is for you.
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- IESO LT2 Q&A Session, today.
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AMO Matters

[Turn Up the Turnout: A Resource on Voter Participation in Local Elections](#) equips politicians, policymakers, civil society leaders, and citizens with evidence-based strategies to increase voter turnout. This resource is part of AMO's Healthy Democracy Project designed to support AMO members to better engage residents in their communities, help people understand the important role of their local government, and understand how their voice and votes matter.

The new version of [AMO's Local Democracy Solutions Bank](#) includes a catalogue of existing resources for candidates looking to run or seek re-election. The resources have been collected from national and local Ontario candidate support organizations. Make a deposit! Share your resources and democracy solutions with us and we'll add them to our growing catalogue.

Provincial Matters

The province has launched a Pothole Prevention and Repair Program for municipalities with populations up to 10,000 people. [Applications are now open](#) until December 12, 2025.

The OEB [issued a letter](#) advising interested stakeholders that it intends to commence a generic proceeding in 2026 to review the OEB's Model Franchise Agreement.

Federal Matters

Municipalities with 50 or fewer full-time employees are eligible to apply for wage subsidies for summer work experiences targeting youth aged 15- 30 years old. Application window closes December 11, 2025, at 11:59 pm (PST). [Click here for more info](#).

Education Opportunities

The ROMA 2026 Conference is a vital hub for sharing innovative solutions, gaining insight into best practices and tools that can drive the sustainability of your community. View the [program outline](#) and plenary program panel discussions that will be explored at the conference and [register today](#).

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Municipal Wire*

AdvantAge's annual [Seniors' Housing Forum](#) will be happening virtually on November 20 from 9am-2pm. Join for the latest on government plans, housing models, and meeting the needs of Ontario's seniors.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is hosting a [Q&A session](#) about the proposal process for the long-term 2 procurements on November 13. The deadline for LT2 proposals is December 18.

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Careers

[Procurement Professional - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: November 24, 2025.

[Policy Planner - Oxford County](#). Closing Date: November 27th, 2025.

[Supervisor, Road Operations - Town of Georgina](#). Closing Date: November 21, 2025.

About AMO

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2025 5:47 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Special Economic Zones Advocacy, CWELCC Program Extended, Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, New Road Safety Initiatives Fund



AMO Policy Update – Special Economic Zones Advocacy, CWELCC Program Extended, Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, New Road Safety Initiatives Fund

Top Insights

- AMO’s submission to provincial consultation on special economic zones calls for a collaborative consultation process that includes municipalities and Indigenous communities.
- It is positive news that the Canada-Ontario funding agreement for child care and early years programming has been extended for one year, though a longer-term agreement is needed.
- A new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program for small municipalities is open for applications.
- New \$210M Road Safety Initiatives Fund announced. AMO is working with the province to understand how it will fund new road safety measures, and if municipalities will be reimbursed for the cost of cancelling existing speed camera programs.

AMO Reinforces the Importance of Municipal Engagement for Special Economic Zones

AMO has [submitted comments](#) to the Environmental Registry [consultation](#) seeking feedback on proposed criteria for special economic zones (SEZs). AMO is calling on the province to use SEZs:

- In situations where approvals cannot be otherwise expedited.
- In collaboration with the host municipality, alongside the province, project proponent, and affected Indigenous communities.
- With a formal municipal support resolution where projects consider high-risk exemptions, including exemptions from source water and drinking water protections, municipal revenue collection bylaws, and where exemptions to land-use control could irreversibly damage critical assets like agricultural land and environmentally significant areas.

While AMO supports bold action to strengthen Ontario's economy in the context of shifting global trade, our submission underlines the importance of ensuring that host municipalities experience the economic benefits of SEZs. We also strongly support Indigenous communities in their calls for the province to uphold treaty rights and maintain strong environmental protections.

Child Care and Early Learning Funding Agreement Extended

The provincial and federal governments have negotiated a one-year extension to continue to implement the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) program for Ontario. The program was set to expire on March 31, 2026, and the extension ensures continuity of the program for the coming year. The extension keeps fees at their current average of \$19 per day, and a maximum of \$22 per day.

Sustaining the program is core to supporting families and benefiting children and their parents by maintaining access to more affordable and inclusive childcare and early years programming. Looking ahead, governments need to work toward a longer-term agreement beyond the current 2026 extension to provide stability to children and their parents, including reaching the affordability goal of \$10 per day and creating spaces to meet the demand.

Pothole Prevention and Repair Program

The province has launched a new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program for municipalities with populations up to 10,000 people. Eligible municipalities can receive up to \$38,000 for projects.

Municipalities across Ontario have a substantial infrastructure maintenance and repair backlog, and roads represent the largest share of this gap. Targeted funding to smaller municipalities with limited resources allows them to address and prevent pothole related issues.

Applications for the [Pothole Prevention and Repair Program](#) are now open. Eligible municipalities can apply through the [Transfer Payment Ontario portal](#) until December 12, 2025.

New Road Safety Initiatives Fund

The government [announced](#) details about the new \$210M Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) following the province-wide cancellation of municipal Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE). AMO has worked with municipalities to develop fund design recommendations and gather ASE cancellation cost data. We continue to advocate for adequate funding to fairly reimburse municipalities for cancellation costs, and for flexibility and local choice in the RSIF to ensure municipalities can implement the most effective traffic calming measures in their communities. AMO continues to engage with the Ministry of Transportation on ASE and the fund to advance this advocacy.

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 2:01 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Free Workshop: Insights & Strategies for 2026 Municipal Candidates from Underrepresented Communities



Are You Considering Running in the 2026 Municipal Election?

Join this *FREE* Workshop to Gain Useful Insights and Strategies Focused on Underrepresented Communities

Dear AMO Member,

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is offering a series of workshops for people thinking about running for municipal office in the October 2026 elections.

Focused specifically on diverse candidates, this free 90-minute workshop provides useful insights and strategies to support you in getting your name on the ballot. While these workshops do offer a focus on individuals from underrepresented communities, all are welcome.

Facilitated by former municipal Councillors Steve Anderson and Jasvinder Sandhu, you will be taken through:

- what to expect running as a diverse candidate
- critical strategies for successfully campaigning for municipal office
- understand what it takes to become a candidate
- identifying your target audience
- developing effective messaging and branding
- utilizing community engagement practices to enhance visibility and support
- And more!

[More Event Info](#)

Registration is free.

Dates:

- December 3, 2025 - 10:00am -11:30am
- February 4, 2026 - 10:30am - 12:00pm
- April 8, 2026 - 10:00am - 11:30am

Location: Virtual

Register here for December 2025

Register here for February 2026 or April 2026

Steve Anderson

Former Deputy Mayor for the
Town of Shelburne and Councillor for
the County of Dufferin.

AMO Municipal Trailblazer



Steve is the former Deputy Mayor for the Town of Shelburne and Councillor for the County of Dufferin. During his time in politics, Steve was identified by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) as a “Municipal Trailblazer.”

In addition, Steve is a Senior practicing litigation lawyer with over 20 years of experience with the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) where he has received several awards for his distinguished service. Steve was recently appointed by the Federal government to serve in the role of Deputy Administrator for Ship and Rail Compensation Canada.



Jasvinder Sandhu

Former Councillor for the Town of Oakville and member of the AMO Youth Advisory Board.

Chair of Healthy Democracy project at AMO.

Jasvinder is a former Councillor for the Town of Oakville, having served from 2018-2022. During her time in politics, she was a member of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) youth engagement advisory board, and she currently serves as the Chair of the Healthy Democracy Project at AMO.

In her professional life, she is an Expert Rising Star Top 40 under 40 Finalist and a seasoned employment lawyer with 15 years of practice experience, licensed in both the United States and Canada.

Questions? Contact events@amo.on.ca.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD ADIKAMEG KIZIS 7TH, 2025

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7TH , 2025

Read the full
newsletter here

WWW.ALGNQUINSOFPIKWAKANAGAN.COM | 613-625-2800

CONTENT

- Chief and Council Update
 - Message from Chief and Council
- News & Events
 - Career Fair
 - Harvest Information
 - Animal Control Info
- Health Updates
 - Winter Walking Program
- Resources & Phone Numbers
- Volunteers Needed
- Employment Opportunities
 - Reception
 - Bus Monitor
 - Driver
- External Employment Opportunities
- Membership Additions
- Community Information

Membership Notice

Please update your mailing address with Lands, Estate and Membership to ensure you get the latest news, Christmas card and upcoming election

➤ Contact - Curtis Jahn at 613.625.2800 ext 231
Email - coordinator.lem@pikwakanagan.ca

Attention Members:

Please note that the administration is upgrading the phone system within the organization.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out via email. We appreciate your patience.

Office Closure:

A reminder that the Administration building will be closed on Tuesday, November 11th

Lest we Forget



Read the full
newsletter here



Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHĪBAYATIGO-KĪJIGAD ADIKAMEG KIZIS 14TH, 2025
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14TH , 2025

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Please note that the administration is upgrading the phone system within the organization.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out via email. We appreciate your patience.

A Minions Merry Christmas

Join us for the Annual Santa Claus Parade!

Get ready for laughter, lights, and a whole lot of yellow fun!

The Minions are taking over this year's parade to help Santa spread holiday cheer – banana- Style!

Date: Sunday December 14th, 2025

Time: 12:00 P.M. Departure

Location: Makwa Community Centre

Want to join the fun?

Register your float with Kaitlyn Luckovitch to be part of this year's parade!

Email- brighter.futures@pikwakanagan.ca
Phone- 613-625-2682





TOWN OF AJAX
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax ON L1S 3S9
www.ajax.ca

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

Sent by E-Mail

November 19, 2025

Re: Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on November 17, 2025:

Whereas, we are approaching the cold winter months and the number of people experiencing homelessness in Ajax and Durham Region continues to rise drastically, with more than 1,000 people on Durham Region's by-name list as of August, including specifically 200 people in Ajax seeking support to change their housing status¹; and

Whereas, in September 2024, Ajax Council passed a motion to support Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) SolveTheCrisis.ca² campaign requesting that the provincial and federal governments take immediate action to solve the homelessness and mental health crisis gripping our communities; and

Whereas, while the provincial government has provided support for new programs such as Homeless and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hubs (HART Hubs), it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions; and

Whereas, according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, municipalities are providing [51.5% of the total reported homelessness program funding across all three levels of government](#), making a significant financial impact on municipal budgets³; and

Whereas, OBCM recently passed a motion at their October Meeting re-iterating the need for provincial support in addressing this crisis by allocating more funding to programs that address chronic homelessness; and

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That Ajax Council reconfirms their support of the Solve the Crisis Campaign and calls on Ajax residents to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca; and
2. That Ajax Council asks that the provincial government to take action on the requests of the Solve the Crisis Campaign that have not been fully addressed including:
 - a. Appoint a responsible ministry and Minister with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports.
 - b. This single Minister must strike a task force with sector representatives including municipalities, health care leaders, first responders, community services, the business community, and the tourism industry to develop an Ontario Action Plan.
 - c. Provide municipalities with the tools and resources to transition those in encampments to more appropriate supports, when deemed necessary.
 - d. Commit to funding the services our unhoused population needs, community by community, to fill in gaps in the system.
 - e. Invest in 24/7 community hubs or crisis centres to relieve pressure on emergency departments and first responders; and
3. That Ajax Council asks that the provincial government prepares a 2025/2026 winter homelessness response plan to help municipalities ensure that we can keep our unsheltered residents who are sleeping outdoors with the services they need to keep them safe in colder weather; and
4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Rob Cerjanec, MPP for Ajax, local MPPs across the Region of Durham, Durham Regional Council, all Ontario Municipalities, Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM).

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or Thomas.street@ajax.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'TS' or a similar stylized monogram.

Thomas Street
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Councillor L. Bower
Councillor R. Tyler Morin
Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MPP
Region of Durham Local MPPs
Durham Regional Council
All Ontario Municipalities
Ontario's Big City Mayors



Resolution # 9

MOTION FORM

Date: November 3, 2025

Moved by: Lisa Couty

Seconded by: Theresa Sabourin

Whereas, the use of aerial spraying of glyphosate for forestry poses unacceptable risks of significant biodiversity loss; microbiome and mineral disruption; harmful health effects on wildlife; loss of use of land for recreational, tourism, and hunting/gathering purposes; water contamination; and concerns about the effects on human health;

And Whereas, municipalities have a limited ability to address the issue of the aerial spraying of glyphosate, particularly on Crown land, and requires provincial leadership and regulation;

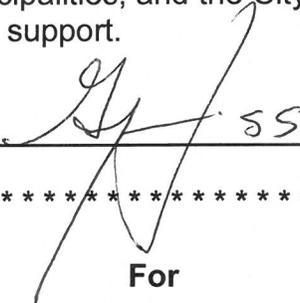
And Whereas, the Province of Ontario has a responsibility to protect the environment and public health, and must take action to reduce the harm caused by aerial spraying of glyphosate;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa urges the Federal and Provincial Governments to take immediate action to end the aerial spraying of glyphosate.
2. The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa commits to working with the Province of Ontario and other municipalities to advocate for stronger provincial leadership on aerial spraying of glyphosate.

And Further Be It Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following: The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change; The Honourable Tim Hodgson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources; The Honourable Marjorie Michel, Minister of Health; The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks; The Honourable Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health; Cheryl Gallant, MP Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke; Billy Denault, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke; the Federation of Canadian Municipalities; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the County of Renfrew and all of its lower-tier municipalities; and the City of Pembroke for their consideration and support.

Carried:

 SS

Recorded Vote:	For	Against
Mayor Serviss	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Sabourin	_____	_____
Councillor Carmody	_____	_____
Councillor Coutu	_____	_____
Councillor Donovan	_____	_____
Councillor Driscoll	_____	_____
Councillor Rutz	_____	_____

November 12, 2025

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

via email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Curbside Recycling Eligibility for Non-Profit Organizations

At its regular meeting held on November 11th, 2025, the Council of the Township of Selwyn passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2025 – 223 – Curbside Recycling – Non Profits

Mayor Sherry Senis – Councillor Brian Henry –

Whereas the Province of Ontario designated producers to be responsible for collecting recycling in the Province; and

Whereas non-profit organizations, including our local food banks, have been deemed ineligible for producer blue box collection effective January 1st, 2026; and

Whereas food insecurity is a local, provincial and federal issue; and

Whereas food banks need to receive grocery items that are delivered in cardboard boxes and cartons which generate copious amounts of recyclable material; and

Whereas food banks are volunteer and donation based with no revenue collected to pay for services such as removal of recyclable materials;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Selwyn strongly urge the Province to re-instate the eligibility for curbside blue box collection as of January 1st, 2026, for non-profit organizations, such as food banks; and

That this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Dave Smith, County and City of Peterborough, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and Ontario Municipalities for support.

Carried.

Under the Province's producer-responsibility framework, food banks and similar non-profit organizations have been deemed ineligible for curbside blue box collection effective January 1, 2026. This change will place an unreasonable burden on these essential community services that rely entirely on volunteers and donations.

Food banks play a critical role in addressing food insecurity — an issue of local, provincial, and national importance. These organizations receive large quantities of grocery items packaged in cardboard and other recyclable materials, yet they have no sustainable means to manage the associated recycling costs once municipal collection ends.

The Township of Selwyn strongly urges the Province of Ontario to reinstate eligibility for curbside blue box collection for non-profit organizations, such as food banks.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Megin Hunter
Office Assistant/ Receptionist
Township of Selwyn

Cc: Minister of the Environment Conservation and Parks
MPP Dave Smith
City of Peterborough
Peterborough County
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
Ontario Municipalities

Mailing Address
PO Box 270
Bridgenorth
Ontario K0L 1H0

Tel: 705 292 9507
Fax: 705 292 8964



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY

P.O. BOX 99

VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0

705-634-2145, Fax 705-634-2700

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR:

- Louanne Caza
- Elaine Fic
- Annie Keft
- Francine Plante
- Mayor Culhane

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR:

- Louanne Caza
- Elaine Fic
- Annie Keft
- Francine Plante
- Mayor Culhane

RESOLUTION # 321/2025

DATE: November 12, 2025

WHEREAS housing affordability is one of the most pressing issues facing Ontario families;

WHEREAS the federal government recently announced GST relief for first-time homebuyers on new homes, and the Province of Ontario removed the provincial share of HST on new purpose-built rental homes; and

WHEREAS the current HST rate on new homes in Ontario is 13%, which adds tens of thousands of dollars to the cost of a typical home; e.g. about \$117,000 on a \$900,000.00 home in Bradford before any existing rebates;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of McGarry calls on the Government of Canada to remove the GST/HST from all new homes purchased as primary residences, and to work in partnership with the Government of Ontario to ensure full elimination of the provincial portion as well; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance and the Minister of Housing , Infrastructure and Communities; and to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, our local MP and MPP the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and to all municipalities in Ontario,

Recorded vote requested by _____

	For	Against
Councillor Louanne Caza		
Councillor Elaine Fic		
Councillor Annie Keft		
Councillor Francine Plante		
Mayor Bonita Culhane		

I declare this motion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because:
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

<i>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest *</i>

Signature of Chair:

Elaine Fic

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER



P.O. BOX 400 • 100 DEEP RIVER ROAD • DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO K0J 1P0
Tel: (613) 584-2000 • www.deepriver.ca • Fax: (613) 584-3237

November 12, 2025

To: The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Municipality of Clarington, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Municipality of Kincardine, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Municipality of Pickering, Ontario, Member of CANHC
District of Pinawa, Manitoba, Member of CANHC
Region of Durham, Ontario, Member of CANHC
County of Bruce, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Northumberland County, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Renfrew County, Ontario, Member of CANHC
South Bruce, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Peterborough, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Rural Community of Fundy Shores, Ontario, Member of CANHC
Municipalities of Renfrew County

Re: Support For the Future Use and Deployment of Canadian Nuclear Energy.

Please be advised the following Resolution of the Council of the Town of Deep River was passed at the October 22, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council, in support of the Canadians for CANDU movement for the future use and deployment of Canadian nuclear energy, particularly Canadian designed CANDU Reactors, associated medical isotopes, and Small Modular Reactors.

4.3.1 Canadians for CANDU

RESOLUTION 2025 295

MOVED BY: Mayor D'Eon
SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

WHEREAS *Canadians for CANDU* is an advocacy group of Canadian business, science, education and indigenous leaders with a mission to secure Canada's clean energy future through further adoption of CANDU technology; and

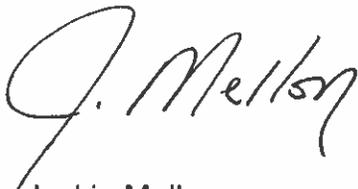
WHEREAS deploying safe, effective and efficient Made-in-Canada CANDU technology can help secure our energy independence and support a cleaner, healthier and more prosperous future for Canadians;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT as representatives of the thousands of our residents who have worked as employees of AECL's Chalk River Laboratories, and been instrumental in the development of the CANDU design, and maintenance of CANDU technology around the world, the Town of Deep River is proud to join *Canadians for CANDU* ambassadors Jean Chretien, former Prime Minister of Canada and Mike Harris, Former Premier of Ontario, and the dozens of business leaders who have signed onto the *Canadians for CANDU* movement to support the future use and deployment of Canadian nuclear energy, particularly Canadian designed CANDU Reactors, associated medical isotopes and SMRs; and

FURTHER THAT this Resolution be forwarded to the County of Renfrew, all Municipalities in Renfrew County, all Members of CANHC, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, and the Prime Minister.

CARRIED

Best Regards,



Jackie Mellon
Clerk
Town of Deep River

P: (613) 584-2000, ext. 128

E: jmellon@deepriver.ca

November 6th, 2025

Sent via email.

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

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Cameras

At the Regular Council meeting on October 21st, 2025, the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford directed staff to write a letter in opposition to the Provincial decision on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Cameras.

In December 2019, the Province of Ontario established regulations allowing municipalities to use ASE cameras to address speeding and enhance public safety. Following provincial encouragement, municipalities adopted ASE technology to reduce speeding, prevent collisions, and save lives.

Research at local, regional, and international levels supports the effectiveness of ASE programs, indicating a significant reduction in speeding, improved compliance in school and community safety zones, and positive changes in driver behavior. The suggestion that the Provincial government views the ASE program as a "cash grab" is entirely unfounded, as revenue generated through ASE arises solely from individuals who choose to disregard posted speed limits. If drivers comply with speed regulations and adjust their behaviour accordingly, there would be no generated revenue from ASE cameras.

Municipal councils are directly responsible for the health and safety of their communities and are therefore best positioned to determine the areas of greatest concern regarding local driving conditions. Each municipality understands the unique traffic patterns, school zones, and community safety issues within its jurisdiction. Furthermore, policing and traffic enforcement are municipal responsibilities, and as such, municipalities should have the autonomy to determine whether and how to deploy ASE technology in the most effective and efficient manner to protect residents and road users.

Following significant municipal investment across Ontario, the recent decision, made without consultation, to cancel Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) programs has

raised serious concerns. Rather than an outright ban, adjustments to existing legislation and program standards would provide a more balanced and collaborative approach. Therefore, the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford respectfully requests that this decision to ban ASE cameras be reconsidered, and that municipalities be permitted to continue using ASE cameras in school zones and urban areas where local councils deem them warranted. At a time when police services are facing significant resource constraints that limit their capacity to enforce speed limits, ASE cameras remain a necessary tool to address community safety concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Denny Giles'.

Denny Giles
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Township of South-West Oxford

cc. The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Resolution # RC25177	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: <i>M. Hatfield</i>	Seconded by: <i>M. Opato</i>

WHEREAS this council understands that the need for affordable rental housing not only applies to new builds but also to the protection of existing affordable units; and

WHEREAS the removal of rent control in 2018 on any new residential rental unit opened the door to excessive year over year rent increases and the resulting anxiety and mental anguish that come with unpredictable rental costs and loss of housing security; and

WHEREAS the loss of rent control has caused a high number of people across Ontario to be forced out of their homes due to their inability to afford their rent increases; and

WHEREAS without protection from excessive and malicious rent increases, many Wawa renters will also be at risk of being priced out of their own homes; and

WHEREAS unlimited rent increases can be used as a tool by landlords acting in bad faith to remove existing tenants in order to replace them with new tenants at increased rates; and

WHEREAS providing housing stability, maintaining affordable housing stock, and protecting renters from unfair rent increases is of utmost importance to this council.

WHEREAS This council recognizes that landlords are essential to a flourishing and affordable housing system; and

WHEREAS maintaining Northern Ontario as a location that is attractive to landlords is of utmost importance.



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa request the Province of Ontario provide adequate protection against excessive and malicious rent increases for all rental units occupied for residential purposes while maintaining the ability for landlords to operate a viable and sustainable business, and that the Clerk for the Municipality of Wawa send a letter to Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MPP Bill Rosenberg, MP Terry Sheehan, and other municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL



Elizabeth Roy
Mayor
T 905.430.4300 x2203
mayor@whitby.ca



October 17, 2025

The Honorable Todd McCarthy, MPP (Durham)
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Via email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Re: Extended Producer Responsibility for Blue Box Recycling Collection and Impacts to Small Businesses located in Mixed-Use Properties

Dear Minister McCarthy,

Please be advised that at its meeting held on October 6, 2025, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 191-25:

Whereas in 2016 the Waste-Free Ontario Act was enacted, which also enacted the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act (RRCEA) and the Waste Diversion Transition Act; and,

Whereas the RRCEA and its associated regulations focus on strengthening Extended Producer Responsibility for materials like used tires and blue box recycling; and,

Whereas on November 23, 2020, Town Staff submitted comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario on the proposed blue box regulation, which highlighted concerns about the lack of a requirement for blue box recycling collection for certain “non-eligible” sources like small businesses located in mixed-use properties which are prevalent in Business Improvement Areas; and,

Whereas in the Town of Whitby there are approximately 200 small businesses in mixed-use properties who currently receive blue box collection and are impacted by the blue box regulation and will potentially lose blue box collection services; and,

Whereas in June 2021 the Province of Ontario released Blue Box Regulation O. Reg. 391/21, under the RRCEA which transitions the financial and operational responsibility of recycling from municipalities to the producers of packaging and paper products; and,

Whereas Circular Materials Ontario (CM) was named the Producer Responsibility Organization taking on all blue box recycling responsibilities in Ontario over a three-year transition period; and,

Whereas the Region of Durham has indicated that the estimated costs to continue to provide blue box recycling for small businesses after the 2026 transition date to CM was exorbitant and no longer a core responsibility of the Region pursuant to Provincial legislation; and,

Whereas on July 1, 2024, the Town of Whitby and all local area municipalities in Durham Region transitioned from the Regional blue box program to the CM blue box program; and,

Whereas the Region of Durham and CM negotiated a temporary agreement to continue providing blue box collection services to small businesses in mixed-use properties during the blue box transition period from June 30, 2024 to December 31, 2025, however, CM will not service these small businesses or any non-residential properties effective January 1, 2026, as they are not included as “eligible sources” under Blue Box Regulation 391/21; and,

Whereas on October 17, 2024, Mayor Roy sent a letter to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, who was at that time the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, advocating for changes to the blue box regulation as it related to blue box collection for small businesses; and,

Whereas on June 4, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks proposed amendments to the RRCEA through the Environmental Registry of Ontario and staff comments were submitted jointly to the Municipal Waste Association and Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario on June 13, 2025 highlighting concerns with the blue box regulation and impacts to small businesses located in mixed-use properties; and,

Whereas on August 15, 2025, CM hosted a municipal engagement session with members of a Municipal Working Group, reviewing a proposal for blue box recycling for non-eligible sources; and,

Whereas it is not clear how the recycling collector will differentiate commercial recycling from residential recycling at mixed-residential locations as they are typically set out together; and,

Whereas the proposal submitted by CM must be agreed to by all three Producer Organizations before it will be considered by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks; and,

Whereas on October 1, 2025, all three Producer Organizations, which includes CM, Ryse Solutions, and Landbell Canada, provided a letter to Mayor Roy outlining their decision to not proceed with blue box collections for small IC&I locations, citing, “system capacity limitations, current regulatory obligations, and time constraints that make it impractical for CCS to provide (blue box) collections from IC&I locations”; and,

Whereas on October 1, 2025, the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks provided a letter to the Town of Whitby advising that the Producers will not voluntarily continue to offer blue box services to municipalities for small business locations.

Now therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the Council of the Town of Whitby requests that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks amend Blue Box Regulation 391/21 to require Producers to provide blue box collection services to businesses located in mixed-use properties;

and,

2. That the Mayor be requested to author a letter to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks advocating for changes to Blue Box Regulation 391/21, and that a copy of this letter be forwarded to all Ontario Municipalities, Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Ontario Business Improvement Area Association (OBIAA).

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact mayor@whitby.ca.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Roy
Mayor

Town of Whitby
Office of the Mayor
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8
whitby.ca

cc Mayor Marianne Meed Ward, Chair Ontario's Big City Mayors - chair@obcm.ca
Ontario's Big City Mayors – info@obcm.ca
Ontario Business Improvement Area Association - info@obiaa.com
Association of Municipalities of Ontario - resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
Karey Anne Large, CEO, Whitby Chamber of Commerce – Karey@whitbychamber.org
info@whitbychamber.org
Downtown Whitby BIA – info@whitbybia.org
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
Matthew Gaskell, CAO, Town of Whitby – gaskellm@whitby.ca



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Resolution # RC25170	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: <i>L. K. Spots</i>	Seconded by: <i>M. Hatfield</i>

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced new regulations, effective January 1, 2025, requiring grocery stores with over 4,000 square feet of retail space to accept empty alcohol containers and return deposits as a condition of maintaining their liquor licenses; and

WHEREAS many large retailers have raised concerns about this obligation due to logistical challenges, including costs, space limitations, and insufficient infrastructure to manage high volumes of returned containers and local residents in Wawa are very upset that there will be no location in the community or area accepting empty alcohol containers; and

WHEREAS this change may negatively impact vulnerable populations, including low-income individuals who depend on bottle returns as a modest yet vital source of income and will increase the amount of waste being dumped at the municipal landfill; and

WHEREAS the ongoing privatization and deregulation of Ontario's previously effective bottle return program threaten to undermine decades of progress in sustainable waste management, environmental stewardship, and circular economy practices; and

WHEREAS the lack of a clear, accessible, and equitable alternative for recycling alcohol containers may place additional strain on municipal waste systems and contribute to increased environmental degradation;



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports the development of an accessible, province-wide, and publicly accountable alcohol container return system that:

- 1. Protects low-income earners and vulnerable residents who rely on bottle returns;
2. Closes gaps in the deposit-return cycle to reduce landfill waste and environmental harm;
3. Provides adequate infrastructure, training, and support to retailers participating in the return system;
4. Ensures strong, consistent enforcement and oversight of return program compliance;
5. Safeguards the public interest in recycling and waste diversion amid increasing privatization pressures;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council urges the Government of Ontario to collaborate meaningfully with municipalities, retailers, environmental organizations, and experts to implement a fair, effective, and inclusive solution that ensures the long-term success of Ontario's deposit-return and recycling systems;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all Ontario municipalities for their support and consideration.

Table with 4 columns: RESOLUTION RESULT, RECORDED VOTE, YES, NO. Rows include CARRIED (checked), DEFEATED, TABLED, RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT), PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED, and WITHDRAWN.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

Table with 2 columns: MAYOR - MELANIE PILON, CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL. Contains handwritten signatures of Melanie Pilon and Maury O'Neill.



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Resolution # RC25121	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>Joseph Opat</i>

WHEREAS The Beer Store has closed more than 70 of its store locations across the Province since the Ford Government made the decision to end its exclusivity agreement with The Beer Store and allowed other locations like convenience and grocery stores to sell beer, wine and mixed alcoholic drinks; and

WHEREAS many of the retail stores being closed are in small, northern communities such as Chapleau, Atikokan, Powassan and Blind River where The Beer Store is very important to the local community; and

WHEREAS the presence of The Beer Store in Northern Ontario communities and in Wawa, provides good paying jobs, convenient access to beer sales for tourists looking to purchase a variety of Canadian made beer products not carried in other locations and contributes to the local and provincial economy; and

WHEREAS The Beer Store closure in Wawa would lead to job losses in the community and negatively impact the local economy;

NOWHEREFORE Council of the Municipality of Wawa request that the Provincial Government take the steps necessary to preserve the presence of The Beer Store in small, rural and northern communities and that it request that The Beer Store reconsider its decision to close additional Beer Stores in Ontario, especially in small, northern communities.

AND FURTHER that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy the Minister of Finance, Honourable Victor Fedeli the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Bill Rosenberg the M.P.P. Algoma-Manitoulin, FONOM, NOMA, and AMO.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opat		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

October 17, 2025

The Beer Store
Corporate Office | 2258 Coleraine Drive
Bolton, ON L7E 3A9

Attention: Roy Benin

Dear Mr. Benin.

The closing of The Beer Store is the final nail in the coffin for those of us in the town of Wawa who are interested in our environment and recycling. I am not a consumer of alcohol, but since 1992, I have picked up the sad, abandoned packaging others have thrown out on the sides of our roads.

As a volunteer, I have cleaned our outdoors of trash by the truckloads and most of it was made up of beer and wine containers. Having a European background and knowing that even pop cans have a deposit of 10 cents on them there, it is with tears in my eyes that I see the loss of a place to turn in recyclables.

I fought the bureaucracy, wrote to companies and ministers about the abuse of our environment and the renewable resources until finally a deposit was established here in Ontario. The program encourages people to turn in their recyclables rather than putting them in the landfill and the pennies add up.

Here in the north, we live in an "untouched" wilderness and try to promote this for tourism, hunting, and fishing. Often, one of the first stops in town is The Beer Store. Why is this now closed when the nearest store is over 200 km away and there is now no place to accept the empties? Our grocery store had beer and wine when that program was first introduced, but has now cut back as they don't want to accept the recyclables. The one convenience store is also not set up for recyclables and doesn't carry the selection of products The Beer Store did.

So, while it is still possible to purchase a limited selection in our town, the loss of the recycling program affects us deeply. Many organizations, such as skating clubs, hockey teams, Boy Scouts/Girl Guides and even retirees profit from the deposit through bottle drives. These assist the community and keep our outdoors clean to benefit the environment as well. Cans and bottles do not disintegrate in the outdoors. To the contrary, broken glass hurts people and wildlife both. Why are we going backwards on this important recycling project? Why are we in the North forgotten.

We will be drowning in beer cans without a recycling program. What is the solution? Please find one as it is you and this government that have made these changes.

Sincerely,



Karin Grundt
Garbologist
P.O. Box 1430
Wawa, ON P0S 1K0

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ARNPRIOR
DISTRICT MUSEUM, YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

Arnprior Cares

Holiday event

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2025

6:00–8:00 PM

📍 ARNPRIOR & DISTRICT
MUSEUM, 35 MADAWASKA ST

A free public event for those committed to
supporting refugees and asylum seekers that
live in our communities.

Questions: lianegallant1@gmail.com



OTTAWA VALLEY AFFORDABLE HOUSING, Inc.

581B Eady Rd., Golden Lake, ON K0J 1X0

(613) 757-2223

Board of Directors: Ish Theilheimer, Chair; Brian Abdallah, Vice-Chair;

Maria Robinson, Treasurer; Leigh Sweeney, Secretary; Cameron

Montgomery, Patrick Renshaw, Ankit Vyas

November 18, 2025

Mayor Lisa McGee, Council and Staff

Town of Arnprior

c/o Victoria Charbonneau, Municipal Clerk

Sent via email: victoria.charbonneau@pembroke.ca

Dear Mayor, Council, and Staff:

I'm writing to introduce our new organization and offer help to provide affordable housing in your community. We believe we can help you make a difference.

Ottawa Valley Affordable Housing Inc. is a non-for-profit corporation launched in June, 2025, following on the work since 2022 of our precursor committee, the Affordable Housing Alliance of the Ottawa Valley (AHAOV). We have applied for charitable status. Our mandate is to develop affordable housing in the area both in partnerships with municipalities and non-profits and on our own, as appropriate. We think we can make a big difference.

The reason for our confidence is our partnership with Anhart Community Housing. Anhart is a non-profit based in Vancouver with a long history of developing affordable housing in Canadian and international communities. They have dedicated design, finance, legal, and developmental staff and a clear-cut method for developing projects quickly. Already, in partnership with OVAH, Anhart is currently working with proposals for affordable housing in Barry's Bay, Golden Lake, Eganville, Pembroke and Cobden.

.... /2

A key to Anhart's approach is called **impact financing**. The gist of this is to bypass the usual obstacles of obtaining government funding for affordable housing. Instead, they focus on raising 20 percent of project costs privately at the outset through low-interest loans from ethically-motivated high-net-worth Canadian investors. Anhart has found that with a sound business plan and impact financing, their projects can raise the remainder of development costs from credit unions, banks, government and other sources. Anhart has had considerable positive experience helping to raise impact financing for the projects it helps communities launch. The great advantage of Anhart's approach is that it is not dependent on funding federal or provincial sources, so the uncertainty and lengthy waiting periods associated with applying for funding is greatly reduced.

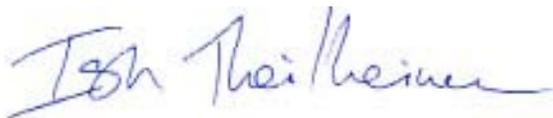
We strongly urge you to work with us to develop housing. Although government funding is not the centrepiece of Anhart's approach, there is real opportunity in new federal funding that is being rolled out, so it is a very good time to get involved.

The most important things your municipality can contribute are

- surplus property or buildings, hopefully with water and sewage services, and
- a willingness to establish policies to encourage affordable housing.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss possibilities and opportunities. Please let us know if we can discuss these matters with staff or Council.

Thanks very much for your attention.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ish Theilheimer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Ish Theilheimer
Chairperson, OVAH

AORS ADVANCE

FALL
2025

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ONTARIO'S PUBLIC WORKS PROFESSIONALS

INSIDE

- 2 TRADESHOW 2025
- 4 2025 PROVINCIAL TRUCK ROADEO
- 8 AORS UPDATE
- 13 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 16 BEING AN ELECTED OFFICIAL IS NOT A SHIELD
- 18 FROM FACTORY FLOOR TO MUNICIPAL FLEET
- 19 IT'S TIME TO HARMONIZE HOW WE BUILD ROADS IN CANADA
- 21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE
- 22 DESLUDGING IN NORTH MIDDLESEX
- 23 PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT IN SEGUIN TOWNSHIP
- 26 LA NEWS
- 30 PWA ZONE
- 35 SORRY, YOU CAN'T HAVE THAT



Making History
at the Roadeo!

PAGE 6



Association of Ontario
Road Supervisors

Promoting knowledge → Pursuing excellence

AORS MUNICIPAL PUBLIC WORKS TRADESHOW

Proudly Hosted By



OXFORD COUNTY ROAD
SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

LOOKING BACK ON THE 2025 AORS TRADE SHOW AND WHAT LAYS AHEAD

SAVE THE DATE
2026 AORS TRADE SHOW
Renfrew County Road
Supervisors Association
JUNE 3-4, 2026

The 2025 AORS Municipal Public Works Trade Show, held June 4-5 at the Woodstock Fairgrounds in partnership with the Oxford County Road Supervisors Association, was the largest in the event's history. With over 300 exhibitors and well over 2,000 attendees from across Ontario and beyond, the show proved once again to be the premier gathering for municipal public works professionals, suppliers, and industry leaders.

Jim Borton, CRS-S, Trade Show Committee President, praised the collaborative effort that made the event such a success, "this year's trade show truly set a new standard. The energy on the show floor was incredible, and it was inspiring to see the exchange of ideas, the innovative products on display, and the connections being made. Thank you to every exhibitor, attendee, volunteer, and partner who helped make this AORS' biggest and best show yet."

The show featured live demonstrations, including the first-ever Battery Demonstration Booth showcasing cutting-edge equipment from STIHL, Greenworks, and Colvoy Equipment. Networking opportunities and product showcases kept the fairgrounds buzzing throughout the two-day event.

"This event is more than just an exhibition—it's where municipalities and suppliers come together to share knowledge, discover new technologies, and build lasting relationships. The

feedback from attendees and exhibitors has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are already looking forward to building on this momentum," says Dennis O'Neil, CRS-S, AORS Member Services Coordinator, who emphasizes the importance of the trade show to Ontario's municipal public works community.

AORS extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, exhibited, and supported the 2025 show. Your participation is what makes this event a cornerstone of our association's calendar and a vital resource for our members.

The excitement is already building for the 2026 AORS Municipal Public Works Trade Show, hosted in partnership with the Renfrew County Road Supervisors

Association, taking place June 3-4, 2026, in Petawawa, Ontario.

Brad Faight, CRS-S, 2026 Trade Show Committee President, encourages everyone to mark their calendars saying "Petawawa is ready to welcome you! The 2026 show promises to be another outstanding event, with new features and the same great networking opportunities our attendees have come to expect. Save the date—June 3-4, 2026—and don't miss it!"

With over 80% of booth space already sold, exhibitors are encouraged to book early to secure their spot. For exhibitor information, contact the AORS office at admin@aors.on.ca.





Ross McKenzie Memorial Golf Tournament

This year, the Oxford County Road Supervisors Association hosted the 30th Anniversary of the Ross McKenzie Memorial Golf Tournament that is hosted annually with the AORS Municipal Public Works Trade Show at the beautiful Craigowan Golf Club in Woodstock, Ontario.

Ross McKenzie was a Roads Superintendent with the Township of Lobo and the Township of West Nissouri. He was AORS' very first full-time Executive Director, when he suddenly passed away in 1993. Ross, and Shirley Dufton, worked out of the AORS' office, at 160 King Street in Thorndale (Township of West Nissouri). Both split their time working for AORS and the township.

We were pleased to be joined at the event by Ross' family—his wife Gayle, his sons Cam and Brent, and his grandson Charlie. Shirley Dufton also attended the evening. Gayle was kind enough to bring along some memorabilia that we put on display during the reception and supper for guests to enjoy seeing the history of AORS during Ross' tenure and all enjoyed the evening sharing stories and memories of Ross.

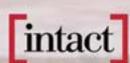
Congratulations to the team from Innovative Surface Solutions who won the Golf Tournament!



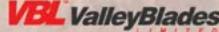
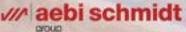


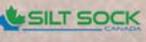
Thank You To Our Trade Show Sponsors!



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Gold  

Silver   

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In-Kind Sponsors      

- 1 Trade Show Committee
- 2 Ross McKenzie Family
- 3 Gerald Simpson and Mike Ward from Viking-Cives
- 4 Family and Innovative Solution Winners



2025 AORS ANNUAL TRUCK SAFETY ROADEO

Ontario's Top Municipal Equipment Operator Crowned at Provincial Safety Truck Rodeo

The best of the best competed, and the results are in!

At the AORS Provincial Safety Truck Rodeo held on September 24 in Beckwith Township, Josh Cousins from the City of St. Thomas was crowned "Top Driver of the Year." Taylor Blackburn from Central Frontenac Township earned first runner-up, while Jeff Neilsen from the Municipality of Trent Hills took home second runner-up.

The Rodeo, co-hosted by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) and the Lanark County Road Supervisors Association (LCRSA), brought together elite municipal equipment operators from across Ontario. Competitors had each earned their place at the provincial level by first winning local competitions, proving

their skill and commitment to safety in their communities.

Participants were challenged to complete a series of driving and safety tests designed to mirror real-world scenarios faced on Ontario's roads. Precision maneuvering, obstacle navigation, and vehicle safety checks all tested their abilities under pressure, while showcasing the professionalism and dedication municipal operators bring to their work every day.

"This event celebrates the dedication and expertise of municipal equipment operators," said Karla Musso Garcia, CRS-I, President of AORS. "Congratulations to all competitors—your work keeps Ontario moving."

Local hosts were equally proud to welcome competitors, families, and supporters to Lanark County. "On behalf of the Lanark County Road Supervisors Association, I want to sincerely thank everyone who participated, volunteered, and helped make this year's Rodeo such a success," said Darwin Nolan, CRS-S, AORS Representative for LCRSA. "This event not only highlights the skills of our operators but also builds a sense of pride and camaraderie across municipalities."

The Rodeo is more than a competition—it's a celebration of the men and women who keep Ontario's roads safe, year-round. Congratulations to all participants on a job well done, and especially to this year's champions who have set the bar for excellence in municipal road operations.



Rodeo Champion Josh Cousins, City of St. Thomas





Rodeo Winners: Left to Right, Jeff Neilsen from the Municipality of Trent Hills (Second Runner-Up), Josh Cousins from the City of St. Thomas (Driver of the Year) and Taylor Blackburn from Central Frontenac Township (First Runner-Up)



MAKING HISTORY AT THE ROADEO!



On August 21, the Transportation Professionals of Waterloo Region (TPOWR) hosted their annual municipal equipment roadeo. Among the many skilled operators who put their abilities to the test, one competitor made history. Darby Lehmann, an equipment operator with the Region of Waterloo, secured second place and earned the honour of representing TPOWR at the 2025 AORS Provincial Roadeo in Beckwith Township this past September.

Darby's achievement is groundbreaking—she is the first female operator to compete at the provincial level in the long history of the AORS Roadeo. Her success not only highlights her own skill and dedication, but also serves as an inspiration to other women considering careers in municipal public works.

We had the opportunity to sit down with Darby to learn more about her career path, what she loves about her work, and what advice she has for others looking to follow in her footsteps.

Can you tell us a little about your background and how you first got into municipal public works?

I'm 26 and have been driving with a DZ commercial license since 2018. I began by delivering HVAC, plumbing and electrical supplies to different job sites, but after a few weeks of learning and driving around with a coworker, the company I worked for said I couldn't continue because I wasn't 25. I was too young to be covered by their insurance. That's when I started looking for a new opportunity that would allow me at 19 to drive a commercial vehicle and get more experience. I first got into municipal work with EMCON working on the highway.

What led you to pursue a role as an equipment operator with the Region of Waterloo?

I always wanted to work at the Region, ever since I was 16. It's an amazing workplace because there

are always new opportunities available, and the Region has provided me the support I need to grow as a person and as a professional.

Congratulations on your incredible finish at the TPOWR Roadeo! How did it feel to place second and be able to compete at the Provincials?

I'm excited to have this opportunity. TPOWR and AORS have done an amazing job organizing the roadeos. It is such a neat way to bring municipal workers together. I first heard about the roadeos from my dad, who competed in one 2 years ago and works for Bruce County. He is their grader operator in the summer and plow/patroller in the winter. To say he's proud of me for having come in second would be an understatement.

You're making history as the first female operator to compete at the AORS Provincial Roadeo. What does that mean to you personally, and what do you hope it means for other women in public works?

I'm excited to represent The Region of Waterloo at provincials alongside Kris, who took the top spot. I'm grateful to be representing not only the Region, but my colleagues, especially the other hard-working women. I'm hoping my accomplishment helps motivate other women in public works to try something new, challenge themselves and show everyone how capable they are.

Can you walk us through what it's like to compete in a Roadeo event? What's the most challenging part, and what do you enjoy most?

For me, the Roadeo is a friendly competition, but most importantly also a way to test myself. Yes, there may be



some bragging rights amongst coworkers. But the best part is the opportunity to meet new people from other yards and laugh and joke around and just have fun. It doesn't matter who you work for at the end of the day, we all do the same jobs and when it comes to plowing snow in the winter there is nothing more important than to know we all care for the public's safety when driving our roads.

What do you love most about your job as an equipment operator?

Personally, being 5'1 feet tall, it's fun to just drive a big piece of equipment, whether it's the loader or the plows. Instead of playing in a 4-by-4-foot sand box with Tonkas trucks, I actually get to live the real-life version of it.

What are some of the biggest challenges you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

My past jobs have helped shape me and helped me adjust to working in this field. In the past, it was very difficult being a young, female driver. I was overlooked and told I can't do something because of my size, or my age, or because I'm a woman. This is changing. Stereotypes are fading, making work easier and more

welcoming, and allowing everyone to stand out and prove themselves. I think my ability to do my job well every day helps overcome these difficulties and I don't face these challenges or obstacles at the Region of Waterloo.

How has your team at the Region of Waterloo supported you in your career journey?

The Region does a great job of being inclusive and making opportunities available to everyone. Never once have I felt uncomfortable or that my ability was not good enough. I'm currently in the Operation Program at the Region, doing bridge washing in the spring and during the summer we are crack sealing on the roads. The people here who I see more than my actual family, have become a second family to me. To go home stress free and wake up in the mornings not dreading going to work is the best.

Why do you think more women should consider a career in municipal public works?

If other women are thinking about municipal work they should give it a shot. There are tons of different job options in municipal work. The Region and Cities have different opportunities,

so there are so many options to find your spot and something you enjoy. It's also a job with opportunities to grow, starting off as a worker to someday becoming a lead hand and then supervisor.

What advice would you give to young women or girls who may be considering a future in this field?

The advice I would give would be the same for anyone who is considering working as an equipment operator. Consider what you want out of a job, and how it can fit with your life. Come in with thick skin and a willingness to learn. Then show people what you can do and that you are good at it.

What does it mean to you to be a role model for other women entering the industry?

I am honoured to be a role model for women in the industry, but truthfully I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the amazing women I already work with who have paved the way for me. I look forward to being the first of many to compete at provincials. All I can say is: anything is possible, if you're willing to go through with it. You are your biggest obstacle in life.

AORS update

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 31, 2025

- 1 Brian Anderson, CRS** received his Long Term Service Award for his dedication to the road sector and the AORS Certification Board.
- 2 Don Hamly, CRS-S,** received his Long Term Service Award with his retirement notice from the Township of Hamilton as the Foreman of Road Operations.
- 3 Ron Cooper** retired from the Town of Hanover as the Director of Public Works, and received his Long Term Service Award.
- 4 Mark Bennett** from the City of London received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 5 Sanford Clause, CRS-S** from the Oneida Nation of the Thames received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 6 James Lane, CRS-I** from the Town of Caledon received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 7 Curtis O'Brien, CRS-I** from the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 8 Dax McAllister, CRS-S** from the City of Greater Sudbury received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 9 Jamie Simpson, CRS** from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 10 Brad Wilson, Assoc R.S.** from the City of Belleville received his PWLDP Certificate of Completion.
- 11 John Rivers** from Cedar Signs was awarded the Larry Maddeaux Volunteer of the Year Award for his dedication to local associations, including his work putting together trade show brochures like the one from the recent 2025 Oxford County trade show.
- 12 Dave Lukezich, Assoc R.S.** was awarded the Marvin D. Halladay Education Award for having the highest mark in all eight modules of the Public Works Leadership Development Program (PWLDP).



Thank you to everyone who attended AORS Annual General Meeting in conjunction with the Good Roads Conference on Monday March 31, 2025. For the second year in a row, we had over 200 people in attendance! In addition to normal business, a number of members were recognized including the graduates of the Public Works Leadership Development Program (PWLDP), the winner of the Marvin D. Halladay Memorial Education Award, recipients of the Long Term Service Awards, and the winner of the Larry Maddeaux Volunteer of the Year Award.



President Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I was joined by her husband, children, brother and parents to cheer for her as she was inducted as President!



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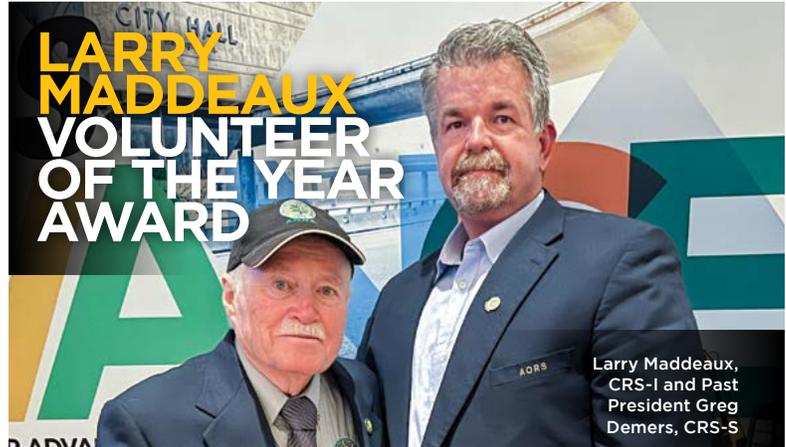
12



YOUR AORS 2025 EXECUTIVE

At the AGM in March, your new AORS Executive was announced.

Your Executive L-R: Immediate Past President Joe Reid, CRS-S (District 8 Road Supervisors Association), 2nd Vice President Jim Borton, CRS-S (Oxford County Road Supervisor Association), President Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I (Simcoe County Road Supervisors Association) and 1st Vice President Cyrus Rife, CRS-I (Transportation Professionals of Waterloo Region).



At our 2025 Annual General Meeting, we took a meaningful step in ensuring that one such extraordinary volunteer is never forgotten. Moving forward, the AORS Volunteer of the Year Award will be known as the Larry Maddeaux Volunteer of the Year Award.

Larry Maddeaux, CRS-I is more than just a volunteer; he is a mentor, a leader, and a tireless advocate for AORS and the people behind it. His contributions to AORS are immeasurable, from mentoring new members, being the Spotlight Committee Co-Chair, to being the face of AORS at events that strengthened our network across Ontario. He embodies the very spirit of service that this award represents.

By renaming this award in his honor, we ensure that Larry's passion lives on—not just in name, but in the continued spirit of volunteerism he so deeply values. To every volunteer who follows in his footsteps, this award will serve as a reminder of what true dedication looks like.

Thank you, Larry, for everything you have done. And thank you to all of our volunteers—past, present, and future—who help make AORS the strong and supportive organization it is today.

26
Good Roads
Conference 2026

Ideas. Inspirations.
Contacts.

March 29—
April 01, 2026

Good Roads

SPOTLIGHT

Get ready to start raking leaves and putting away all that summer lawn furniture you just pulled out, because fall is just around the corner and the campaign to launch the 40th edition of that most useful and trusting Municipal Magazine “Spotlight” has begun.

Yes, if you missed out renewing your ad in time to be entered into the draw that was held on Sept. 11th, you will probably be contacted by one of our professional and knowledgeable committee members very soon.

I would like to take a moment and congratulate Cornell Construction Limited, a dedicated Spotlight Supplier member since 1992, for renewing their ad at the 2025 Trade Show before it ended and successfully won the free Trade Show booth in next year's 2026 Show in Petawawa.

Again, this year Derek Scholten of Colvoy Equipment, my co-chair and I would be very disappointed if any of our loyal supplier members missed out on the opportunity to advertise their services and/or products in what I would like to believe is one of the most valuable pieces of equipment

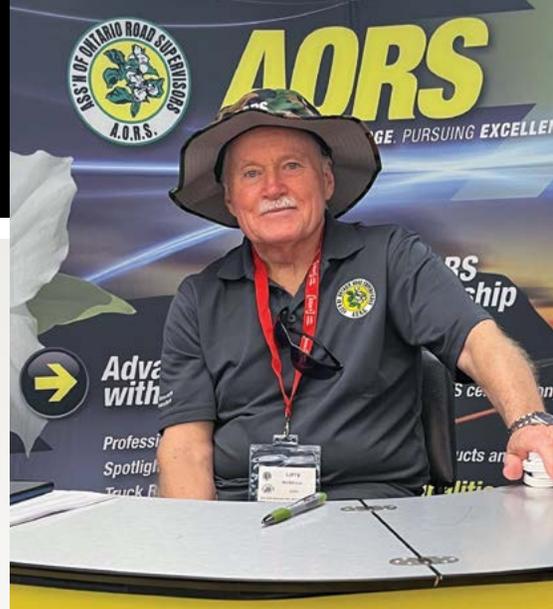
a Municipal employee needs in the office or their vehicle.

It is my sincere hope that this 40th edition will break the record for the number of ads, as we have a great team of very dedicated committee members. My call for new members at our last meeting did not fall on deaf ears.

Dan O'Brien from Creighton Rock Drill, Kyle Boulet from Amaco Construction (replacing Larry Andrews), Shawn Blackmore from Charles Jones Industrial, Chris Mantha CRS-S from Petawawa, and Mike Fletcher CRS-I from Niagara Region, all came on board as new committee members with Don Hamly CRS-S and Kyle Lewis stepping down. We thank Larry, Don, and Kyle for their support on the committee. Check out our full list of committee members in the front of the book as well as our special new advertiser's page.

November comes as quickly as summer disappeared, so get online and fill out our easy-to-use Fillable Spotlight Form and miss out on all the annoying emails and phone calls from our numerous committee members.

Remember you not only get your ad placed in a plastic spiral bound, 4000 copy, Canadian Produced and Printed, easily read, high quality, gloss hardcover magazine, at a very



**Larry Maddeaux , CRS-I
Spotlight Committee Co-chair**

reasonable price, but for no extra cost you get included in the Spotlight Searchable Online Directory and your ad placed in a very impressive online flipbook version on the AORS website. This online flipbook version has the look and feel of the hardcopy but with individual ads hyperlinked from the index pages. It also has a database, searchable by company name, product, or keywords.

In closing I would like to thank all our supplier members especially those that have been with Spotlight since 1987. Champion Equipment, Den-Mar Brines, Spriet Associates, Valley Blades, and Viking-Cives Group.

I only have a limited space so please take a moment and check the entire list of Long Term Advertisers in the front of the book and remember when dealing with any or all of our suppliers let them know- “YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE NEWEST EDITION OF SPOTLIGHT”



Every September, we draw a prize for a \$1,000 gift card of your choice for any member who brings in a new Spotlight ad. This year, the winner was Larry Maddeaux! Spotlight Co-Chair Derek Scholton from Colvoy Equipment presented Larry with his gift card, so he can get a new BBQ! Remember, you don't need to be a Spotlight Committee member to be added to the draw—just make sure your name is listed as the AORS Representative on their Spotlight application!

MEET THE NEWEST AORS BOARD MEMBERS

Your AORS Representative brings forward your concerns, questions and ideas to the Board of Directors, so be sure to reach out to them! Welcome to our new Directors.



David Moncion, CRS-I

Public Works Supervisor
for the Township of
Sables-Spanish Rivers

David started his municipal career in 2007 as an intern Project Coordinator for the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers and was first introduced to AORS for the first time participating in LA meetings with the Manitoulin & Northshore Road Supervisors Association. In 2007 he attained his OACETT C. Tech designation. From 2013 to 2019 he became Manager of Public Works for the Township of Larder Lake. In 2018 he achieved his CRS-I designation with AORS, and his CMM III with an Infrastructure Specialist enhancement with Ontario Municipal Managers Institute in collaboration with Ontario Good Roads. In 2024 he returned to where his municipal career had started, becoming the Public Works Supervisor for the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers. In 2025 he was nominated President and AORS Representative for the Manitoulin & Northshore Road Supervisors Association.



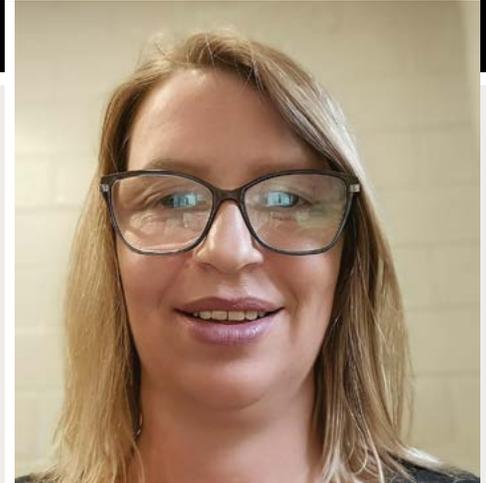
Kate Walkom

Supervisor of Traffic
Safety & Operations for the
Town of Georgina

I'm the Supervisor of Traffic Safety & Operations for the Town of Georgina where I lead programs that focus on improving road safety, active transportation, and municipal operations. My journey in public works began over a decade ago as a university student working in Operations for the City of Pickering, and I've been passionate about municipal service ever since.

I hold a Masters degree in Bioenvironmental Monitoring & Assessment from Trent University and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences from the University of Guelph. I look forward to pursuing professional designations like CRS-I that will deepen my understanding of municipal operations and help me continue growing as a leader in traffic safety and public works.

I live in York Region with my husband and our three kids. Being part of the York Region Roads Supervisors Association as both Director and Secretary has been a great experience, and I'm excited to collaborate with Board Members across Ontario and contribute to the AORS team.



Ann Carr

Nipissing Road Association

My grandfather was on council in Monteagle Township, now Hastings Highlands, for 18 years. Although I did not expect to follow in his footsteps, my upbringing provided a deep-rooted sense of community.

I began my municipal career in the Township of Bonfield where I was given opportunity to learn the industry and the importance of working in my community. Eleven years later I am currently the Public Works Superintendent in the Municipality of Calvin. Working in Public Works in small communities such as Bonfield and Calvin, means that roads is not all I am responsible for. The position also entails waste management, parks and recreation, as well as cemeteries. Having the ability to manage diverse responsibilities provides a strong sense of community as well as an opportunity to be committed to public service.

I am proud to represent the Nipissing Road Association on the Board of Directors with AORS where I can contribute to advancing the professional standards and supporting public works professionals across the province of Ontario.

PRESIDENT'S Message

2025 President Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I ➤



After what felt like a never-ending winter, we shook off the cold, and before we knew it, we were deep in tree and road maintenance projects and are now already preparing for fall and winter again. With so many events along the way, summer seemed to pass in the blink of an eye. As we turn into fall, our members' focus is on ensuring our roads, equipment, and teams are ready for what's ahead.

Being a public works professional is more than a job, it is an important part of a community and in the current state of the daily news that can feel divisive and uncertain, our profession provides something steady: safety, stability, and connection to the communities we serve. We build, we maintain, we quietly hold communities together, often behind the scenes, out of the spotlight, but always making a real difference. And I know I would hear from Larry Maddeaux, CRS-I if I didn't clarify that you should be in SPOTLIGHT, remember to reach out to Larry for details!

As Past President Joe Reid, CRS-S said, we are "Public Works Superheroes." Not because we occasionally pull off what at times can feel like miracles when we are in the thick of it, but because what we do is essential and we lead our teams to do it with pride.

This year so far has been especially meaningful to me as AORS's first female president. I've had the privilege of seeing the association's strength and opportunities firsthand. Together, we've continued to lay a strong foundation through the development of a new constitution, a new Strategic Plan, Corporate processes reviews, enhanced outreach, and the continued focus on enhancing training programs all designed to support our members and ensure AORS thrives well into the future.

We've also celebrated milestones that reflect the growth in our industry and association. For the first time in our Provincial Rodeo, we had a female competitor, Darby Lehmann representing TPOWR competed at this year's

Provincial Rodeo. Her participation is not just a first, it is an inspiration, showing talent and opportunity within our association. Our board also now has three female directors including Ann Carr from Nipissing Road Association and Kate Walkom from York Region Road Supervisors Association. As well, we are growing and bringing on new local associations.

This year was filled with loss and legacy as we continue to honor those who paved the way. The leadership of past presidents, including the late Paul Dalton, Brian Kral, and Ross MacKenzie continues to be evident as they continue to guide us through our mentorships, collaboration, and strong foundation. Legacy was also felt at this year's AORS Tradeshow and events, held in Oxford County which was bursting with energy and the public works spirit. From being able to honour Ross MacKenzie again with his family present at the golf tournament, to the exchange of knowledge and ideas from vendors and students that will carry us well into the year ahead. Amazing record setting show from Jim Borton, CRS-S and the Oxford County Road Supervisors Association team!

My environmental mindset continues to be a key part of our work and partnerships. From highlighting the great products our vendor members provide, to the practices we use daily, to initiatives training and funding opportunities; we are maintaining sustainable communities with innovative grassroots problem solving our members are known for. And yes, after the ice storm this past spring that left so many communities

damaged, some of us got more "hands-on" environmental exposure than expected.

As a wonderful man once said, "The future is bright for AORS", and with trees constantly being on my mind as of late, I see our work like planting trees for the long term: we are not only planting the seeds, we are growing strong roots now, so that future generations can enjoy the shade, stability, and community we've built together. Programs like the Municipal Public Works Operator Program and the demand for these opportunities is overwhelming, and as our summer students return to school, remember we are already nurturing the next generation of professionals, bringing fresh ideas, energy, and enthusiasm to municipalities across Ontario.

We are entering a chapter full of growth, opportunity, and collaboration, where together as leaders in the industry, we're planting roots that will support our association and the public works community for years to come, roots so strong even the wildest ice storms can't knock them over. I'm proud to be part of this team and grateful for each of the public works professionals, the people who show up, roll up their sleeves, and make the tough jobs look easy. Public works isn't glamorous, but it matters every day to everyone, and I wouldn't want to do it with anyone else. Here's to keeping our roads safe, our teams strong, our trees growing, and our collaboration as neighbours, always along the way, cause we all know it's those small moments that make the biggest difference.

Sincerely,
Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I
President, Association of Ontario
Road Supervisors (AORS)

continued

AORS update

AORS Board and Suppliers Gather in Waterloo Region for Annual Meeting and Networking

On September 11, the AORS Board of Directors, staff, and supplier members were warmly welcomed to the Transportation Professionals of Waterloo Region (TPOWR) area by 1st Vice President Cyrus Rife, CRS-I, for the Annual Supplier-Director Meeting and an afternoon of networking.

The day began with the Annual Past Presidents Advisory Committee Meeting, where AORS Past Presidents came together to reconnect, share their experience, and provide valuable guidance to the current Executive. Their continued engagement helps ensure that AORS remains strong and forward-thinking.

From there, the focus shifted to our valued Supplier members. The open dialogue allowed both AORS leadership and suppliers to explore how we can continue working together to better support our local associations and communities across Ontario.

After a productive morning, it was time to relax and network. Attendees enjoyed their choice of activities: a round of golf at the scenic Grey Silo Golf Club, or a guided bus tour with stops at some of Waterloo Region's highlights, including the St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, Murphy's Law Distillery, and Rural Roots Brewery.

Reflecting on the event, Cyrus Rife shared, "it was an absolute pleasure to host the AORS Board, staff, and suppliers here in the beautiful Waterloo Region. We are proud of everything our community has to offer, and it was wonderful to share that with colleagues while building relationships that strengthen AORS as a whole."

The day was a great reminder of the value of collaboration—bringing together the wisdom of our past leaders, the innovation of our suppliers, and the commitment of our Board and staff to support the future of municipal public works in Ontario.





During the Suppliers-Director meeting, Past-President Joe Reid, CRS-S and 1st Vice-President Cyrus Rife, CRS-I completed a 50/50 draw to raise money for The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. \$330 was donated, providing 660 meals to the Waterloo Region!



BY KELLY ELLIOTT,
MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS
SPECIALIST

BEING AN ELECTED OFFICIAL IS NOT A SHIELD TO PERPETRATE ABUSE

On July 2, 2025, I appeared before the Ontario Standing Committee for Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy to speak in favour of Bill 9 on behalf of our AORS members. While the need for Bill 9 has become increasingly important, the Bill presented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, does not go far enough to protect municipal staff. Below you will find the comments I provided to the Standing Committee with our recommendations.

Good afternoon Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today regarding Bill 9. My name is Kelly Elliott, and I am speaking to you representing the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors. I am here to voice strong support for this Bill on behalf of AORS, and to advocate for the critical improvements still needed to protect municipal staff across Ontario.

I would first like to extend my thanks to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for once again bringing forward legislation to strengthen codes of conduct for municipal elected officials. This is not the first time legislation has been introduced, and the persistence to address this longstanding issue is appreciated.

But let me be clear: the municipal employees across Ontario that AORS represents, do not have the same rights to a safe and respectful workplace as any other worker in this province does. They are expected to work under the authority of elected officials—mayors, councillors, reeves—who can commit acts of abuse,

harassment, or discrimination without meaningful consequences.

Unlike in the private sector or broader public service, there is no mechanism for removal of elected officials whose behaviour is egregious or violent. There is no protection from retaliation for those who report misconduct, and there is no safety net for staff trying to do the right thing by speaking up.

Right now, the only consequence for an elected official who retaliates against a staff member for filing a complaint is... another Integrity Commissioner complaint. There are no real safeguards, no whistleblower protection, and no assurance that their jobs, their mental health, or that their safety will be preserved. This is unacceptable.

Bill 9 takes an important step in recognizing that gaps exist. But it must go further, particularly when it comes to enabling the removal of officials found to have committed serious acts of harassment or violence.

Previous versions of this legislation proposed a judicial review process, which added a layer of independence and fairness. That safeguard is missing in Bill 9. Instead, the current version returns the decision to municipal councils—many of which

are rife with political alliances or fear of setting precedent.

If Council is to retain this authority, then at a minimum, the threshold for removal should be changed from unanimous consent to two-thirds support. Otherwise, a single colleague can shield an abuser from consequences.

Beyond that, having the decision for removal to go back to Council is not best practice. We believe the government must establish a provincial Integrity Commissioner Panel—an independent body of qualified professionals who can oversee the most serious cases with transparency and objectivity instead of only the Provincial Integrity Commissioner. This distributes power at this level, helping to support a fair and balanced expert recommendation on any Code violation. Council should be removed completely, as relying on local councils to be the last standing tier for the adjudication the most severe breaches of conduct is neither fair to victims nor effective in delivering accountability.

In addition, we urge the Committee to consider these nine critical recommendations:



1. **Whistleblower protection:** Municipal employees must be able to report misconduct without fear of losing their jobs or being targeted. Protection must be embedded in the legislation.
2. **A duty to report:** Safe workplaces are everyone's responsibility. All municipal officials and staff should be required to report known or suspected abuses.
3. **Include workplace discrimination** as a specific violation in Codes of Conduct. Discrimination—whether based on gender, race, disability, or any other protected ground—is a form of abuse, and must be treated as such.
4. **Prioritize egregious acts** of violence, harassment, and abuse that create a hostile workplace and pose a safety risk to others. These cases must move to the front of the line and be resolved swiftly.
5. **Strengthen penalties:** Any councillor removed for a serious code violation should be ineligible to run again for at least two full terms, and must disclose their prior removal when seeking future office.
6. **Expand penalty options:** If removal isn't actioned, there must be a menu of alternative penalties available—greater than simple reprimands or suspensions of pay. Consequences must be proportionate and enforceable.
7. **Dismissal of frivolous complaints:** Integrity Commissioners must have clear authority with specific provisions to dismiss frivolous or vexatious complaints, so the process remains focused and fair.
8. **Minimum standards for Integrity Commissioners:** All ICs should be required to meet consistent professional qualifications and training to ensure consistent application of the code and public trust.
9. **Automatic leave for criminal charges:** If a councillor is charged with assault, they should be placed on leave—just like we expect for police officers, firefighters, teachers, or any other public servant. If convicted, removal should be automatic. It's a basic standard of integrity for holding public office.

In closing, the role of a councillor is a privilege. It is not a shield for the perpetration of abuse. Municipal employees deserve dignity, safety, and respect—just like every other worker in this province. Let's not allow loopholes, politics, or outdated processes to prevent that any longer.

Thank you for your time.

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MARKETPLACE | EVENTS



FROM FACTORY FLOOR TO MUNICIPAL FLEET

Central Elgin Tours Trackless Vehicles Plant

BY **MONIKA PINEDA**,
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER,
MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL ELGIN

The Municipality of Central Elgin recently toured the Trackless Vehicles plant in Courtland, Ontario, to see first-hand how the Municipality's recently purchased Trackless MT7 municipal tractor was built.

For Central Elgin, Trackless equipment is more than machinery; it powers the daily services residents rely on. These versatile units are used year-round for winter sidewalk plowing, sweeping, mowing around guardrails, and even managing invasive phragmites. When our 2010 Trackless sidewalk machine, with 2,500 operating hours, began experiencing significant engine issues, it became clear the unit had reached the end of its service life. Since most machines last 10 to 15 years, depending on maintenance and operating conditions, replacing the 2010 unit was timely and necessary.

Purchasing a new municipal tractor is a major investment. During the plant tour, Mayor Andrew Sloan and staff gained valuable insight into how the equipment is built and the rigorous quality standards behind each unit.

Trackless Vehicles Manufacturing Facility

The Courtland plant spans 110,000 square feet on 28 acres and has been operating since 2002. It features

CNC machines, robotic welding, laser cutting, and an in-house paint line to ensure precision and quality. The assembly line is designed for both safety and productivity, and a 500-horsepower Cummins generator maintains uninterrupted operations during power outages. Trackless Vehicles continues to invest in its infrastructure, including a 10,000-square-foot warehouse expansion in 2017 to support growth and production capacity. Seeing the production process firsthand helps staff make informed decisions about fleet maintenance, replacement cycles, and long-term investments.

Ensuring Value in Municipal Fleet Investments

This kind of due diligence reflects our broader responsibility as stewards of public funds. Every dollar we invest in fleet replacement must balance fiscal responsibility with service reliability. Residents may only see the final product and the service provided—the plow clearing a sidewalk after a winter storm or the tractor mowing roadside grass—but behind that service is a long chain of decisions, partnerships, and factors that influence cost and availability.

In today's climate, those factors increasingly extend beyond Canadian borders. International trade agreements and tariffs have added new layers of complexity to equipment procurement.

Pictured (Left-Right): Joe Lampert, Sales Representative, Work Equipment Ltd.; Cindy Vermeer, Senior Engineering Technologist, Municipality of Central Elgin; Alex Piggott, Manager of Water, Wastewater and Roads Operations, Municipality of Central Elgin; Andrew Sloan, Mayor of Central Elgin; and Kevin Luckhardt, Sales Representative & Factory Support, Trackless Vehicles.

Even when prioritizing Canadian-made products, specialized machinery often relies on globally sourced components, making it essential for public works professionals to understand how these supply chains function and how they can affect local budgets.

Central Elgin's investment in a new Trackless MT7 not only ensures reliable service delivery but also supports a local Ontario-based manufacturer. It's an example of how municipalities can balance the immediate needs of their community with long-term planning, global awareness, and financial stewardship.

For public works, equipment is about trust. Trust that sidewalks will be safe in winter, roads will be maintained in summer, and tax dollars are spent wisely. By understanding the equipment we purchase and the facilities that produce it, we reinforce that trust, ensure fiscal responsibility, and maintain the dependable public services our communities expect.

It's Time to Harmonize How We Build Roads in Canada



BY **STEVEN CROMBIE**, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT THE ONTARIO ROAD BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION.

As we prepare for another winter and another pothole season that will set in, Canadians will once again find themselves questioning the state of our roads. While the freeze-thaw cycle is a natural culprit, the inconsistency in how we design and build roads across our cities is a problem entirely of our own making.

In Canada, every municipality is responsible for its own road design specifications. This might seem like a technical nuance, but it has real and costly consequences. Contractors bidding on public works projects must constantly adjust to unique local specifications, even when working just a few kilometres apart. What's worse, these micro-differences create barriers to trade and mobility not just between provinces—but within them. In no other sector do we tolerate this level of fragmentation.

Compare that to the United States, where state departments of transportation (DOTs) set standardized design frameworks. Municipalities build within them. This alignment fosters competition, creates efficiencies, and reduces costs—an approach we would do well to emulate.

One of the clearest examples is asphalt design. In Ontario alone, municipalities use varying standards for mix types, materials, and performance expectations. By harmonizing asphalt specifications across

jurisdictions, we can unlock measurable cost savings for cities and better value for taxpayers. Contractors would no longer need to retool operations for every municipal job, saving time and money. Material producers could achieve economies of scale. And most importantly, roads would be built to consistent, high-performance standards that stand up better over time.

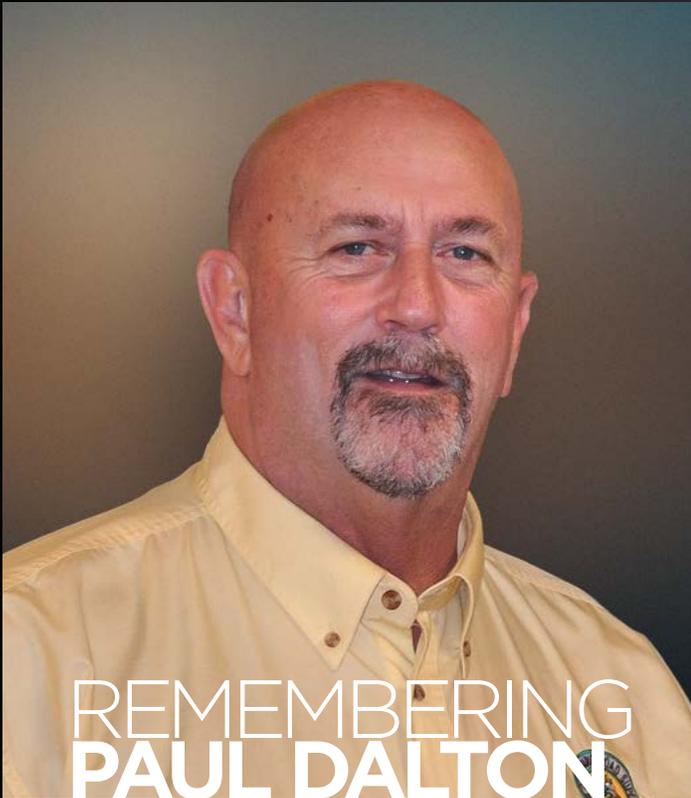
There's also a broader economic benefit. In a global environment increasingly shaped by volatility—think supply chain disruptions and tariffs under Trump-era trade policy—Canada must look inward to improve productivity and reduce self-imposed inefficiencies. Harmonizing road design is low-hanging fruit.

The potential payoff is significant. A standardized approach would support job creation by making it easier for contractors to operate across municipal borders. It would increase project completeness and delivery speed by reducing

confusion and design rework. It would allow municipal staff to focus more on asset management and less on custom engineering. And critically, it would stretch limited infrastructure dollars further at a time when cities across the country are facing mounting fiscal pressures.

We're not talking about handing all authority over to upper levels of government. Municipalities should retain control over priorities and investments. But when it comes to how we design the roads themselves, adopting shared technical standards—just like we do with the national building code—is simply common sense.

Canadians deserve durable roads, efficient use of their tax dollars, and a construction sector that is built to compete. As another winter gives way to the cracks and craters of spring, let's not just patch our roads—let's fix the way we build them in the first place.

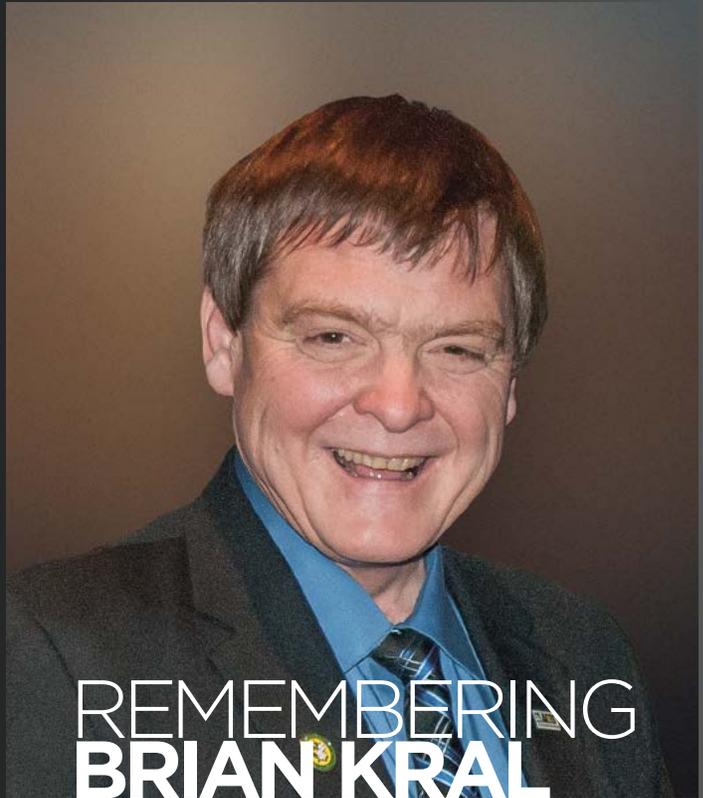


REMEMBERING PAUL DALTON

Paul joined the AORS Board of Directors representing Lambton County Road Supervisors Association in 2000, and served as their representative until 2023. Paul served as the President for two consecutive years in 2004 and 2005.

Paul worked at the Township of Dawn-Euphemia for over 45 years and dedicated himself to the residents. "He was more than just a colleague to his work family—he was a trusted friend, a local legend, and someone who would drop everything to lend a hand. He was well known for his colorful expressions and sharp sense of humor, always bringing laughter and light to those around him. His absence leaves a void not only in the Township but in the hearts of all who had the honor of knowing him," says Mayor Alan Broad from the Township of Dawn-Euphemia.

Paul passed away suddenly on April 16, 2025.



REMEMBERING BRIAN KRAL

Brian Kral served as President of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors in 2013, and was a dedicated Director on the Board.

Brian dedicated his career to public service with the City of Thunder Bay, where he worked in Public Works for over 30 years, ultimately as Supervisor of Maintenance Operations, Roads North before retiring in 2016. He was known for his professionalism, mentorship, and commitment to strengthening Ontario's municipal public works community.

As President of AORS, Brian championed training, collaboration, and the value of the Certified Road Supervisor designation, inspiring others to take pride in their profession.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Family and Community

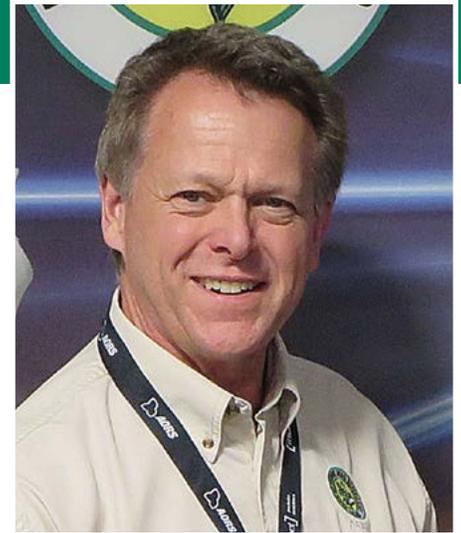
As I previewed the articles for this edition of the newsletter, I noticed a recurring theme: the importance of family and community. In the 13 years that I've been Executive Director of AORS, I've been reminded many times of the importance of community and family. Not just in general terms, but specifically as it applies to our members. The men and women who make it their mission to ensure the roads and other critical infrastructure that their communities depend upon are constructed and maintained to standards that ensure a level of safety and quality of life that so many of us take for granted. As populations age and as they migrate from urban to rural municipalities, expectations change. So do the demands on our members.

They, and their staff, would not be able to deliver these services if it wasn't for the support and sacrifices of their own families. The long hour and the 3 a.m. call-ins. The extreme weather events and the emergency declarations. Not to mention the casual encounters at the grocery store with concerned citizens who expect better service.

This is the third year that AORS has been participating in the Level Up Skilled Trades Career Fairs across Ontario. Not to mention other local

career fairs hosted by municipalities. I've participated in several, and I'm always surprised at how many young people who stop at our booth have no idea what public works is, let alone the critical role it plays in making their communities livable. What can we do to ensure the communities where we work and live understand and appreciate the important roles our members play? And how do we convince families to instill that passion in their children, and encourage them to pursue a career in public works?

While each of us has our immediate family to lean on, we also belong to families in the broader sense, such as the municipality or company that you work for, or the Local Association you belong to. In my case that includes the AORS staff, a small but dedicated team that works diligently to support our members. It also includes the AORS Board of Directors, a devoted group of volunteers who commit their own personal time to represent their Local Association members at the provincial level, and provide leadership and oversight on behalf of their members. And of course, all AORS members are part of a large family that supports one another, whether it means sharing best practices or sharing resources.



As families and communities grow, they become more diverse. AORS is no exception. While most of our members share many common roles and responsibilities, they vary based on several factors, such as large vs small municipalities, rural vs urban, northern vs. southern, and different demographics. How does AORS find the common ground that brings our members together? At their September meeting, the AORS Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan for 2026-2030: named *The Future is Bright for AORS*, a phrase frequently used by the late Paul Dalton. The plan was developed by bringing our directors and members from across the province together, to share and prioritize their concerns and challenges, and brainstorm strategies to deal with them.

In closing, family and community are the drivers for so much of what our members do. And I'm honoured to be part of the AORS family.

John Maheu
Executive Director

“As families and communities grow, they become more diverse. AORS is no exception. While most of our members share many common roles and responsibilities, they vary based on several factors, such as large vs small municipalities, rural vs urban, northern vs. southern, and different demographics.”



DESLUDGING IN NORTH MIDDLESEX

The Municipality of North Middlesex is currently completing the Parkhill Lagoon Desludging Project, an important investment in the community's water and wastewater infrastructure.

This preventative maintenance project involves removing built-up sludge from the lagoon system to improve efficiency, protect local waterways, add additional housing capacity, and ensure reliable long-term service for residents. By acting now, North Middlesex is taking proactive steps to safeguard the environment and extend the lifespan of critical infrastructure.

"I want to thank the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for their support, as well as our contractor, consultant, and the entire project team for their hard work in making the Parkhill Lagoon Desludging Project a success. By maintaining the lagoon today, we're protecting our local waterways and making sure Parkhill residents can count on reliable service for years to come, while doing our part to support

ongoing housing development." Said Samuel Shannon, Director of Infrastructure and Operations.

"Routine desludging is essential to maintaining the efficiency and longevity of our infrastructure. It not only prevents blockages and environmental hazards but also ensures safe and reliable service for our communities." Said Faishal Diwan, Manager of Infrastructure. Work is nearly completed at the Parkhill Lagoon, with minimal disruption expected for local residents. Regular lagoon maintenance projects such as this one play a key role in ensuring that municipal wastewater systems continue to operate effectively and meet environmental standards.

Protecting The Environment in Seguin Township

BY **TOM MCLEOD**, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, SEGUIN TOWNSHIP

Seguin Township is a thriving municipality located in the regional district of Parry Sound with a deep commitment to prioritizing the environment. Seguin has a strong working relationship with the UNESCO designated Georgian Bay Mnídoo Gamii Biosphere (GBB) and Generations Effect, the consulting social enterprise of GBB. Generations Effect (GenE) offers services that advance ecosystem health, collaborative partnerships, climate and energy solutions, and contributes to the financial sustainability of GBB as a non-profit registered charity.

One of the most successful collaborations to date was inspired by events related to the pandemic, when grassy areas at Seguin Township transfer stations became overgrown, revealing an abundance of native wildflowers. Ratepayers, known to have a passion for the natural features of Seguin Township, did not complain about the overgrowth. In fact, the Township received compliments from ratepayers and others in response to this 'return to nature.' This happy discovery inspired collaboration on a robust native species planting project!

Seguin Township, like all municipalities, must cut back roadside growth to enhance visibility and safety.

Unfortunately, this work causes significant wildflower loss. Inspired by the wildflower growth at transfer sites, Generations Effect and Seguin Township launched a planting project that for the last two years, has led to native species plantings at several of Seguin's transfer sites, cemeteries and other public spaces in the spirit of keeping strong wildflower stock present. One benefit of these designated areas is the higher quality milkweed for monarch butterflies that can grow in these protected spots. Milkweed on roadsides can often get covered in dust and calcium and draws monarchs closer to threats of collision with cars.

Native plants matter because they occur naturally in a region, having co-adapted to local conditions alongside other native species, such as pollinators, that rely on them. Across Ontario there are thousands of pollinator species that play a vital role in supporting the overall health of ecosystems and other species, as well as producing many different food crops that people depend upon. But pollinator species are in serious decline, in part due to habitat loss. Native plants are the safest bet when it comes to creating habitat for pollinators!

For the Seguin projects, native plants were sourced by GenE from Grow Wild, a native plant nursery in



Ontario (<https://www.nativeplantnursery.ca/>). Species were selected based on hardiness (ensuring minimal water is needed to get established), and a variety of bloom types and timing, serving both aesthetic and pollinator needs.

Hundreds of individual flowers, ferns, and shrubs have been planted, such as: asters, milkweeds, wild columbine, black-eyed Susan, and dogwoods. After planting, the sites are staked and small signs put in place. Already success is visible as mature plants establish and flower each year!

GBB provides a number of free resources to support natural habitat in the Biosphere region, along the eastern shores of Georgian Bay, such as a "Best for the Biosphere" list, and a "Planting for Pollinators" guidebook available online (<https://georgianbaybiosphere.com/conservation-guides/#plants>).

For more information, visit:

- » www.seguin.ca
- » www.georgianbaybiosphere.com
- » www.generationseffect.com





Got blacktop? Then you've got potholes. Stepp Manufacturing has the solution. From Hot Box Trailers and Slip-in Hot Boxes to Patch Trucks and Asphalt Recyclers—we've got the equipment to keep your pavement smooth and your repairs lasting.



2025 Models in Stock!



In Stock!

STEPP MFG SPHD 3.0 DUMP STYLE POTHOLE PATCHER IS THE KING OF HOT BOXES (52° DUMP ANGLE)

- 3, 4 and 6.75 ton units available.
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2025 STEPP MFG SPH-2.0 ASPHALT HOTBOX

- 3 ton capacity dump
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- 60% decrease in maintenance - High Flash Point
- 3x longer lasting power!
- 100% biodegradable.





A FAMILY LEGACY IN THE AORS LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

A FATHER AND SON'S JOURNEY THROUGH THE AORS COMMUNITY

BY **MIKE FLETCHER CRS-I**
NIAGARA ROADS SUPERVISOR
ASSOCIATION (INCLUDING
HIS DAD, **JOHN FLETCHER—**
BRANT COUNTY ROAD
SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION)

It's not often you find both a father and son actively involved in different local road associations, but for my Dad and me, it's been a unique and meaningful part of our professional lives. What makes it even more special is the way he's passed the torch, not just in terms of career experience, but in his passion for the connections and camaraderie that come from being involved in organizations like AORS.

Growing up, I watched my Dad build strong relationships through the courses, trade shows, and events held by his local association. He often talked about how valuable those connections were not just for learning and development, but for sharing ideas, solving common challenges, and being part of a community that truly understands the demands of the job.

Now, as he is near retirement, I find myself walking a similar path. Being involved in my own association has given me the chance to experience firsthand the benefits he always spoke about. Whether it's golf tournaments, technical training, or trade shows, these events are more than just dates on a calendar, they're opportunities to grow, collaborate, and carry on a tradition that's served our industry well for generations.

What makes this journey even more meaningful is getting to spend time together on a personal level, doing what we both love on a professional level. Sharing that common passion has brought us even closer, and created memories that go beyond the job itself.

My Dad has always believed in giving back and helping the next group of public works professionals feel welcomed and supported. That's a value I intend to carry forward. It's been a privilege to continue what he started, and I'm proud to be part of a new generation working to build on the foundation he and so many others helped establish.

LA News

SUBMIT
YOUR LA NEWS OR
ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be featured in the
newsletter and/or on
AORS social media

CONTACT
kellyelliott@aors.on.ca



AORS Winner

Aaron Hatton, CRS was the winner of the YETI cooler at the AORS Hospitality Suite during the Good Roads Conference. Aaron is presented the cooler by 2nd Vice-President Jim Borton, CRS-S. A huge thank you to Jeff Convey from Superior Road Products who donated the cooler to giveaway!

Lambton County Road Supervisors Association

Michael Cumming, CRS receives his Long Term Service Award at the Lambton County Road Supervisors Association meeting in June. Michael retired from the Township of Enniskillen as the Road Superintendent.



Our 34 Local Associations (LA) are the basic 'close to home' organizational element of AORS.



They offer our members immediate, easy and cost-effective opportunities to:

- » Participate in activities and events
- » Utilize their right to vote and hold office
- » Attend educational programs
- » Network with colleagues and peers in a professional setting
- » Exchange public works technologies/trends with colleagues, and
- » Help support and promote our Association.

These stories are the best examples of the LA contribution to our Association and to our communities!

Niagara Region Road Supervisors Association

Michael Fletcher, CRS-I and Brandon Brisson, CRS-I receive their PWLDP Certificate of Completion from AORS Training and Programming Coordinator Christie Little at a Niagara Region Road Supervisors Association meeting.



York Region Roads Supervisors Association

Andrew Saltes, Assoc. R.S. from Aurora and Michael Szajner from Vaughan were the top drivers at the York Region Roads Supervisors Association's local roadeo.

Essex County Municipal Supervisors Association

Essex County Municipal Supervisors Association had over 30 drivers out to compete and made it through the "100 degree heat"!



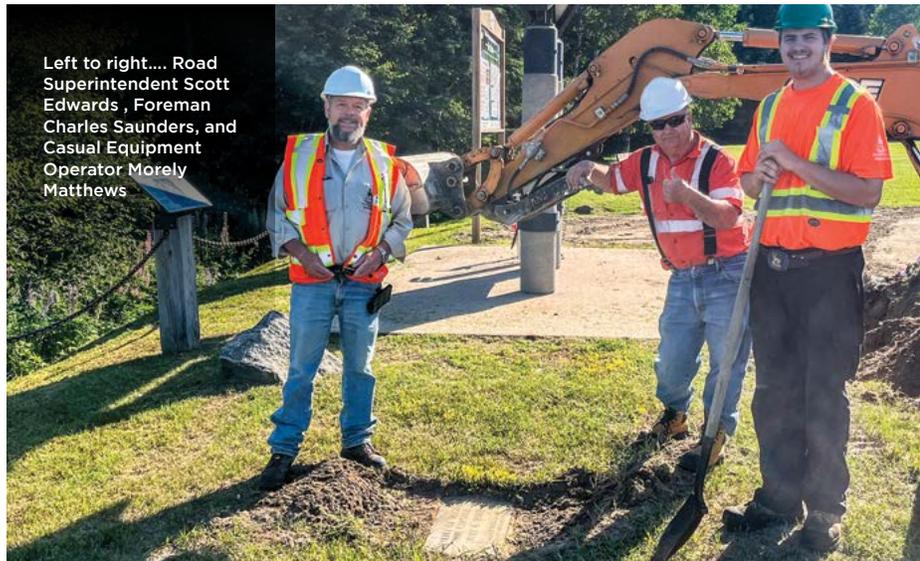
District 8 Retiree Coffee Social

AORS Past President Darrell Townsend, CRS-I was the driving force behind District 8 Road Supervisors Association's first-ever Retiree Coffee Social back in April at the Loyalist Township Works Garage.

The event was a warm and casual gathering, providing a great opportunity for past and present members to reconnect. It was our way of keeping in touch with the retirees who helped shape roads and communities—and to show appreciation for the years of service they dedicated to the profession and re-connect. About 35 were in attendance for the inaugural event!

20 Year Award

Larry Maddeaux, CRS-I presented Walker Industries with their 20 Year Award for advertising in Spotlight and thanked them for being a dedicated partner of AORS.



Left to right.... Road Superintendent Scott Edwards, Foreman Charles Saunders, and Casual Equipment Operator Morely Matthews

Finding Buried Treasure in Magnetawan!

The Municipality of Magnetawan had a Time Capsule buried 25 years ago and had since lost the maps and location, but it was to be opened during the festivities at the 2025 Canada Day Weekend. The task was given to the Roads Department to find and unearth the time capsule. By using old aerial photos, they were able to determine changes in the landscape and soils and chose a location to do the last "kick at the can" dig. As luck would have it, we found it with dedicated staff and team work!



AORS hosted LA Workshop

AORS hosted a successful LA Workshop in June at Horseshoe Valley Resort where we developed the framework for the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. Thank you to all of those who attended the workshop!



Building Relationships

The District 8 Road Supervisors Association gathered at the Mohawk Community Centre on the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory for a special opportunity to learn more about their neighbours, the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte. Members were welcomed to hear about the culture, history, and traditions of the community, as well as the many programs and services that support their members. A highlight of the day was the delicious lunch, prepared and served by students from the Ohahase Education Centre, showcasing both talent and hospitality.

“This was an incredible opportunity to connect and learn,” said Joe Reid, CRS-S, AORS Representative for District 8 and AORS Past President. **“It’s so important for our local associations to build and grow relationships with the First Nations communities in our regions. Understanding their perspectives and celebrating their culture strengthens our partnerships and helps us work better together.”**

UPCOMING EVENTS

You can find AORS at these upcoming events:

- » **LEVEL UP CAREER FAIRS**—
Barrie (Oct 1–Oct 2), Sudbury (Oct 8–9), Timmins (Oct 14–6), Windsor (Oct 29–30), Hamilton (Nov 5–6), London (Nov 11–13), Oshawa (Nov 18–20), Mississauga (Nov 25–28), Kingston (Dec 2–3) and Ottawa (Dec 10–12)
- » **WESTERN ONTARIO WARDENS CAUCUS CONFERENCE**—
October 17, London, ON
- » **ONTARIO ONE CALL CONFERENCE**—October 22–24, Blue Mountains, ON
- » **LANDSCAPE ONTARIO**—
January 6–8, International Centre, Mississauga, ON (Use the code ASSOE5 when registering to get your complimentary admission!)
- » **DSAO/LICO CONFERENCE**—
January 20–22, London, ON, Lamplighter Inn
- » **AORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**—March 30, Fairmont Royal York, Toronto, ON
- » **GOOD ROADS CONFERENCE**—
March 29–April 1, Fairmont Royal York, Toronto, ON
- » **TRUCK WORLD**—April 16–18, International Centre, Mississauga, ON
- » **NATIONAL HEAVY EQUIPMENT SHOW**—Apr 23–24, International Centre, Mississauga, ON

TRAINING UPDATE

Investing in Training

Shaping Winter-Ready and Leadership-Capable Public Works Teams

As 2025 transitions toward winter, this fall is an essential time to highlight how investing in education directly correlates with safer, more effective public works operations—and building a robust leadership pipeline for the future.



Winter-Ready and Safety First

Winter presents high stakes for public works crews—from unpredictable weather to intensive equipment use. Our NEW! Winter Maintenance Safety Review offers a practical, engaging approach that blends theory with hands-on application, including a pre-trip inspection of a snowplow. Offered in compact half-day or full-day formats, it ensures staff are both confident and compliant on the road.

This valuable new offering complements AORS's traditional Winter Maintenance School and the full Winter Operations Training Series, designed to build deep competence across supervisors, operators, and patrollers.



BY **CHRISTIE LITTLE**, AORS PROGRAMMING & TRAINING COORDINATOR AND **DENNIS O'NEIL**, AORS MEMBER SERVICES COORDINATOR

REAL VOICES REAL IMPACT

“The Almaguin Road Superintendents Association put together the AORS Winter Maintenance Safety Review at the Municipality of Magnetawan Roads Yard and had an excellent turnout. The instructor was both knowledgeable and had real life experiences that made the open discussion engaging and a great interaction.”

— **SCOTT EDWARDS CRS-S**, PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT, MUNICIPALITY OF MAGNETAWAN

THE AORS VALUE PROPOSITION

To all those invested in public works training and professional development, AORS aims to meet the needs of our members by providing the following:



- » 60+ training courses designed and delivered through a variety of options/formats
- » Cooperative Local Association/LA (i.e. close-to-home) programs to reduce fees for courses, seminars and professional development programs
- » Customized adult 'peer to peer' learning experiences to accommodate specific needs
- » Strategic cooperative agreements with other professional and private sector organizations (e.g. Good Roads, SWANA) to deliver a wide range of cost-effective, high-quality programs
- » Volunteer Education Committee and Certification Board to organize and approve all training and professional development programs
- » Professional training and human resource development staff committed to quality control and on-going improvement
- » Public works career professional development paths with clear guidelines to ensure verification of public works expertise and improved employability

Cultivating Leadership The PWLDP



Building strong leadership starts now. The Public Works Leadership Development Program (PWLDP) supports current and emerging leaders—managers, supervisors, and even administrative staff—in developing essential skills to guide Ontario’s public works operations into the future.

Why the PWLDP Stands Out

» Comprehensive, modular learning:

Eight focused modules (Local Government, Customer Service, Leadership & Supervision, Financial Management, Talent Management, Process Management, Continuous Improvement, Communications), each aligning with levels of the Certified Road Supervisor (Assoc. R.S., CRS, CRS-I, CRS-S) designations.

» **Flexible delivery:** Offered in both in-person and live webinar formats, allowing municipalities to train staff effectively within budget and scheduling constraints.

» **Engaging learning format:** Each module emphasizes experiential, interactive learning—case studies, group discussions, simulations—led by seasoned municipal professionals.

» Career-building credential:

Completion of all eight modules earns a PWLDP Certificate of Completion, which satisfies the leadership training requirement for all three CRS designations. Modules can also be taken individually to meet specific needs or timelines.

» Provincially recognized pathway:

The CRS is the only designation for public works supervisors recognized under Ontario legislation (Association of Ontario Road Superintendents Act, 1996). The PWLDP provides a direct, sanctioned route toward achieving this credential.

» Networking opportunities:

Each session brings together peers from municipalities across Ontario, creating valuable opportunities to share experiences, exchange best practices, and build connections that last long after the course ends.

REAL VOICES REAL IMPACT

“The Public Works Leadership Development Program is a valuable addition to my skill set... highly transferable... helps us to better serve the public and the team.”

— **KIM PAYEUR**, ASSOC. R.S.,
CITY OF BELLEVILLE
(ADMINISTRATIVE
PROFESSIONAL)

“Just wanted to thank you for the recent PWLDP courses. I wasn’t sure what to expect but was pleasantly surprised by both the material and the instructors. The Customer Service course was the best I’ve ever taken, and the leadership training provided the foundation I’ve been looking for. I’ve even pulled a few pages from the handouts to review each morning to help calibrate my mindset in how I interact with the public and my coworkers.”

— **JEFF WOLFE**, TOWN OF ST. MARYS,
INFRASTRUCTURE
SERVICES MANAGER

60+
TRAINING
PROGRAMS



1900+
MEMBERS IN
ONTARIO

\$
SAVE
ON TRAINING
& EDUCATION



A Call to Action for Fall Budget Planners

Municipal councils and decision-makers: elevate training from the sidelines to the centerpiece of fall budgeting. Programs like the Winter Maintenance Safety Review and PWLDP are investments in operational excellence, community safety, and long-term resiliency.

“Investing now—in safety and leadership—means being ready for every road and every season to come.”

Ready to Learn More or Book?

Explore upcoming sessions and register through the AORS Education portal: <https://aors.on.ca/education>

For tailored training or bookings contact:

Dennis O’Neil, Member Services Coordinator, dennisonel@aors.on.ca

Christie Little, Programming & Training Coordinator, christielittle@aors.on.ca

1900+

TOTAL CERTIFIED
TO AUGUST 2025 (including Associate Members)

Certified At Certification Board Meeting February 21, 2025

Eric Armstrong	Mun.of Marmora and Lake	Assoc. R.S.
Ryan Baker	Twp. of Wellesley	CRS
Giancarlo Barranca	City of Brampton	Assoc. R.S.
Shawn Bromley	Mun.of Huron East	Assoc. R.S.
Alexander Kevin Bryson	Reg. Mun.of Niagara	Assoc. R.S.
Dennis Caddick	City of Belleville	Assoc. R.S.
Rob Camelon	Mun.of Dysart et al	CRS-S
Jeffrey Cawker	Mun.of Port Hope	CRS-I
Sanford Clause	Oneida Nation of the Thames	CRS-S
John Collison	Twp. of Dawn-Euphemia	CRS-I
Stephen Cooper	City of Hamilton	CRS
Jamie Davis	County of Oxford	CRS
Josh Decoste	Twp. of North Glengarry	Assoc. R.S.
Paul Dobias	Town of Gravenhurst	CRS
Travis French	City of Vaughan	Assoc. R.S.
John Gleeson	Mun.of Mississippi Mills	CRS-S
Joseph Gratton	Loyalist Twp.	CRS
Philip Heinen	Town of Grimsby	Assoc. R.S.
Greg Hodgson	Mun.of Chatham-Kent	Assoc. R.S.
James Levac	Twp. of South Glengarry	Assoc. R.S.
Tom Lewis	Town of Ajax	CRS
Adam Ling	Town of Halton Hills	CRS
Matthew MacKay	City of Mississauga	CRS
Javier Marcos	County of Brant	Assoc. R.S.
Greg Maxwell	Twp. of Limerick	CRS-I
Dax McAllister	City of Greater Sudbury	CRS-S
Shawn McGilchrist	Reg. Mun.of Peel	Assoc. R.S.
Allan McLeod	Mun.of York Region	Assoc. R.S.
Ethan Mosley	Reg. Mun.of Niagara	Assoc. R.S.
Kimberly Payeur	City of Belleville	Assoc. R.S.
Stephen Preston	City of Brampton	CRS
Trevor Prevost	Mun.of Tweed	CRS
Ryan Reid	Mun.of Tweed	CRS
Gregory R. Robinson	County of Haliburton	CRS
Daniel Sepe	City of Vaughan	CRS
Paul Spoelstra	City of Hamilton	CRS
Shaun Thomson	Mun.of Bluewater	CRS-I
Shane Timmermans	Mun.of South Huron	CRS-I
Evan Whillans	City of Brampton	Assoc. R.S.
James William Wilkinson	Town of Smiths Falls	Assoc. R.S.

The Provincially recognized designation of Certified Road Supervisor (CRS) is well recognized and respected throughout the public works industry in Ontario. Each quarter the AORS Certification Board considers applications from public works professionals to obtain their CRS designation. The various levels of certification require a specific number of years of roads related supervisory experience as well as designated courses. AORS, in cooperation with Good Roads, have strived to make these courses available through the pandemic, to allow individuals to continue to pursue their CRS certification or to advance to various levels of designation. The following lists represent those individuals who have been granted certification or reclassification over the last year. **Congratulations to all!!**

Certified At Certification Board Meeting May 23, 2025

Jonathan Angrove	City of Markham	CRS
Mike Dakin	City of Welland	CRS-I
Ryan Deer	Mun. of Kincardine	CRS
Mike Fletcher	Reg. Mun. of Niagara	CRS-I
Scott Hodgson	City of Kawartha Lakes	CRS-I
Robert Douglas Hutchinson	County of Simcoe	CRS-I
Ryan Johnston	Mun. of Middlesex Centre	CRS
Kyle Labbett	Loyalist Twp.	CRS-I
Rejean Lacroix	City of Woodstock	CRS
Steven Lewis	City of Kawartha Lakes	CRS-I
Lance Martens	Haldimand County	CRS
Paul Nicol	Town of New Tecumseth	CRS
Anthony Vani	Reg. Mun. of Niagara	CRS-I
Ken Young	County of Grey	CRS
Jean-Luc Boucher	The Nation Municipality	Assoc. R.S.
Adam Dobson Dobson	Town of New Tecumseth	Assoc. R.S.
Brian Lidster	Town of New Tecumseth	Assoc. R.S.
Tyler Rumble	Town of New Tecumseth	Assoc. R.S.
Phil Dominas	Reg. Mun. of Waterloo	Assoc. R.S.
Robert Fitzsimmons	The Town of The Blue Mountains	Assoc. R.S.
Cody Hannan	Town of New Market	CRS
John Kirk	Twp. of Oro-Medonte	CRS
Ryan Love	City of Thunder Bay	CRS
David Alphonse Moncion	Twp. of Sables-Spanish Rivers	CRS-I
Curtis Neuman	Loyalist Twp.	CRS
Joshawa Ostertag	County of Simcoe	Assoc. R.S.
Jason Pavao	City of Hamilton	CRS
Deanna Ridgley	City of Belleville	Assoc. R.S.
Andrew Saltes	Town of Aurora	Assoc. R.S.
Blake Sceppacerqua	Reg. Mun. of Niagara	CRS
Niall Stocking	Town of Georgina	CRS
Daryl Teeter	Mun. of Grey Highlands	CRS
Matthew Vriens	City of St. Thomas	CRS-S
Scott Wonch	Twp. of Carling	Assoc. R.S.

Certified At Certification Board Meeting August 21, 2025

Dave Lukezich		CRS-S
Bill Finley	Mun.of North Grenville	CRS
John Marshall	City of Brockville	CRS

Dan Rose	Reg. Mun. of Waterloo	CRS
Gregory Paul Dalton	County of Lambton	CRS
Timothy Morris	Twp. of Severn	CRS
James Lane	Town of Caledon	CRS-S
Brandon Brisson	Reg. Mun.of Niagara	CRS-S
Warren Waugh	City of Woodstock	CRS-S
Gary Medeiros	City of Burlington	CRS-I
Dwayne Gregson	Reg. Mun.of Peel	CRS-S
Adam Knapp	Twp. of Horton	CRS-S
Ryan Day	City of Hamilton	CRS-S
Martin Clouthier	Mun.of French River	CRS-I
John Costabile	City of St. Catharines	CRS-I
Ryan Newton	Town of Grimsby	CRS-I
Ronald Klingenberg	Mun.of Central Manitoulin	CRS-I
Andy Dickie	Town of Innisfil	CRS-I
Evan Bancroft	Twp. of South Frontenac	CRS
Alex Brown	County of Oxford	CRS-I
Nigel Bruneau	Town of Bracebridge	Assoc. R.S.
Mary Cutting	Town of New Tecumseth	Assoc. R.S.
Jason Flemming	City of Orillia	Assoc. R.S.
Caroline J. Kirkpatrick	Town of Gravenhurst	CRS
James Knight	Town of Essex	Assoc. R.S.
Kevin Laube	Twp. of Adjala Tosoronto	Assoc. R.S.
Brett Leggett	Twp. of Wainfleet	Assoc. R.S.
Paul Leonard	District Mun.of Muskoka	Assoc. R.S.
Tyler Pearce	District Mun.of Muskoka	Assoc. R.S.
Mckinley Skrypetz	District Mun.of Muskoka	Assoc. R.S.
Karen Levesque	Town of Caledon	CRS
Dale Lockridge	Twp. of Tyendinaga	CRS
Ryan Ondusko	Town of Orangeville	CRS
John Piccinin	City of Thunder Bay	CRS
Cory Plumadore	U.C. of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Assoc. R.S.
Alexander Saldana	Town of Aurora	Assoc. R.S.
Brian Scott	U.C. of Leeds and Grenville	CRS
Johnathan Spidaleri	County of Essex	Assoc. R.S.
Greg Turnbull	Mun.of South Bruce	CRS
Evan Zinn	City of Kitchener	Assoc. R.S.
Taylor Thomson	City of Markham	CRS
James W. Wilkinson	Town of Smiths Falls	CRS

ALL LANES OPEN TO YOUR PUBLIC WORKS CAREER

5

BENEFITS OF BEING A REGULATED PROFESSION



- 1 Confirms the importance of the profession
- 2 Increases public trust in the profession
- 3 Increases career opportunities in the marketplace
- 4 More consultation by government on related policy issues
- 5 More credibility as public works experts



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Certified Road Supervisor (CRS) is a legislated, widely recognized and highly successful professional public works accreditation. The CRS program is designed to raise professional standards, improve individual performance, and identify professionals who demonstrate the knowledge vital to public works management.

AORS has the exclusive right to use the CRS designation. Our accreditation program is recognized under provincial statute law.



Who is eligible for the CRS?

If you are an employee within the private/municipal sector hired to supervise construction, rehabilitation or maintenance of core civil public works infrastructure, you are eligible to apply for AORS CRS public works professional development accreditation.

5 STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

1. Gain hands-on supervisory experience in the public works industry
2. Expand your experience with training
3. Decide which certification applies to you: complete the application
4. Display your CRS certificate and Code of Ethics
5. Progress to the next level of certification

SORRY, You Can't Have That Find Another Way!



BY **GREGG FURTNEY**, CRS, CAO OF THE TOWN OF MINTO, **DARREN MACKENZIE**, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF NIAGARA ON THE LAKE, AND **STEVE GRUBER** AND **SHANE MCCAUSLAND**, COFOUNDERS OF GRUMAC INC.

Collaborating for Smarter Budgets

The Municipal Shared Equipment Model

Budget season always seems to arrive sooner than expected. For municipalities, it brings not just financial analysis and spreadsheets, but also the shared responsibility of balancing fiscal prudence with the expectations of residents. Every department feels the weight of this task—from Corporate Services/Treasury to Public Works and beyond. Communities expect reliable services and strong infrastructure, but no resident is eager to see their tax bill climb.

The Challenge of Capital Costs

For Public Works directors and managers, budgeting can feel like navigating a maze of constraints. Requests for equipment upgrades are often met with a firm, “Sorry, you can’t have that—find another way.” These words, whether from a Treasurer, CAO, or council, reflect a common reality: capital budgets are usually the first to face reductions.

Rising costs only add to the challenge. Inflation, tariffs, and supply chain pressures push prices higher every year. A motor grader now exceeds \$550,000. A tractor starts at \$150,000. Even used equipment, while cheaper, rarely delivers the reliability municipalities need. Yet, who dares propose spending half a million dollars on a machine that may sit idle for months at a time?

Clearly, municipalities need another approach—one that respects taxpayer dollars while still ensuring communities receive high-quality services.

A Collaborative Solution

As Plato once noted, “Necessity is the mother of invention.” Innovation often emerges when constraints demand it. In that spirit, municipalities are embracing a new idea: the Municipal Collaborative Equipment Model.

The concept is straightforward. Municipalities, conservation authorities, utilities, and even educational institutions own expensive equipment that often sits unused for long stretches. Why not share these resources? With short-term lease agreements, one organization can generate revenue from underutilized machinery, while another gains access without shouldering the burden of a large capital purchase.

To simplify the process, a dedicated online marketplace—grushare.com, managed by GruMac Inc.—connects organizations looking to lease out equipment with those in need. The Lessor benefits by turning idle assets into revenue streams, often adding to reserves or funding new projects. The Lessee gains the equipment necessary to maintain or enhance service delivery. It’s a win-win solution, strengthening fiscal responsibility while promoting inter-agency collaboration.

A Tale of Two Towns

This model is already proving effective. Take the partnership between the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake (NOTL) and the Town of Minto.

Minto needed a motor grader but couldn’t justify the steep capital cost of buying one. Through the collaborative model, they leased the equipment from NOTL, saving significant taxpayer dollars. Meanwhile, NOTL needed a tractor for seasonal work. Instead of buying one outright, they leased from Minto, generating revenue for Minto while ensuring their tractor avoided long idle periods.

These agreements, vetted by municipal legal teams, showcase fiscal responsibility, creativity, and collaboration. Both towns benefited financially and strengthened their partnership in the process.

The Bigger Picture

The Municipal Collaborative Equipment Model won’t solve every budget challenge, but it provides one more tool in the municipal toolkit. By generating revenue, reducing unnecessary capital expenditures, and maximizing the use of existing assets, municipalities can continue serving residents while demonstrating responsible stewardship of public funds.

At its heart, this initiative is about more than money—it is about innovation, collaboration, and leadership. When municipalities work together, they stretch every dollar further, strengthen relationships, and inspire confidence among council members, staff, and residents alike.

That is a story worth celebrating.



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Ontario Road
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Marie-Hélène Crawford
Guidance Teacher
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October 15th, 2025

Subject: Request for Donation

To Whom It May Concern,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Marie-Hélène Crawford and I am writing on behalf of l'École élémentaire catholique des Deux-Rivières to ask for your support in celebrating the achievements of our 2025-26 grade 8 students.

Each year, we strive to recognize the hard work and dedication of our scholars as they reach important milestones. It is a special moment for them, often the beginning of a new chapter in their lives. As part of our celebration, we are seeking donations from valued local businesses like yours to help make this event even more memorable. We are kindly requesting either a monetary donation or a gift card that could be awarded to a student as part of our recognition efforts. You would be invited to present this donation in person on Wednesday, June 17th at 1 pm at our school. Although the celebration will be taking place in French, your presence would be greatly appreciated by all the parents.

Your generous contribution would not only support our students but also demonstrate your commitment to the future of our community. Any support you can provide would be deeply appreciated and publicly acknowledged during our graduation celebration and in our event materials, as well as on our social media platforms.

We thank you in advance for considering this opportunity and remain at your disposal should you require any further information.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. We truly value the partnership of local businesses like yours in making our community strong.

Warm regards,

Marie-Hélène Crawford

Marie-Hélène Crawford
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Marie-Hélène Crawford
Enseignante en orientation
École élémentaire catholique des Deux-Rivières
240, promenade Baskin Ouest
Amprior, ON, K7S 3G8



15 octobre, 2025

Objet: demande de don

Madame, Monsieur,

Je me permets de vous écrire au nom de l'École élémentaire catholique des Deux-Rivières, afin de solliciter votre soutien pour célébrer la réussite de nos élèves de 8e année de l'année scolaire 2025-2026.

Chaque année, nous organisons une célébration pour souligner les efforts et les accomplissements de nos élèves. Il s'agit d'un moment marquant pour eux, souvent le point de départ d'un nouveau chapitre de leur vie.

Afin de rendre cette célébration encore plus mémorable, nous sommes à la recherche de partenaires locaux qui accepteraient de faire un don, que ce soit sous forme monétaire ou en carte-cadeau, à remettre aux élèves sous forme de prix ou de bourses symboliques. Vous serez invités à présenter ce don en personne le mercredi 17 juin à 13h00 à notre école. Bien que la célébration soit en français, votre présence serait appréciée de tous les parents.

Votre contribution, quelle qu'elle soit, ferait une réelle différence et démontrerait votre engagement envers la jeunesse et la communauté locale. Bien entendu, nous serions ravis de reconnaître publiquement votre soutien lors de l'événement et sur nos réseaux de communication.

Nous vous remercions à l'avance pour l'attention que vous porterez à cette demande, et restons à votre disposition pour toute information complémentaire.

Dans l'attente de votre réponse, veuillez recevoir, Madame, Monsieur, l'expression de nos salutations distinguées.

Marie-Hélène Crawford

Marie-Hélène Crawford
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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: Gallant, Cheryl - M.P. <cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 2:09 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Canada Summer Jobs 2026



CHERYL GALLANT

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
ALGONQUIN-RENFREW-PEMBROKE



Dear Nick Smith Center,

I am pleased to advise you that the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2026 application period for employers has officially opened.

From now until [11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on December 11, 2025](#), employers for not-for-profit organizations, the public sector, and private sector organizations with 50 or fewer full-time employees can apply for funding to hire young Canadians next summer.

Due to the U.S. tariffs targeting Canada's lumber industry, supporting employment in the working forest is a local priority.

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

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

For more information about the [Canada Summer jobs program](#) visit cherylgallant.com/program/canada-summer-jobs.

Sincerely,

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

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