



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: December 8th, 2025
Correspondence Package No. I-25-DEC-21**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-25-DEC-21 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Letter from Minister Flack re: *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*
- b) Province Protecting Ontario with the Buy Ontario Act
- c) Ontario Launches Consultations on 2026 Ontario Budget
- d) Ontario Tightening Bail Requirements to Protect Communities
- e) Province Cracking Down on Dangerous Driving to Protect People on Ontario Roadways
- f) Protecting Ontario by Keeping Criminals Behind Bars
- g) Ontario Investing \$2.6 Million to Help More Youth Gain Experiences in the Skilled Trades
- h) Ontario Investing \$17.5 Million in Innovative Community Programs and Services

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Temporary water supply connected at Miramichi Lodge long-term care home
- b) County of Renfrew leads powerful day of action at Queen's Park
- c) 2025 Warden's Community Service Awards presented
- d) Taste of the Valley Holiday Edition in Pembroke December 13

3. Correspondence from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit

- a) Health Protection Report to the Board of Health
- b) Health Promotion and Infectious Diseases Report to the Board of Health

4. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Watchfile – November 20, 2025
- b) Policy Update – New Procurement Requirements, Bill 30 Advocacy, 2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments
- c) Free Workshop: Insights & Strategies for 2026 Municipal Candidates from Underrepresented Communities
- d) New Dates Added: AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series
- e) Watchfile – November 27, 2025
- f) Navigate Conflict with Confidence: Workshop for Elected Officials
- g) Policy Update – Advocacy on Bill 60, Data Standards, Blue Box and Conservation Authority Consolidation

5. Algonquins of Pikwakanagan Newsletter

- a) November 21st, 2025 Newsletter
- b) November 28th, 2025 Newsletter

6. Correspondence from Other Municipalities

- a) Town of Fort Erie – Provincial Decision on Automated Speed Enforcement
- b) Township of Madawaska Valley – Survive-to-Swim
- c) City of Hamilton – Impacts of Provincial Bill 60 on Tenants in Hamilton
- d) Municipality of Wawa - Upholding Women's Rights, Leadership, and Environmental Health in the Implementation of Ontario Bill 5
- e) Town of Goderich – Proposed Amendments to Conservation Authorities Act
- f) County of Northumberland – Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

- g) City of Brantford – Professional Activity Day on Municipal Election Day
- h) Township of Puslinch – Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund
- i) Township of Southwold – Conversation Authority Consolidation

7. Correspondence from Ottawa West Four Rivers Ontario Health Team

- a) Summary of 2026-27 IPCT Proposals – Fall 2025

8. Correspondence from Rural Ontario Municipal Association

- a) Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference Lunch Time Meet Ups
- b) Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference Program Highlights

9. Correspondence from Watson and Associates

- a) ERO 025-1099: Consultation on Simplifying and Standardizing Official Plans

10. Correspondence Enbridge Gas Inc.

- a) Notice of Hearing

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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234-2025-4982

November 25, 2025

Dear Head of Council:

Through the *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* ([Bill 17](#)), which received Royal Assent on June 5, 2025, changes were made to the *Planning Act* that will help streamline and standardize municipal development processes.

This includes changes that enable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, by regulation, to permit variation from a zoning by-law “as of right” if a proposal is within a prescribed percentage of the required setback (the minimum distance a building or structure must be from a property line) on specified lands. This new authority was intended to reduce planning applications for minor variances.

Today, our government announced further action to streamline planning approvals by exercising my authority established under Bill 17 to amend Ontario Regulation 545/06 ([Zoning By-laws, Holding By-laws and Interim Control By-laws](#)) to allow variations to be permitted “as-of-right” if a proposal is within 10% of setback requirements applicable to specified lands. Specified lands include any parcel of urban residential lands outside of the Greenbelt Area, and exclude areas such as hazardous lands, and lands near shorelines and railways. These changes in [Ontario Regulation 257/25](#) were filed on November 21, 2025 and took effect upon filing.

Any variances sought beyond the prescribed percentage of the setback requirement would be subject to the usual minor variance or rezoning approval process and other zoning standards (e.g., height limits, etc.) would continue to apply, helping to mitigate potential land use compatibility issues.

This “as-of-right” permission is intended to remove the need for certain variances that are the most minor in nature, resulting in fewer applications submitted and fewer hearings for minor variances before a municipal committee of adjustment for these proposals.

The proposed regulation works with the [Additional Residential Units regulation](#) (Ontario Regulation 299/19) to help create additional residential units, such as basement suites, by eliminating additional barriers related to setbacks.

We look forward to continued collaboration with our municipal partners as we work together to achieve our goal of building the homes that Ontarians need.

Sincerely,



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

- c. Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, MMAH
David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Planning and Policy Division,
MMAH
Municipal Chief Administrative Officer

Province Protecting Ontario with the Buy Ontario Act

Proposed legislation would prioritize public procurement of Ontario goods and services, helping Ontario tax dollars support Ontario workers

November 20, 2025

[Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement](#)

TORONTO — Later today, the Ontario government intends to introduce the *Buy Ontario Act, 2025*, that will, if passed, protect the province's workers and businesses by prioritizing Ontario goods and services in public procurement. This new legislation and associated measures would be applicable to all public sector organizations, including municipalities, as well as contractors and subcontractors that are helping deliver the province's more than \$220 billion plan to build using Ontario goods and services first. These measures will deliver on the government's commitment to protect Ontario by ensuring that in the face of U.S. tariffs and economic uncertainty, Ontario tax dollars are going to support Ontario workers and using Ontario products like steel, lumber, cars, trucks and more.

"Ontario workers and business owners' livelihoods are under attack from President Trump and his tariffs, and they're counting on us to step up," said Stephen Crawford, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement. "Every year, the province spends more than \$30 billion procuring goods and services that help serve the people of Ontario. We're making sure that every possible procurement dollar that can be spent in Ontario is spent in Ontario, so we can protect our workers and build a more competitive, self-reliant and resilient economy."

The legislation and associated measures being introduced today will help implement a Buy Ontario policy that prioritizes first Ontario and then Canadian goods and services, while still maintaining value for money for Ontario taxpayers and protecting procurement and major infrastructure projects from undue delays.

"Ontario's more than \$220 billion plan to build is the largest infrastructure plan in Canadian history, and we're spending every dollar of that plan that we can right here in Ontario," said Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure. "As we build

the transit, highways, hospitals, homes and schools our growing province needs, we're also helping keep hundreds of thousands of workers on the job in sectors like construction, steelmaking, forestry, agriculture, manufacturing and more."

These policies would allow the province to:

- Mandate the prioritization of first Ontario and then Canadian goods and services for all public sector organizations, including ministries, agencies, the broader public sector and municipalities.
- Set out specific requirements for how these public sector organizations are to prioritize first Ontario and then Canadian goods and services in contracts with vendors, including subcontractors.
- Review and ensure compliance from both public sector organizations and vendors with this policy, with penalties and consequences that could include holdbacks, fines, vendor performance management and vendor barring from future procurement.

In cases where Ontario or Canadian goods and services cannot be procured at a reasonable cost or timeframe that would maintain value for taxpayers, the policy would continue to allow procurement outside of Canada. However, the government is also taking steps to shore up Ontario's domestic capacity and ability to meet the province's infrastructure and procurement needs to minimize the need to procure outside the province. The province is also working to establish vendor lists of Ontario and Canadian suppliers to support their inclusion in provincial infrastructure and procurement processes, including as contractors and subcontractors.

"As U.S. tariffs continue to undermine the global economy, prioritizing the procurement of Ontario-made goods, services and products has never been more important," said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "The Buy Ontario Act would serve as an important pillar in our government's plan to protect Ontario, anchoring the province's long-term economic prosperity by ensuring that domestic companies have more opportunities to grow, expand and create good-paying jobs for our workers."

The province has already successfully worked with leading municipalities to prioritize Ontario workers during the procurement process. Earlier this year, in partnership with the City of Toronto and federal government, the province supported the city's procurement approach of pursuing new Line 2 TTC subway cars being manufactured by workers at Alstom in Thunder Bay, aligning with prioritizing Ontario and Canadian goods and services. This approach is designed to

help create good jobs in Ontario while maintaining a clear commitment to competitive pricing and high-performance standards. The province will work closely with municipalities to support even more municipal procurement of Ontario goods and services.

“We’ve seen our province come together like never before to protect Ontario workers and businesses in the face of tariffs,” said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “Many municipalities have already shown leadership in prioritizing Ontario workers and products when it comes to their choices, and I look forward to working together to make sure even more procurement and infrastructure dollars at all levels of government help protect Ontario.”

Quick Facts

- Public sector contracts are awarded based on a range of weighted factors such as price, expertise and experience. The weight that can be given to local goods and services used in a supply chain will be increased through directives issued under this policy.
 - First announced as part of the 2025 Ontario Budget, the Ontario Together Trade Fund (OTTF) is part of the province’s nearly \$30 billion tariff relief and support plan, dedicated to protecting the province’s workers and businesses from economic uncertainty and building a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy.
 - With a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises, the OTTF will help businesses across a diverse range of sectors make the necessary investments to strengthen operations in Ontario, expand market reach and protect workers.
 - The Buy Ontario Act would extend selected provisions of the Protecting Condominium Owners’ Act, 2015 for one year to allow the government to continue working on consumer protection improvements for condo communities.
 - Proposed amendments to the Highway Traffic Act in the Buy Ontario Act would broaden authorities for safety-related signage near school zones.
-

Quotes

"We are proud of our partnership with the Ontario government in the delivery of Ontario's \$220-billion infrastructure plan and to strengthen the provincial economy through the prioritization of domestic goods and services in our projects."

**- Angela Clayton
President and CEO, Infrastructure Ontario**

"We are proud to get hundreds of thousands of workers to their jobs every day – and equally proud to directly create local jobs and a more resilient economy through the construction of our major transit projects. We are always looking for ways to support Ontario suppliers – whether they provide steel, systems, or services. This legislation is critical in enabling us to do precisely this."

**- Michael Lindsay
CEO, Metrolinx**

"In the face of shifting trade dynamics, the advancements in the Buy Ontario/Buy Canada policy directly supports Supply Ontario's efforts to modernize procurement, support local businesses, and protect Ontario jobs. By strengthening our supply chain and investing in homegrown industries, we're helping ensure the reliable delivery of critical public services, while driving economic growth across the province."

**- James Wallace
CEO, Supply Ontario**

"CME welcomes the government's introduction of the Buy Ontario Act. Through CME's Ontario Made program, we have long championed the critical importance of local procurement, and this forward-thinking legislation demonstrates the government's commitment to turning this principle into action. By prioritizing Ontario-made goods and services in public procurement, this legislation strengthens local supply chains and safeguards manufacturing jobs. Ensuring Ontario tax dollars support Ontario workers and businesses will help manufacturers remain competitive, invest in innovation, and drive growth across the province."

- Dennis Darby
President and CEO, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

Additional Resources

[Current bills - Legislative Assembly of Ontario](#)

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](#)

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Ontario Launches Consultations on 2026 Ontario Budget

Government seeking ideas from people and businesses on how to continue protecting and building Ontario

November 21, 2025

[Finance](#)

TORONTO — As part of its plan to protect Ontario and build a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant province, the government is launching consultations to help inform the *2026 Ontario Budget*. These consultations will build on the progress outlined in the [2025 Fall Economic Statement](#) and support the next phase of the province's plan to protect Ontario.

"As we prepare for the *2026 Budget*, we want to hear directly from the people of Ontario about what matters most to them, from keeping costs down and taxes low, to creating good jobs and getting shovels in the ground on critical infrastructure," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "Together, we will continue to navigate global challenges, safeguard our economy and ensure Ontario remains the best place to live, work and raise a family."

To ensure the *2026 Budget* reflects the priorities of people and businesses across the province, the government is seeking input from workers, families, business owners, organizations and communities on what they want to see addressed in the year ahead. Ontarians can share and submit their ideas by:

- Attending an in-person consultation meeting held across the province
- Sending a written submission by mail or online
- Completing an online survey

Through a responsible and balanced approach and strong fiscal management, Ontario will continue to invest in workers, businesses and the world-class public services people rely on, while maintaining the flexibility needed to respond to fast-changing global conditions. For more information, or to participate, visit the [online portal](#).

[2025 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)

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

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Ontario Tightening Bail Requirements to Protect Communities

Province to require cash security deposits to improve bail compliance

November 24, 2025

[Attorney General](#)

TORONTO — As a part of its ongoing work to protect Ontario communities, the Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that would require an accused person or their surety to provide a cash security deposit in the full amount ordered by the court. This initiative would improve bail compliance, keep violent, repeat offenders behind bars and make it easier for the province to collect forfeited bail payments when bail conditions are violated.

“For too long, the broken bail system has allowed violent and repeat offenders back on our streets, putting innocent people at risk,” said Attorney General Doug Downey. “That’s why our government is taking action and delivering on our promise to fix the bail system by making bail more real and consequential for people accused of serious crimes. It’s the latest step in our work to keep our streets and communities safe.”

Currently, if the court orders release on a promise to pay, no cash deposit is required. In this event, a surety (a person who has agreed to ensure that an accused person follows their bail conditions) and/or accused person does not have to pay the amount pledged unless the accused person does not follow the terms of their release and the court orders payment. This creates potential challenges related to the collection of forfeited bail payments, including time and resources that must be expended in order to collect payments.

Under the proposed new system, a cash security deposit in the full amount ordered by the court would be required once the accused person is released from custody. If the accused person follows the terms of their release, the deposit would be returned when the case concludes or the surety’s obligations end. If bail conditions are not met, the money would be automatically recovered upon being ordered forfeited by the court.

To help make bail real and consequential, the government is also proposing to follow up on [previous amendments to the *Bail Act*](#) to improve the collection and administration of bail debts by requiring sureties to provide up-to-date information so the province can collect forfeited bail money more easily. Other proposed measures would enhance collection tools for garnishing wages, seizure and sale of property and property liens for accused and surety bail debts. These collection tools would be needed if cash bail security is not complied with.

“By strengthening Ontario’s bail system, we’re taking decisive action to protect our communities from violent, repeat offenders,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “Our government is backing that commitment with record investments to build new correctional facilities, expand capacity and ensure there is always space to keep dangerous criminal behind bars.”

As part of a comprehensive bail reform strategy, these new measures would enhance digital tools to track repeat offenders and those not in compliance with bail conditions. This would include the creation of a surety database to help streamline and enhance surety checks. There have been cases where sureties have failed to report when the accused person they are supervising has breached their bail conditions, or where the same surety has proposed themselves for multiple accused persons simultaneously. The creation of a surety database would help hold sureties accountable, improve efficiency, increase public safety and strengthen information sharing between police services by allowing police to access data collected by other jurisdictions. It would also provide a centralized repository for information supplied to police by prosecutors, ensuring that critical details are consistently available for bail hearings and subsequent proceedings.

The strategy would also expand bail prosecution teams. These teams are made up of dedicated prosecutors who partner with provincial and local police services to prepare the strongest possible cases in bail hearings involving serious and violent crimes, with the intent of keeping violent, repeat offenders behind bars. Since 2023, they have effectively managed over 4,100 serious violent cases at the bail stage.

“Violent, repeat offenders continue to put our communities at risk, and that’s why we’re taking decisive action to stop it,” said Zee Hamid, Associate Solicitor General. “These new tools will give law enforcement and courts the resources they need to get tough on crime and Protect Ontario. Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government will continue to push the federal government to do the right thing and enact meaningful bail and sentencing reform.”

The Ontario government is also continuing to make historic investments to ensure no violent, repeat offender is ever released due to a lack of space in adult correctional institutions. These investments include adding permanent beds and retrofitting, repairing and reopening former correctional institutions.

Quick Facts

- In 2024, Ontario announced an [investment of \\$24 million](#) over three years to help prevent repeat and violent offenders from committing serious crimes while out on bail through the Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension (BCWA) Grant. The BCWA Grant program is part of a [\\$112 million investment](#) to strengthen the province's bail system and ensure high-risk and repeat violent offenders comply with their bail conditions.
-

Quotes

"Bail reform is about protecting families and our communities. For too long, repeat violent offenders have taken advantage of a system that was meant to uphold justice. That ends now. We are taking decisive action to keep dangerous individuals off our streets, to stand with victims, and to restore confidence in our justice system."

- Michael Tibollo
Associate Attorney General

"These additional measures announced today to improve bail compliance and keep repeat violent offenders in custody will make our communities safer, help restore public trust in the justice system and support police officers who see firsthand the harm caused to victims by violent criminals."

- Myron Demkiw
Toronto Police Service (TPS) Chief

"Our members strongly support these measures to strengthen the bail system, protect our communities, and keep dangerous offenders off our streets. Stricter bail requirements and improved enforcement tools are essential to making bail meaningful and ensuring consequences for those who pose a threat to the communities we serve. These reforms reflect a real commitment to public safety and send a clear message that violent and repeat offenders will be held accountable."

- Mark Baxter
Police Association of Ontario President

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Strengthening Bail to Protect Communities from Criminals](#)
- [Ontario Launches New Tool to Better Monitor High-Risk Offenders on Bail](#)
- [Ontario Takes Action on High-Risk and Repeat Violent Offenders](#)

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](#)

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Province Cracking Down on Dangerous Driving to Protect People on Ontario Roadways

Proposed measures would keep high-risk drivers off the road and strengthen penalties for serious offences

November 25, 2025

[Transportation](#)

TORONTO — As part of a package of legislative changes to be introduced later today, the Ontario government will introduce tough new measures to crack down on dangerous drivers in Ontario. Many of the measures being introduced are in response to the “Andrew’s Law” petition, in memory of Andrew Cristillo, a father of three who was killed after being struck by a driver charged with dangerous and stunt driving. These changes include measures that would impose a lifetime driving ban for anyone convicted of dangerous driving causing death and introduce new roadside licence suspensions for dangerous driving behaviour.

“No family should ever face the heartbreak of losing a loved one or the trauma of a life-changing injury because of a dangerous and careless driver,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “These proposed changes will deter reckless behaviour, hold offenders accountable and make our roads and highways safer.”

Following Mr. Cristillo’s death, his family launched the “Andrew’s Law” petition calling for tougher penalties for dangerous driving and increased driver education. In response, the government is proposing measures that will:

- Impose a lifetime licence suspension for anyone convicted of dangerous driving causing death.
- Allow police to immediately suspend a driver’s licence for 90 days and impound a vehicle if they have reason to believe a person is driving dangerously.
- Increase fines and vehicle impoundment periods for driving with a suspended licence:
 - First offence: 14-day vehicle impoundment and \$2,000–\$10,000 fine
 - Second offence: 30-day vehicle impoundment and \$5,000–\$15,000 fine
 - Third and subsequent offence: 45-day vehicle impoundment and \$10,000–\$20,000 fine

- Introduce a new seven-day roadside licence suspension for careless driving and a 30-day suspension for careless driving causing bodily harm or death. Fines would also increase to \$1,000–\$5,000 (up from \$400–\$2,000) upon conviction for careless driving.
- Enhance road safety education for young and novice drivers.
- Increase fines to double the current amount and impose longer licence suspensions upon conviction for distracted driving while operating a commercial vehicle:
 - First offence: seven-day suspension and \$1,000–\$2,000 fine
 - Second offence: 14-day suspension and \$1,000–\$4,000 fine
 - Third and subsequent offence: 60-day suspension and \$1,000–\$6,000 fine
- Increase minimum fines for speed limiter offences on commercial vehicles from \$250 to \$1,000, including operating a commercial vehicle without a functioning speed limiter.

The government is also exploring measures to crack down on dangerous driving and support family members of those killed by impaired driving. This includes [consulting on measures](#) that would make impaired drivers who cause the death of a parent or guardian responsible for financial support of the victims' children.

Ontario's roads have ranked among the safest in North America for 25 years, with one of the lowest fatality rates per 10,000 licensed drivers. Last year, the province announced stricter measures against impaired driving, including a lifetime driver's licence suspension for anyone convicted of impaired driving causing death, and the mandatory installation of ignition interlock for anyone convicted of impaired driving.

Quick Facts

- A driver convicted of dangerous driving within the past five years is about three and a half times more likely to cause a serious collision than a driver with a clean record.
 - Large trucks are involved in one in five Ontario roadway fatalities each year.
 - Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of collisions in Ontario, resulting in one in seven fatalities annually.
 - The [Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act](#) aims to improve road safety by cracking down on fraud in Ontario's licensing system by strengthening eligibility requirements to get an Ontario driver's licence.
-

Quotes

"My brother died because a dangerous driver was allowed to keep driving. Andrew deserved better, and families deserve real protection. Andrew's Law makes sure of it."

**- Jordan Cristillo
Andrew's brother**

"Impaired driving is the leading cause of death on Ontario roads. When a child loses a parent due to impaired driving, it's completely devastating. That is why our government is taking action to develop practical solutions that can ease their burden and provide financial stability in the wake of such tragedies. It's the latest step in our plan to hold impaired drivers accountable, protect victims of crime and keep communities safe."

**- Doug Downey
Attorney General**

"Andrew Cristillo's tragic death is a heartbreaking reminder of the devastation reckless and impaired driving can have. That is why through these proposed measures, our government is taking action to ensure police have the tools they need to crack down on dangerous driving so we can prevent future tragedies and protect communities across Ontario."

**- Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General**

"MADD Canada understands the impact of a loved one being killed or being catastrophically injured because of the choice of someone else. Motor vehicle crashes remain a significant public safety issue, and more people die on Ontario roads than are killed by all forms of homicide. Road safety must continue to be a priority for governments and law enforcement."

**- Steve Sullivan
CEO, MADD Canada**

"The Ontario Trucking Association is primarily focused on supporting measures that increase highway safety and strengthen penalties for high-risk offenders and repeat violators of our traffic laws. It's now more important than ever to increase oversight and ensure compliance. We're particularly encouraged the Bill would increase minimum fines for offences related to enforcement of speed limiters on commercial vehicles. These devices are meant to protect the travelling public from speeding trucks, and we welcome meaningful fines for violating the speed limiter requirement."

- Mark Bylsma
Chair of the Ontario Trucking Association

"Driving is a privilege. The behaviour to drive recklessly is a choice and carries serious responsibility. Dangerous driving endangers lives causing significant outcomes and impacts to families and communities. CAA commends the Ontario government for taking actions to address dangerous driving that sends a strong and unmistakable message: choices have consequences. CAA remains committed to advocating for education and enforcement that protect all road users, and we believe these changes reflect accountability for safety on our roads."

- Lauren Fisher
Manager, Government and Stakeholder Relations, CAA South Central Ontario

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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Protecting Ontario by Keeping Criminals Behind Bars

Province to introduce legislation to help keep dangerous and repeat offenders off the streets

November 25, 2025

[Solicitor General](#)

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government will introduce legislation that, if passed, would hold offenders accountable, support victims of crime and strengthen public safety. The *Keeping Criminals Behind Bars Act, 2025* includes [bold new measures](#) that would crack down on dangerous driving and tighten bail requirements to protect communities. In addition to legislation, the government will strengthen safety protocols in adult correctional institutions and explore options to make information contained in the Ontario Sex Offender and Trafficker Registry publicly available.

“As part of our government’s plan to protect Ontario and crack down on criminals, we are moving forward with bold new measures that put public safety first,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “For too long, violent repeat offenders have cycled through the justice system, putting families at risk and wreaking havoc in our communities. This legislation tackles those issues by strengthening bail compliance and holding criminals accountable.”

To strengthen bail compliance, hold offenders accountable and keep violent, repeat offenders behind bars, the government’s [proposed legislation](#) will require an accused person or their surety to provide a cash security deposit in the full amount ordered by the court. Other proposed measures to strengthen the bail system include enhanced digital tools to track repeat offenders and those not in compliance with bail conditions. Ontario is continuing to make the necessary investments to increase capacity in the adult correctional institution system. These investments include adding permanent beds and retrofitting, repairing and reopening former correctional institutions, to ensure no violent, repeat offender ever walks free as a result of a lack of correctional capacity.

“Our government is delivering on a promise to fix the broken bail system and hold offenders accountable. By tightening bail requirements with tougher rules and stronger enforcement we are building on our work to keep communities safe,” said Attorney General Doug Downey. “The proposed new measures in the legislation are the latest step in our ongoing work to strengthen Ontario’s justice system – from investing millions to build court capacity, to increasing access to justice with modern solutions – and we will continue taking decisive action to protect Ontario.”

The province is also introducing a suite of measures aimed at cracking down on dangerous driving. Earlier this year, Andrew Cristillo was killed in a collision involving a driver who was facing charges for dangerous driving and stunt driving. Mr. Cristillo’s family launched a petition for “Andrew’s Law,” calling for increased penalties for dangerous driving. To support safer highways and roads, the government will introduce several measures later today in response to the petition including removing dangerous drivers from the streets by [introducing tougher roadside enforcement and higher penalties](#). These include allowing police to issue an immediate roadside driver’s licence suspension of 90 days and impound a vehicle for seven days if they have reason to believe a person was driving dangerously. Other measures include exploring the implementation of a requirement that [impaired drivers pay ongoing child support](#) if they kill a child’s parent or guardian, as well as increasing penalties for careless driving, driving with a suspended license and for commercial drivers convicted of distracted driving.

“No one should ever have to lose a loved one or suffer a life-changing injury because another driver chose to drive dangerously,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “In response to the Andrew’s Law petition, our government is introducing tough new measures to crack down on reckless drivers and keep our roads safe.”

Other measures that complement the legislative proposals will hold offenders accountable and support victims of crime. This includes exploring options to make parts of the Ontario Sex Offenders and Trafficker Registry publicly available to give the public the information it needs to support safe communities, as well as measures that would crack down on the production and use of illegal drugs, including on public transit. It also includes exploring options to make sure that critical infrastructure such as roadways, transit hubs and hospitals, as well as places of worship and cultural centres, are kept clear so that everyone can access them safely, without intimidation, impediment or harassment.

To support public safety personnel and their families, the government will expand access to the Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program, embedding the Constable Joe MacDonald Public Safety Officers' Survivors Scholarship Fund in statute and implementing new measures that will protect the safety of correctional officers in adult correctional facilities.

Finally, the proposed legislation contains a number of measures to protect animals and ensure their humane treatment, including by restricting invasive medical research on dogs and cats unless it is for specified purposes, such as veterinary research. These restrictions will be specified through regulation, with the [consultation period beginning today](#). The government will also increase penalties for people who harm animals that work with peace officers and, in early 2026, will begin consultations on banning medically unnecessary procedures that harm dogs and cats, such as declawing and ear-cropping.

Quick Facts

- The *Keeping Criminals Behind Bars Act, 2025* builds on previous community safety and justice legislation that was [introduced in 2024](#) and [earlier in 2025](#).
 - Drivers convicted of dangerous driving within a five-year period are about three and a half times more likely to cause a serious collision than drivers with a clean record.
 - Large trucks are involved in one in five Ontario roadway fatalities each year.
 - Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of collisions in Ontario, resulting in one in seven fatalities annually.
 - The *Keeping Criminals Behind Bars Act* would, if passed, also amend the *Police Record Checks Reform Act* to enable service standards to be developed to help reduce delays in processing police record checks that can impact employment and access to services.
-

Quotes

"The Keeping Criminals Behind Bars Act, 2025, sends a clear message: protecting Ontario's communities and our members comes first. For far too long, violent and repeat offenders have cycled through the justice system, putting families at risk and wreaking havoc in the communities we serve. This legislation tackles those issues and introduces tougher bail requirements—like full cash security deposits—to ensure dangerous individuals are kept off our streets. We also welcome added support for public safety personnel and their families, including expanded access to the Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program and formalizing the Constable Joe MacDonald Public Safety Officers' Survivors Scholarship Fund. This is real leadership for a safer, stronger Ontario."

- Mark Baxter
Police Association of Ontario

"Everyone should be able to live and work in safe communities. As police leaders, we know that many Ontarians are concerned about the impact of crimes on their safety and well-being. Preventing crimes from occurring, supporting victims of crime, and holding offenders accountable must remain top public safety priorities. We welcome this legislation and look forward to working with our government, justice, and community partners to enhance safety across our province."

- Chief Mark Campbell
President, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police

"The Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario (IPCO) welcomes the province's commitment to strengthening public safety and ensuring accountability for violent and repeat offenders. Our communities, particularly First Nations communities that face disproportionate impacts of crime and victimization, deserve meaningful action that keeps families safe. Measures that reinforce bail compliance, enhance correctional capacity, and support victims of crime are essential steps forward. We look forward to working with the government to ensure these changes are implemented in a way that supports safer, healthier, and more secure communities across Ontario."

- Darren Montour
President, Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario

Additional Resources

[Backgrounder: Keeping Criminals Behind Bars](#)

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](#)

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Ontario Investing \$2.6 Million to Help More Youth Gain Experience in the Skilled Trades

New Tech Trucks will introduce thousands of students to in-demand careers in the skilled trades

November 26, 2025

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

MISSISSAUGA — The Ontario government is investing \$2.6 million in Skills Ontario to add two additional trades and tech trucks to their fleet, giving thousands of youth across the province new opportunities to explore skilled trades and technology careers through interactive, hands-on learning. As part of the government's plan to protect Ontario, the funding will help inspire the next generation of workers to pursue rewarding, in-demand careers building the homes, hospitals, schools and critical infrastructure that the province needs.

"Ontario's future relies on a strong, skilled workforce," said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "With more trades and tech trucks on the road — bringing VR learning, simulators and hands-on stations directly to Ontario's youth — we're inspiring the next generation and opening pathways to good-paying careers in the skilled trades."

With this investment, Skills Ontario's fleet will grow from four to six trucks by August 2026, giving an additional 75,000 Ontario youth access to hands-on skilled trades training. These trucks will travel across Ontario as mobile learning hubs with state-of-the-art tools, simulators and technology. In addition to school visits, they support camps and a range of community-based programming. Inside each truck are interactive stations that introduce young people to careers in construction, manufacturing, automotive and other high-demand sectors.

"Skills Ontario is thrilled to add two more mobile learning units to our Trades & Tech Truck program. These mobile units provide experiential opportunities inspiring young people to explore careers in the trades," said Ian Howcroft, CEO, Skills Ontario. "We thank the Ford government and Minister Piccini for their support

and leadership in promoting the trades and building the skilled workforce of the future. Together, we are changing lives and inspiring leaders through skilled trades and technologies.”

These trucks build on the government’s broader efforts to strengthen Ontario’s workforce, including targeted investments in training and employment pathways. Since 2021, the Ontario government has invested \$1.5 billion through the Skills Development Fund, aimed to help train more than one million workers for in-demand jobs. As announced in the [2025 Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#), the government is investing nearly \$1 billion more through the Skills Development Fund over the next three years, bringing the total to \$2.5 billion, to support key industrial sectors and expand access to good-paying careers.

Quick Facts

- Approximately 1.3 million people are working in the skilled trades-related occupations in Ontario.
 - It is expected that over 400,000 more skilled trades workers will be needed in Ontario over the next decade to fill positions that will become available through economic growth and retirements of current workers.
 - Skills Ontario is a provincial leader in promoting skilled trades careers and hosts Canada’s largest skilled trades and technologies competition each May and is the Ontario chapter of Skills Canada.
 - Tech trucks are a key component of the [Level Up! career fairs](#), which are expected to connect with over 50,000 students, parents, and jobseekers.
 - The Mississauga Level Up! fair is open to everyone free of charge during the Open House today and tomorrow from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the International Centre (6900 Airport Road).
 - See here for full Level Up! Schedule: [Open Houses](#)
 - The investment in trades and tech trucks is supported through labour market agreements between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.
-

Quotes

"Level Up! career fairs give students an exciting chance to step into the skilled trades, try them first-hand, and connect directly with employers. These events help students see a clear pathway from the classroom to rewarding careers in the skilled trades that will set them up for success tomorrow. By investing in students today, we are helping them build the skills and confidence they need to succeed and contribute to Ontario's future."

**- Paul Calandra
Minister of Education**

"This investment will open the door for more young people to see the skilled trades as a real, achievable career. These trucks give students a direct, hands-on look at the trades, and that experience drives real results: more apprentices and ultimately more certified workers for Ontario. Skilled Trades Ontario is proud to work with the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to expand these opportunities and support events like Level Up! that connect students with in-demand careers."

**- Candice White
CEO of Skilled Trades Ontario**

"Supporting Ontarians with more opportunities to explore skilled trades through hands-on learning helps open doors to stable, high-demand careers. Through the Ontario government's \$2.6 million investment in Skills Ontario to build two additional trades and tech trucks, more students across the province will have direct access to modern tools, simulators, and interactive demonstrations. This increased support will help inspire future talent and strengthen the skilled workforce that keeps our province moving forward."

**- Deepak Anand
Member of Provincial Parliament, Mississauga-Malton**

"Our government's commitment to expanding opportunities for young people is once again on full display with this investment in Skills Ontario. These new trades and tech trucks are not just vehicles; they are mobile gateways to the future, bringing hands-on learning directly to students across the province. In a community like Mississauga, where innovation and talent drive so much of our success, giving our youth the chance to spark curiosity, build confidence, and imagine new career paths is invaluable. I am proud to support an initiative that empowers the next generation of Ontario's skilled workforce."

- Sheref Sabawy

Member of Provincial Parliament, Mississauga- Erin-Mills

"The Trades & Tech Trucks are an incredible example of how innovation and practical training can come together to empower students. By giving young people the chance to explore skilled trades firsthand, we're helping them discover new passions, develop essential skills, and prepare for the careers of tomorrow. Initiatives like this are critical for ensuring Ontario has a talented and adaptable workforce that can meet the challenges of a rapidly changing economy."

- Nina Tangri

Member of Provincial Parliament, Mississauga-Streetsville

"Our government is helping to bring hands-on learning in construction, manufacturing, automotive, and technology directly to 75,000 young people—ensuring that the trades will have the skilled workforce they need into the future. These trucks will help to showcase the skilled trades—especially in underserved communities—and will inspire the next generation, fill critical skills gaps, and build the highly trained workforce Ontario needs."

- Zee Hamid

Associate Solicitor General

Additional Resources

[Skills Ontario](#)

[Skilled Trades Ontario](#)

Related Topics

Jobs and employment

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

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Ontario Investing \$17.5 Million in Innovative Community Programs and Services

Investment will support 257 non-profit organizations across the province to create jobs and build stronger communities

November 28, 2025

[Tourism, Culture and Gaming](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing more than \$17.5 million this year through the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to support 257 non-profit organizations, First Nations and small municipalities across the province that deliver innovative programs to promote active lifestyles, protect arts, culture and heritage, and expand opportunities for children and youth across the province. This funding delivers on the government's plan to protect Ontario by making strategic investments to strengthen local services and build stronger, more resilient communities.

"Whether it's supporting academic achievement, promoting the arts or improving local programs, OTF Seed grants empower non-profit organizations to deliver bold new ideas that build stronger communities across Ontario," said Stan Cho, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. "Now more than ever, it is important to invest in initiatives that protect local services and strengthen the well-being of families across Ontario while helping organizations ensure they can continue making a meaningful impact where it's needed most, today and for years to come."

Every year, OTF's [Seed](#) grants help organizations improve the delivery of community-based programs and services that Ontario families rely on, with investments of up to \$100,000 to support programs and services.

Some of this year's recipients include:

- A youth employment initiative designed to strengthen the financial stability of economically vulnerable youth through entrepreneurship, job readiness, mentorship and wellness training.
- An arts and culture project focused on expanding inclusive programming that boosts community engagement and operational sustainability at a regional arts centre.

- A youth development program that provides supports to young people to help strengthen their social, emotional and leadership skills.
- A skills and employment pilot for young adults with developmental disabilities secure employment experience.

“At OTF, we believe that a healthy and vibrant Ontario begins with community-driven ideas,” said Katharine Bambrick, CEO of the Ontario Trillium Foundation. “These investments give organizations and communities the tools to innovate, strengthen local connections, and engage Ontarians of all ages. We’re proud to support the creativity and commitment of this year’s Seed grant recipients as they work to build lasting, positive change across the province.”

Through OTF’s various granting programs, Ontario has invested more than \$809 million in over 7,600 projects since 2018. These investments have created more than 10,600 full-time jobs and generated over \$1.3 billion in economic benefits for communities across the province. For more information and a list of recipients, visit the Ontario Trillium Foundation’s [website](#).

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. Its mandate is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario by investing in community-based initiatives and strengthening the impact of the province’s non-profit sector.
-

Additional Resources

[2025 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#)

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**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

RELEASE DATE:

November 22, 2025

Temporary water supply connected at Miramichi Lodge long-term care home

The County of Renfrew is pleased to confirm that a temporary water supply at Miramichi Lodge was successfully secured as of 9 p.m. Friday night, November 21, following the ongoing watermain disruption affecting parts of the City of Pembroke.

The long-term care home is now receiving a stable, non-potable water supply on-site. This temporary solution will remain in place for the duration of the disruption, which is anticipated to last two weeks, ensuring continuity of essential services within the home.

Residents, families, and staff can be assured that:

- Essential water functions remain operational, including toilet flushing and hygiene-related needs.
- Fire suppression systems continue to operate at full capacity, maintaining building-wide safety.
- Daily routines and resident care activities will proceed with minimal interruption, supported by enhanced staff procedures.
- Laundry services will continue to ensure timely and sanitary processing.
- Safe potable water is being supplied for food preparation, drinking, along with other beverages, ensuring residents continue to receive safe and appropriate nutritional intake.

“We want to thank our staff, residents, and families for their patience and understanding,” said Dean Quade, Acting Director of Long-Term Care for the County of Renfrew. “Securing this supply so quickly reflects the strong coordination between our team and our community partners. Our priority remains ensuring residents remain safe, comfortable, and supported in their home.”

Miramichi Lodge continues to work closely with County of Renfrew Emergency Services, the City of Pembroke, and other external partners to maintain stability throughout the disruption and support ongoing response efforts.

Further updates will be provided to residents, families, and the community as new information becomes available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288

County of Renfrew leads powerful day of action at Queen's Park

Posted on Monday, November 24, 2025



Making up the County of Renfrew delegation for the Queen's Park Advocacy Day on November 20 were (from left) Gwen Dombroski, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk; Andrea Patrick, Director of Community Services; Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property; County Councillor Michael Donohue; Taylor Hanrath, Manager of Capital Works; County Councillor Anne Giardini; Dean Quade, Acting Director of Long-Term Care; Warden Peter Emon; Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works and Engineering; Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP Billy Denault; County Councillors Glenn Doncaster and Jennifer Murphy; Ivan Burton, Chief Administrative Officer Township of Whitewater Region; Craig Kelly, County of Renfrew Chief Administrative Officer; County Councillor Neil Nicholson; Sarah Selle, Mental Health Services Director, Pembroke Regional Hospital and Melissa Marquardt, Manager of Economic Development.

RELEASE DATE:

November 24, 2025

On Wednesday November 20, the County of Renfrew delegation gathered at Queen's Park in Toronto for "County of Renfrew Day", a full day of advocacy meetings with multiple provincial ministries to advance the rural priorities of our region.

Guided by our advocacy framework on the County's website, which emphasizes infrastructure investment, healthcare access, housing, economic development and rural voices, the delegation made significant movement on several files. The contingent met with more than 16 Ontario Ministers, or Parliamentary Assistants.

Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP Billy Denault was instrumental in coordinating the meetings with his provincial colleagues and was engaged in the discussions throughout the day.

Key Outcomes from the Day

- Meetings were held with the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Transportation, where the importance of the Highway 417 twinning extension and Highway 17 corridor were affirmed and next steps identified to modernize several key intersections for safety and traffic flow.
- Discussions with the Ministry of Health (Including Mental Health and Addictions) centred on expanding Community Paramedicine supports and improving healthcare service access across our rural municipalities, including expansion of the Mesa and HART Hub (Homeless and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub) initiatives.
- A productive session with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing helped clarify funding paths and regulatory supports for seniors' supportive housing and municipal modernization in the County.

- The Ministry of Energy and Mines, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction committed to exploring how the County's resource-based and rural economic development opportunities can be better unlocked.
- A good session with the Ministry of Forestry on the importance of supporting the proposed regional forestry biomass projects.
- A conversation with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming of Ontario about supporting tourism marketing and tourism infrastructure needs in the Ottawa Valley.



While at Queen's Park on November 20, the County of Renfrew delegation met with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss seniors supportive housing and municipal modernization. Taking part in the meeting (from left) were Chief Administrative Office Craig Kelley; County Councillor Jennifer Murphy; the Honourable Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon; MPP Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; County Councillor Anne Giardini; MPP Billy Denault, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming; County Councillor Glenn Doncaster; Director of Community Services Andrea Patrick and Director of Development and Property Jason Davis.

These conversations were informed by our advocacy list which sets out strategic ministerial touch points across multiple issue-areas. The briefing documents can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/CORAdvocacy>.

"These meetings at Queen's Park reflect exactly what the County of Renfrew is about: making strong, collaborative arguments for our rural communities, staying creative in our solutions and inclusive in our engagement," said Warden Peter Emon. "We travelled to Toronto to bring our voice, our ideas and our energy, and we left with tangible commitments and a clear path ahead for our region."

Why This Matters

As a predominantly rural region, the County of Renfrew must ensure that provincial policy, funding and regulatory frameworks reflect the realities of communities beyond the urban core. Our advocacy approach is rooted in collaboration, innovation and being inclusive, recognizing that infrastructure, housing, jobs and healthcare are deeply interconnected. The day at Queen's Park underscored that message and reinforced our commitment to being proactive partners with the Province.

Looking Forward

Following Queen's Park Day, the County will:

- Work with ministries to develop detailed implementation plans for the highway corridors, housing projects and Community Paramedicine enhancements discussed.
- Bring back to County Council for consideration the next phase of the "Expand the Valley" initiative for Highway 17, and the complementary Highway 417 extension campaign.
- Mobilize stakeholder groups across our municipalities – from business owners to health providers to seniors' advocates – to ensure the momentum continues locally.
- Publish a summary of the meetings and commitments received and integrate them into our 2026-27 advocacy plan and budget framework.

About the County of Renfrew

The County of Renfrew is committed to cultivating a compassionate, collaborative, creative and inclusive environment – providing our community with meaningful support and innovative solutions. Our advocacy focuses

on securing funding, influencing policy and addressing key issues such as infrastructure investment, healthcare access, housing and economic development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Kelley Chief Administrative Officer 613-735-7288

Tina Peplinskie Media Relations Coordinator 613-735-7288



While at Queen’s Park on November 20, the County of Renfrew delegation had a productive meeting with the Ministry of Energy and Mines, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction to explore how the County’s resource-based and rural economic development opportunities can be better unlocked. Taking part in the meeting (from left) were Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley; County Councillors Michael Donohue, Glenn Doncaster and Jennifer Murphy; the Honourable Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources; Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Red Tape Reduction; MPP Billy Denault, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming; the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; County Councillors Neil Nicholson and Anne Giardini; Director of Development and Property Jason Davis and Ivan Burton, Chief Administrative Officer, Township of Whitewater Region.

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

2025 Warden's Community Service Awards presented

Posted on Friday, November 28, 2025



Valerie Hinsperger (second from right) of North Algona Wilberforce won the 2025 Warden's Community Service Award in the individual category. Taking part in the award presentation (from left) were Warden Peter Emon, Development and Property Committee Vice-Chair County Councillor Rob Weir and County Councillor Janet Reiche-Schoenfeldt.

RELEASE DATE:

November 28, 2025

The County of Renfrew presented the 2025 Warden's Community Service Awards, honouring an individual and two not-for-profit organizations, at the November 26, 2025 session of County Council. These awards are a meaningful way to recognize and thank the recipients for their numerous community contributions.

The recipient of the individual award was Valerie Hinsperger of North Algona Wilberforce, nominated by Laura Griffith; while the Arnprior/McNab/Braeside Men's Shed, nominated by Darrell O'Shaughnessy, and the Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary, nominated by Maggie Harbart, were recognized in the not-for-profit category.

Ms. Hinsperger was honoured for her exceptional dedication to volunteerism and community service within North Algona Wilberforce, Bonnechere Valley and greater Renfrew County. Her contributions span sports and recreation, health care, food security, arts, and local economic development. Her energy, compassion, and leadership have made a lasting impact on countless individuals and organizations.

She serves as coordinator of the Renfrew County 55+ Summer and Winter Games and is co-founder of the Bonnechere Cycling Group; she is as an active member of the Eganville Community Choir, long-time member of the Eganville & Area Horticultural Society and an active member of the North Algona Wilberforce Recreation Committee. She is also the co-owner of Bonnechere Caves, a family business that sponsors and supports numerous community initiatives.

Since it was established in 2019, the Arnprior/McNab/Braeside Men's Shed has become a vital hub for senior men in the community. It provides a welcoming space where men can connect, share skills, and support one another, reducing social isolation and promoting mental, emotional, and physical well-being and lifelong learning.

The membership of the Men's Shed expected to exceed 60 members by the end of the year. It has contributed more than 5,700 volunteer hours in 2025 alone. Among some of the signature projects completed by the group are building wheelchair-accessible picnic tables for municipalities across Renfrew County, memory boxes for The Grove Nursing Home, raised planter boxes for Arnprior and local seniors' centres and youth woodworking kits in partnership with the Dementia Society and Children's Aid.



The Arnprior/McNab/Braeside Men’s Shed received the 2025 Warden’s Community Service Award for a not-for-profit organization. Taking part in the award presentation (from left) were County Councillor Dan Lynch, Warden Peter Emon, Development and Property Committee Vice-Chair County Councillor Rob Weir, Men’s Shed members Gary McBurney, Denis MacNeil, Darrel O’Shaughnessy and County Councillor Lori Hoddinott.

The Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary has been a cornerstone of community service for more than 60 years, supporting local healthcare through volunteerism and fundraising. What began as a small group sewing for the hospital has grown into an organization of more than 180 active volunteers, deeply woven into the fabric of Arnprior and surrounding communities. The members have logged more than 25,000 volunteer hours in the past year.

The fundraising efforts of the Auxiliary have had a tremendous impact on the community. Contributions include \$600,000 toward the new Grove Nursing Home, \$480,000 for a new CT scanner and \$300,000 for the Echocardiogram equipment with more than \$3.5 million raised in the past six decades for hospital equipment and patient care.

Following the presentation of the awards, Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon congratulated the recipients and thanked them for the passion displayed through various initiatives.

“The Warden’s Community Service Awards remind us of the incredible impact that dedicated individuals and organizations have on life in Renfrew County,” said Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon. “This year’s recipients exemplify compassion, leadership, and a commitment to making our communities stronger and more vibrant. Their efforts inspire all of us to give back and work together for the greater good.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Kelley	Chief Administrative Officer	613-735-7288
Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288



The Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary received the 2025 Warden’s Community Service Award in the not-for-profit category. Taking part in the award presentation (from left) were Warden Peter Emon, Development and Property Committee Vice-Chair County Councillor Rob Weir, Auxiliary Treasurer Lesley Lapierre, Arnprior Regional Health Foundation Executive Director Ben Gardiner and County Councillor Dan Lynch.

Taste of the Valley Holiday Edition in Pembroke December 13

Posted on Monday, December 01, 2025



The fifth and final Taste of the Valley event of the 2025 season is the Holiday Edition, taking place Saturday, December 13 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pembroke from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Ottawa Valley Roast House will be among the 55 vendors taking part.

RELEASE DATE:

December 1, 2025

The County of Renfrew's Economic Development Division is proud to present the fifth and final Taste of the Valley event of the 2025 series – an annual celebration of all things grown, made, and created right here in Renfrew County.

The Taste of the Valley Holiday Edition is taking place on Saturday, December 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Pembroke at the Knights of Columbus Hall (170 Ellis Avenue, Pembroke).

Originally launched more than a decade ago to spotlight local food producers in the Ottawa Valley, Taste of the Valley has grown into a vibrant showcase of the region's diverse offerings. Today, the event embraces a broader interpretation of "taste," celebrating not only local food, but also handcrafted products, visual arts, and cultural experiences that reflect the unique spirit of our communities.

The Pembroke Holiday Edition will feature more than 55 vendors set up inside and outside the Knights of Columbus Hall and will include fresh local produce alongside unique handcrafted products from talented artists and artisans, as well as baked goods, prepared hot food, jams and preserves from bakers and food producers across Renfrew County. All Taste of the Valley events in 2025 are held in partnership with the host municipalities.

"Pembroke is excited to once again partner with the County and bring this special holiday edition of Taste of the Valley to our city," says Pembroke Mayor Ron Gervais. "This event is a great way to support local artisans, farms, and artists, who provide so much vibrancy to our local economy."

The Taste of the Valley Holiday Market is a joyful celebration of Renfrew County's creativity and community spirit.

"This seasonal event invites residents and visitors to discover unique, locally made gifts, delicious treats, and handcrafted treasures; perfect for sharing the warmth of the holidays while supporting our talented artisans and vendors," says David Wybou, Business Development Officer with the County of Renfrew's Economic Development Division.

For more information about Taste of the Valley, visit www.TOTV.ca or follow on social media at @TasteoftheValleyRC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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



Health Protection Report to the Board of Health

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Emergency Response

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) recently hosted a tabletop exercise to strengthen preparedness for respiratory illness surges. The session engaged over 20 health and municipal organizations to identify response gaps and enhance inter-agency collaboration.

To support evidence-based decision-making during air quality events, such as wildfire smoke, RCDHU has acquired real-time PM2.5 air quality monitors, which will be installed across the region in the coming months. This initiative improves surveillance, informs public health responses, and enables timely planning for vulnerable populations.

Healthy Environments

Vector-borne Disease Control

Fall tick dragging was conducted at three sites where ticks were found in the Spring, with ticks detected at all locations for the second time this year. These findings confirm an expanded risk area within Renfrew County and District, including Westmeath and Chalk River. Public Health Ontario will update the provincial risk map in 2026 to reflect these changes.

As of November 10, RCDHU has received 32 ticks from residents for identification and testing. Of the 28 analyzed, 24 were *Ixodes scapularis* (deer ticks), two *Ixodes cookei* (groundhog ticks), and two *Dermacentor variabilis* (dog ticks). Fifteen ticks underwent further testing, with five confirmed positive for *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the causative agent of Lyme disease.

Food Safety

RCDHU public health inspectors continue to deliver the provincially recognized Safe Food Handler course at no cost to participants. So far in 2025, ten courses were offered across the County, certifying 312 individuals.

As of November 10, RCDHU has received 13 food safety complaints from the public. All complaints were investigated within 24 hours as required. None resulted in a confirmed foodborne illness outbreak.

Immunization

Online Booking System

On October 1, RCDHU launched an online booking system for immunization clinics, allowing clients to book, cancel, and receive confirmations and reminders by email or text message. The system currently supports COVID-19, flu, and RSV appointments, with plans to expand to other services. In its first month, 730 appointments were booked online.

COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination

As of November 6, RCDHU administered 2,184 COVID-19 doses and 1,990 influenza doses through community clinics and mobile services. It also distributed 14,125 influenza doses and 1,547 COVID-19 doses to health care partners. Pharmacies remain a key channel, providing 62% of COVID-19 doses (vs. 29% by RCDHU and 8% by other partners) and over 3,500 influenza doses this season. COVID-19 and flu vaccines will continue to be available at RCDHU clinics through mid-December, as well as at pharmacies and most health care providers.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Adult Vaccination

Between October 1 and November 6, RCDHU administered 636 adult RSV doses through community clinics and mobile services and distributed 2,880 doses to health care providers. RSV vaccine remains available at RCDHU community clinics for eligible adults.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infant and High-Risk Children

Between October 1 and November 6, RCDHU and Pembroke Regional Hospital administered 72 infant RSV doses to eligible infants and high-risk children and distributed 323 doses to health care providers. Appointment-based community clinics will continue throughout the RSV season.

Submitted by:

Erin Vereyken

Director, Health Protection

Renfrew County and District Health Unit



Health Promotion and Infectious Diseases Report to the Board of Health

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

HEALTH PROMOTION

Nutrition – Algonquin College Education for Early Childhood Educator Students

In October, the Renfrew County and District Health Unit delivered its annual education session to 22 Early Childhood Education (ECE) students at Algonquin College's Pembroke campus. The session focused on nutrition requirements in licensed childcare settings, as mandated by the *Child Care and Early Years Act* and Ontario Licensing Manual, ensuring alignment with Canada's Food Guide. Students gained evidence-based knowledge and practical strategies to implement these standards, emphasizing supportive mealtime environments, food literacy, and positive feeding relationships. This collaboration strengthens future ECE capacity and aligns with the Ontario Public Health Standards by promoting child and family health through education and community partnership.

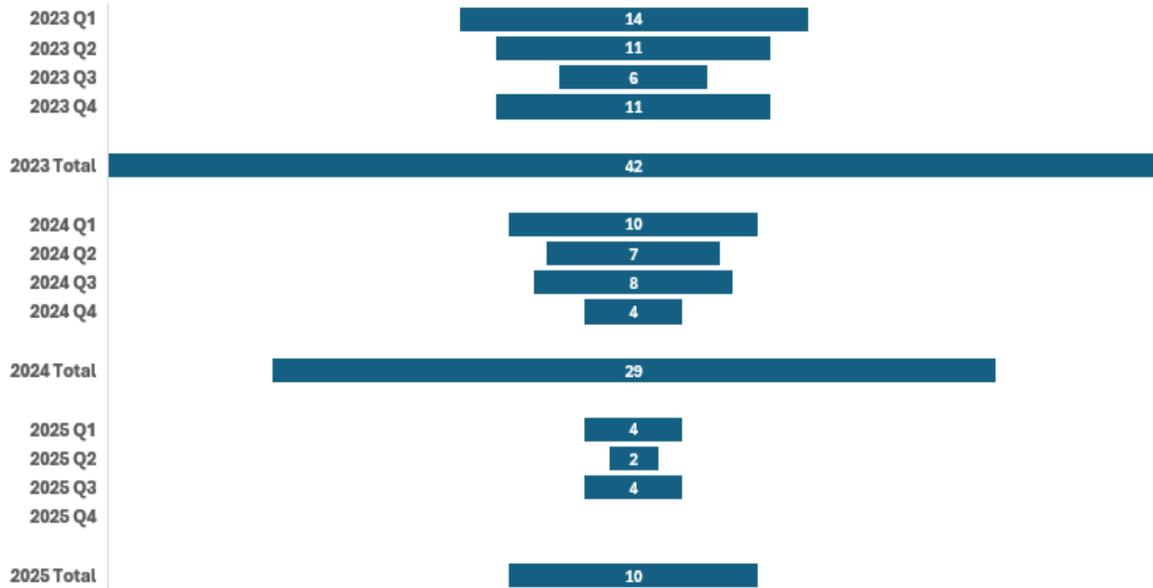
Outreach Team and SPRITE Testing

The Outreach Team continues to expand RCDHU services across Renfrew County & District through partnerships with community agencies. In September and October, the team conducted 19 visits to 10 sites, distributing 184 naloxone kits and training 66 new individuals. Over 500 client interactions occurred, which included harm reduction services, sexual health consultations, sexually transmitted and bloodborne infection testing, and referrals to mental health and other public health programs. In October, a vaccine clinic was held at The Grind, providing flu, COVID-19, and RSV vaccines to underhoused individuals and people experiencing homelessness. Additional clinics are planned. SPRITE testing for syphilis, HIV, and hepatitis C remains available at outreach events and RCDHU's Pembroke office; 18 tests were completed, identifying six new infections, with all clients referred for treatment.

Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy (RCDDS)

In October, a 3rd quarter progress report was issued for partners of the RCDDS, as well as a public update on social media and the RCDDS [webpage](#). The indicators reported in October were suspected drug toxicity deaths, suspected deaths by sex, emergency department visits and an update on naloxone distribution. Most notable was the continued progress in reducing suspected drug toxicity-related mortality. When compared to the same period in 2024 and 2023, there has been a 60% and 68% decrease in suspected drug toxicity deaths respectively. While there are many factors responsible for this decline, there is cautious optimism that the local efforts of the more than 30 organizations implementing the strategy's priorities are having a measurable impact.

Suspect Drug Toxicity Deaths in Renfrew County and District (2023 - 2025)



The four pillar working groups continue to meet at least quarterly and a social media campaign was developed by the communications collaborative to highlight the many extraordinary efforts being made and some of the related outcomes.



Mesa Warming Centre
[mey-suh]

A collaborative approach to compassionate care

PROGRESS UPDATE

In 2024, the Mesa Warming Centre had 83 total guests, 89% from Pembroke, 6% from other areas of the county, and 5% from outside the county.

RCDHU Outreach Team Member engaging community members on trails and other rural areas.

A mental health case worker and Mesa paramedic speak with a client outside The Grind - an organization that serves the needs of marginalized, at-risk community members in Pembroke.

PROGRESS UPDATE

Drug Strategy partners implemented an outreach model to provide harm reduction and other health services to people in high need. It's about meeting people where they're at.



The Medical Officer of Health, along with the Substance Use and Harm Reduction Program team, met with the Ministry of the Attorney General's Crown Attorney Office in Pembroke to discuss RCDDS and explore collaboration opportunities. As a result, a team member of their office will join the Community Safety Working Group, and new processes were implemented to ensure individuals released from custody have rapid and routine access to take-home naloxone kits.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles Outbreak Status

On October 6th, Ontario's multi-jurisdictional measles outbreak was officially declared over. However, the World Health Organization confirmed on November 10th that Canada has lost its measles elimination status after over 12 months of sustained transmission of the same measles strain. Canada first attained measles elimination status in 1998 and has never lost it until now.

The outbreak began in October 2024 with an international traveler attending a New Brunswick wedding, subsequently spreading to southwestern Ontario where it concentrated among under-vaccinated communities. There were ultimately 2376 cases in Ontario's outbreak, including 3 cases in Renfrew County and District. A strong local response prevented further transmission across our region.

For RCDHU, this reinforces the importance of maintaining high MMR vaccination coverage, which will be supported by our return to full enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act early next year. Canada can regain elimination status once transmission is interrupted for at least 12 consecutive months.

Respiratory Illness Activity

Respiratory outbreak activity in September and October remained low, averaging fewer than one new outbreak per week compared to two per week in October 2024. Most outbreaks with an identified pathogen were caused by Rhinovirus or COVID-19.

The first influenza case of the 2025–2026 season was reported to RCDHU in early November. The Canadian Network of Public Health Intelligence projects higher circulation of Influenza A (H3N2) in Canada this season, which may increase healthcare demand and underscores the importance of vaccination and surveillance.

Fall Preparedness

On October 15, 2025, the infectious diseases team hosted a fall preparedness workshop for local long-term care and retirement homes, in collaboration with the Regional IPAC Hub and RCDHU's immunization team. The session covered infection prevention and control topics, including roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, seasonal vaccinations, and outbreak management. Guest speaker Ajak Ajang, Manager of the Champlain Regional IPAC Hub, joined the event. Representatives from 14 long-term care and retirement homes attended virtually, achieving over 70% participation. Follow-up sessions are being offered to facilities that were unable to attend.

Submitted by:
Patti Smith
Director, Health Promotion and Chief Nursing Officer
Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - November 20, 2025



November 20, 2025

In This Issue:

- Share your local municipal staff career spotlights!
- Sport Hosting Program Applications Intake
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- Applications now open: Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official, March and May 2026 workshops.
- ROMA Zone Meet-ups over lunch Sunday, January 18.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate - Dec 3rd.
- New Dates! Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's free workshop series is for you.
- Is your municipality ready for the phase-out?
- Energy Training that pays for itself!
- AODA Accessibility Solutions RFP Now Open.
- Blog - Fire Prevention Tips for a Safe and Cozy Winter Season.
- Review Your Group Benefits Before the New Year.
- New AMO/OMAA Webinar: Impact of the Mayor-CAO relationship on workplace culture.
- New Program to Help Get Your Community Energy Emissions Planning Done!
- Federal Food Waste Prevention and Diversion Webinar
- Release of Gender Based Violence Prevention Framework
- Careers.

AMO Matters

AMO is building a campaign to highlight the impact and the people behind municipal work - and we want to hear your story. Submissions will be featured on the campaign website and newsletters as *Impact Stories* to highlight the everyday work that keeps communities safe, clean, connected and welcoming. Please [contact us at workforce@amo.on.ca](mailto:workforce@amo.on.ca) to share stories from your community.

Provincial Matters

The province is accepting applications for next round of [Sport Hosting Program](#) to support sport tourism and local economies. Municipalities are eligible to [apply](#). The deadline to submit for 2026/27 applications is until January 12, 2026.

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.

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This year's ROMA Zone Meet-ups will be held over lunch at the ROMA Conference on Sunday, January 18. The Zone Meet-ups are an important opportunity to hear about the work of the ROMA Board and engage with your Zone and Board representatives. [Register today](#) for the ROMA 2026 conference and plan to arrive Saturday to take part in discussion on ROMA strategic priorities.

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LAS invites qualified vendors to propose scalable accessibility solutions for Ontario municipalities, including digital accessibility, accessible public infrastructure, training, and communication supports, to support province-wide AODA compliance and promote inclusive, accessible communities. [Download the RFP from here.](#)

[Read our latest blog](#) to understand the risk factors and discover fire prevention tips that can help you and your loved ones remain safe and cozy all winter long.

Help reduce your group benefits costs with the LAS Group Benefits program offered by Mosey & Mosey. The plans are customizable to suit your needs. [Learn more.](#)

Municipal Wire*

Back by popular demand, AMO and OMAA are pleased to present the next topic in our Mayor-CAO Relationship Series. This conversation turns the spotlight on how the Mayor-CAO partnership shapes municipal workplace culture and why strong, trust-based leadership matters now more than ever. Register here for the free December 8th Session.

Has your municipality been considering developing your 'CEEP' for too long to identify and reduce your community's energy emissions? Get it done, now, through QUEST Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program! Contact Lead, Projects, Norma Panetta at npanetta@questcanada.org by December 1, 2025. [More information.](#)

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is showcasing the Waste Reduction and Management Division's Grant and Contribution funding recipients whose projects focus on food waste prevention and diversion December 4th. [Register now.](#)

The [Gender Based Violence Prevention Framework](#) provides a roadmap for preventing gender-based violence. Municipalities and public health units are encouraged to review the framework and resources.

Careers

[Manager, Waste Disposal - Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority](#). Closing Date: December 5, 2025.

[Project Manager, Affordable Housing Development and Renewal - Regional Municipality of Durham](#). Closing Date: December 7, 2025.

[Manager, Development Partnerships - Regional Municipality of Durham](#). Closing Date: December 8, 2025

About AMO

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 10:15 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – New Procurement Requirements, Bill 30 Advocacy, 2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments



AMO Policy Update – New Procurement Requirements, Bill 30 Advocacy, 2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments

Top Insights

- Yesterday, the province announced it is introducing the *Buy Ontario Act* to require municipalities to prioritize Ontario and then Canadian vendors in procurements.
- AMO submitted comments and a letter to the province opposing Bill 30's proposal to exempt projects funded by the Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream from the *Planning Act* and some or all of the *Municipal Act*.
- Passed by Parliament on Monday, the 2025 Federal Budget was initially heralded for significant infrastructure investments. However, analysis shows it repackages existing infrastructure funds with only some new spending.

Public Sector Procurement Legislation

The Ontario government [announced](#) it is introducing the *Buy Ontario Act* which, if passed, would require public sector entities including

municipalities to prioritize Ontario and then Canadian made goods and services.

AMO continues to reaffirm to the province that municipalities want to do their part to support Ontario's economy and mitigate the impacts of tariffs and trade disruptions. According to AMO's [survey of municipal procurement](#), municipalities spend over \$22 billion annually on goods and services, and 98% of its non-construction procurement is already from Canadian vendors.

AMO will work with the province to ensure that municipal procurement can be effectively harnessed as a tool to support our economy, while ensuring that we can mitigate against significant cost escalation and ensure continuity for municipal service delivery. For example, AMO is working with provincial and municipal staff to help inform the design of the first procurement policy to add "Buy Ontario" restrictions to municipal fleet vehicle procurement.

Bill 30: AMO Urges Safeguarding of Critical Municipal Planning Processes and Authorities

AMO has [submitted comments](#) opposing proposals in Bill 30, *Working For Workers Seven Act*, which seek to exempt projects funded through the Skills Development Fund's (SDF) Capital Stream from the *Planning Act* and the *Municipal Act*.

While AMO supports streamlining planning, the legislative amendments proposed in Bill 30 are problematic given they extend broad planning exemptions to private sector organizations, which lack the robust regulatory and accountability frameworks that mitigated risks in previous planning exemptions (e.g., hospitals, schools). AMO is concerned that the SDF's eligibility criteria alone is insufficient to support exempting recipients from the *Planning Act* and the *Municipal Act*. The proposed legislative changes pose significant risks to orderly and sustainable municipal growth, infrastructure planning, and site and community safety.

In its [letter](#) to Ministers Piccini and Minister Flack, AMO urges the Province to reconsider and remove these proposed exemptions from Bill 30 and reiterated its commitment to work with the government to develop solutions that meet provincial objectives while upholding the ability of municipalities to maintain healthy, sustainable communities.

2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments Announcements

Infrastructure

The 2025 Federal Budget announced an investment of \$115 billion over 5 years for new public, municipal, indigenous and trade infrastructure. AMO appreciates the federal acknowledgement of the importance of local infrastructure, but the 2025 Federal Budget does not adequately provide sustainable, predictable and long-term funding streams required by municipalities. Instead, the existing infrastructure funding is mostly repackaged under new titles and frameworks.

For example, the new Build Communities Strong Fund (BCSF) was announced, providing \$51 billion over 10 years, starting in 2026-27, with a further \$3 billion per year ongoing funding for provincial and territorial governments. Funding for this program consists of limited new dollars and reallocated resources from the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund, Canada Public Transit Fund, and the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF). The BCSF will consist of three streams:

- A Provincial and Territorial Stream, providing \$17.2 billion over 10 years, beginning next year, to be shared between housing-enabling infrastructure, health-related infrastructure and infrastructure at colleges and universities. This is conditional funding geared towards municipalities that substantially reduce development charges and do not impose new levies that can negatively impact housing supply.
- A Direct Delivery Stream, providing \$6 billion over 10 years, to support large regional projects.
- A Community Stream providing \$27.8 billion over 10 years, which is a rebranding of the CCBF and contains no new additional funding.

For municipalities, this results in greater uncertainty, administrative complexity and competition for accessing federal funding as the funding envelope is distributed across multiple streams.

Housing

The 2025 Federal Budget commits funding to Build Canada Homes to create housing including the \$1 billion investment in supportive and transitional housing and \$1.5 billion for the Canada Rental Protection Fund. However, there is no mention of the campaign promise to build 500,000 homes a year.

Even with increased funding in the next few years, overall spending on housing will decrease from the current year's allocation of \$3.53 billion to

\$3.36 billion by 2029. The future of the National Housing Strategy beyond its expiry in 2028 is unclear as are the investments in the Housing Accelerator Fund (which has no funding beyond 2027-28) and the Reaching Home program for critically needed homelessness prevention.

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 25, 2025 12:01 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 Workshop to Gain Useful Insights and Strategies Focused on Underrepresented Communities

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.

AMO is offering this workshop at **no charge** and encourages you to promote it widely across your networks.

Questions? Contact events@amo.on.ca.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: New Dates Added: Register for AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series



AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities New Dates Added

If you missed registration for **AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: *Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities***, we are pleased to offer new dates. This online program is designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet today's political challenges head-on. The series is offered at no charge in two dedicated streams: one for first-time candidates and one for those considering re-election in 2026.

As Ontario moves toward the 2026 municipal elections, both current elected officials and aspiring candidates are navigating increasing levels of community expectation, online toxicity, and pressures on personal wellbeing. This series provides a supportive, skills-focused environment to strengthen your leadership foundation and reconnect with the values that guide public service.

Developed in partnership with [Nominee](#), *Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* combines expert facilitation, peer-to-peer dialogue, and practical tools you can apply immediately.

This workshop series is part of [AMO's Healthy Democracy Project](#). To explore more research and resources, visit the Project's website.

Two Streams — Offered at No Charge

Stream 1: Considering Re-Election in 2026

For municipal elected officials preparing their path forward and seeking renewed clarity, confidence, and resilience.

Stream 2: First-Time Candidates for 2026

For community members exploring a run for municipal office and looking to build confidence, understanding, and support before launching a campaign.

Each stream includes four inspiring sessions (you can register for the full series or individual sessions):

- **Session 1—February/March 2026:** Finding Your Why – Leading with Purpose and Authenticity
- **Session 2—March/April 2026:** Praise Your Rivals – Managing Conflict and Building Effective Relationships
- **Session 3—April 2026:** What Matters Most – Prioritizing Mental Health and Wellbeing
- **Session 4—May 2026:** Building Your Movement – Turning Values into Action

Register here for STREAM 1

Register here for STREAM 2

What you'll gain by attending these sessions:

- **Clarity of Purpose:** reconnect with your values and what drives you to serve
 - **Resilience in Conflict:** handle tough situations with skill and confidence
 - **Personal Wellbeing:** prevent burnout and create sustainable leadership practices
 - **Stronger Communication:** inspire trust and mobilize authentic community support
 - **Practical Tools & Resources:** customized workbooks, scripts, and templates you can use immediately
 - **Peer Connection:** build relationships with others also preparing to run in 2026
-

For more information, click [here](#).

Please email events@amo.on.ca with any questions.

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2025 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - November 27, 2025



November 27, 2025

In This Issue:

- We need your local municipal staff career spotlights!
- Public Health Ontario Rounds: Population Health Approach to GBV Prevention.
- Municipal Energy Plan Program provincial funding.
- Sport Hosting Program Applications Intake.
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- Applications now open: Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy.
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Provincial Matters

This Public Health Ontario Rounds will be held virtually December 2nd from 12-1pm. It will present a Framework to support public health agencies contributing to gender-based violence prevention. Register [here](#).

The Municipal Energy Plan Program, a voluntary, application-based program of the Ministry of Energy and Mines helps develop and enhance energy plans. [Learn more here](#).

The province is accepting applications for next round of [Sport Hosting Program](#) to support sport tourism and local economies. Municipalities are eligible to [apply](#). The deadline to submit for 2026/27 applications is until January 12, 2026.

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Ontario municipalities are under mounting pressure to do more with less. Rising healthcare-related expenses, aging populations, and tighter budgets mean every dollar must be stretched further. [Read more here.](#)

[Join a free webinar](#) on December 9 to find valuable insights from municipal and healthcare supply chain leaders who are working to strengthen procurement practices, control costs, and build more resilient systems across Ontario.

Municipal Wire*

Back by popular demand, AMO and OMAA are pleased to present the next topic in our Mayor-CAO Relationship Series. This conversation turns the spotlight on how the Mayor-CAO partnership shapes municipal workplace culture and why strong, trust-based leadership matters now more than ever. [Register here](#) for the free December 8th Session.

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Careers

[Manager Transportation Operations & Maintenance \(Winter Services – City Wide\) - City of Toronto.](#) Closing Date: December 5, 2025.

[Supervisor of Fleet Services - City of Quinte West.](#) Closing Date: December 8, 2025.

[Manager, Development Engineering \(Water And Wastewater\) - Region of Waterloo.](#) Closing Date: December 26, 2025.

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2025 1:00 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Navigate Conflict with Confidence: Workshop for Elected Officials



2-part Workshop: Navigating Conflict as an Elected Official

Dear AMO Member,

With the MANY relationships involved with municipal work, conflict is unavoidable and being able to navigate it successfully is critical.

With the upcoming municipal elections, now is a great time to brush up on these skills and put your best foot forward.

Join us for a 2-part, virtual, interactive workshop on March 4th & 5th from 10:00 am-12:30 pm to learn why relationships may go wrong and how to navigate relationships successfully using practical tips, tools and real-world examples.

[Register Here](#)

Together, we'll explore:

1. The typical patterns of behaviour that give rise to creating “conflict traps” and how to escape from them.
2. The secrets of neuroscience and how this knowledge can give us a heads-up on what we should do in the moment.
3. Understanding conflict styles and how these can create obstacles or pave the way toward collaboration.
4. The importance of moving from a position-based to an interest-based approach to create a win-win, value-add relationship.
5. The roles of empathy and assertiveness are relationship formation.
6. Learning effective and practical communication tools, which include:

- a. Avoiding communication blockers
 - b. First words to use
 - c. The difference between Acknowledging vs. Agreeing
7. A simple, yet powerful 4-step technique to assist in having better and more collaborative conversations

Register Here

Dates:

This is a two-day workshop running from 10:00am-12:30pm each day.

March 4 & 5, 2026

- \$330 +HST per session (Individual registration only. For group rates, contact events@amo.on.ca)
- \$75 +HST cancellation fee

Questions? Contact events@amo.on.ca.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 28, 2025 10:30 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Advocacy on Bill 60, Data Standards, Blue Box and Conservation Authority Consolidation



AMO Policy Update – Advocacy on Bill 60, Data Standards, Blue Box and Conservation Authority Consolidation

Top Insights

- AMO has supported proposed changes to the Development Charge (DC) framework, and commented on Bill 60 *Fighting Delays, Building Faster 2025*. This includes reinforcing AMO's position that a new water system public corporation must be voluntary if expanded beyond Peel Region, and continuing to oppose constraints on local bike lane decisions.
- AMO presented to the Standing Committee regarding the proposed data centre approval framework under Bill 40. Recommendations focused on balancing data centres' big power draws with other competing electricity priorities, such as new housing and other business development.
- AMO will provide feedback to the province on its proposed plans to consolidate conservation authorities and create a new provincial oversight agency. The feedback will highlight the need for a new funding model that is less reliant on municipal investment and raise concerns about weakening municipal governance within the authorities.

- AMO sent a letter to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks detailing the challenges with Ontario’s fragmented Blue Box program and sought funding to help municipalities close service gaps.

Bill 60 Submission

AMO has submitted [comments](#) to the Environmental and Regulatory Registry of Ontario that are related to [Bill 60](#), *Fighting Delays, Building Faster 2025* and the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.

This submission responds to several significant municipal proposals, most notably:

- **DC modernization:** In its draft regulations, the province advanced the changes to modernize the DC framework recommended by AMO and the Ontario Home Builders Association. Changes will make DCs more consistent and transparent, reducing friction and lengthy appeals.
- **Public corporation for water and wastewater services:** AMO reviewed the proposal for implementation in Peel, which could serve as a future model for other municipalities. In this context, AMO supports the province’s commitment to maintaining public asset ownership. AMO maintains that use of this model must remain voluntary, especially since it is not a “one size fits all” approach and is best suited to small and medium-sized municipalities. Expanding the model would necessitate careful review of local rate implications.
- **Vehicle lanes:** AMO continues to oppose constraints to local bike lane decisions, which are an important tool for reducing congestion.

AMO has also commented on consultations relating to development near transit corridors, the harmonization of municipal road construction standards, streamlining land-use planning and development approvals, and the *Residential Tenancies Act*.

Data Centre Approvals

On November 18, AMO presented to the Ontario Legislature’s Standing Committee on the Interior regarding Bill 40, *Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act*. Bill 40 would create a new framework

to oversee the connection of data centres to Ontario's electricity grid. [AMO's comments](#) were in support of a framework that balances data centres with other priority projects like housing and job-creation. AMO recommended that the framework maintains local approvals for data centres, prioritizes projects that deliver economic benefits to host communities like new permanent jobs, and creates a collaborative review process that includes municipalities.

Blue Box

AMO has sent a [letter](#) to Minister McCarthy outlining how the recent decisions by industry and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks will reduce recycling system effectiveness and efficiency. Changes risk more recyclable materials being sent to landfills and creating new costs for municipalities. AMO seeks to collaborate with the province to develop solutions for a successful province-wide Blue Bin system and asked to explore provincial funding to help municipalities fill industry's collection gaps.

Conservation Authority Consolidation

On October 31, the province announced the consolidation of the existing thirty-six conservation authorities into seven and the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency. AMO supports the province's goal to streamline and improve the services provided by conservation authorities, however, we are seriously concerned about how this is being carried out.

The government is making changes, but it is not providing any new, ongoing provincial funding to run conservation authorities effectively, while simultaneously creating a new provincial oversight agency and weakening local municipal leaders' control over conservation and environmental protections. AMO is planning to respond to the province's [posting](#) on the Environmental Registry this December.

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

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Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD ADIKAMEG KIZIS 21ST, 2025
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 21ST, 2025

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CONTENT

- **Chief and Council Update**
- **Community Update #5**
- **News & Events**
 - Sweat Ceremony
 - Tennisco Manor Open House
 - Seniors Christmas Party (50+)
- **Volunteers Needed**
 - Round Dance Planning Committee
- **Resources and Contacts**
 - Community Support Personnel
 - Jordan's Principle
- **Health Updates**
 - November Calendar
 - Strong & Steady Exercise Program
- **Employment Opportunities**
 - Call to Tender (3)
 - Resource Teacher
 - Health Centre Receptionist
 - Water Treatment Plant Operator
- **Community Information**
 - Hours of Operation
 - Membership Additions

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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.



Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD ADIKAMEG KIZIS 28TH, 2025
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28TH, 2025

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CONTENT

- **Chief and Council Update**
- **Community Update #4**
- **News & Events**
 - Tennesco Manor Open House
 - Seniors Christmas Party (50+)
 - Pikwakanagan Santa Claus Parade
- **Volunteers Needed**
 - Round Dance Planning Committee
- **Resources and Contacts**
 - Jordan's Principle
- **Health Updates**
 - December Calendar
 - Food Recalls
 - Tick Surveillance Program
 - Flu Shot Clinics
- **Employment Opportunities**
 - Call to Tender (Catering)
 - Health Centre Receptionist
 - Project Coordinator (Consultation)
 - Water Treatment Plant Operator
- **Community Information**
 - Hours of Operation
 - Public Works Christmas Schedule
 - Membership Additions

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

Upcoming Office Closure

Please note that the Christmas Holidays are approaching fast and the administration building will be closing!

Effective: **December 19, 2025 - 4:30PM**

Returning: **January 5, 2025 - 8:30AM**

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.



Legal and Legislative Services

November 18, 2025

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

Honourable and Dear Sir,

Re: City of Brampton – Provincial Decision on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE)

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of November 17, 2025 received and supported the resolution from the City of Brampton dated October 17, 2025 regarding the Province's decision to abruptly cancel Automated Speed Enforcement.

Attached please find a copy of the City of Brampton correspondence dated October 17, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

PT:dlk

Encl.

c.c. The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation minister.mto@ontario.ca
Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (ACP) contact@oacp.ca
Ontario Traffic Council traffic@otc.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario amo@amo.on.ca
Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Sonya Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator, City of Brampton sonya.pacheco@brampton.ca
Ontario Municipalities

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

October 17, 2025

Sent by email

See Distribution List on page 6

Re: Provincial Decision on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE)

The following recommendation of the Committee of Council Meeting of October 1, 2025 was approved by Council on October 15, 2025, pursuant to Council Resolution C230-2025:

CW303-2025

Whereas the Province of Ontario filed enabling regulations in December 2019, to prescribe the locations, fines, and signage for municipalities to utilize Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras (ASE) as a tool to address speeding and improve public safety; and,

Whereas the Province's ASE legislative framework, together with provincial encouragement in 2019, has led municipalities such as Brampton - where auto-insurance rates remain among the highest in Ontario - to implement ASE technology to improve safety, reduce speeding, and prevent serious collisions and fatalities; and,

Whereas the Provincial government, through the Ministry of Transportation, is responsible for the legislation, regulations and program standards governing municipal ASE programs; and,

Whereas some cities have implemented ASE incorrectly, Brampton is part of the vast majority of municipalities who have implemented best practices endorsed by the Ministry of Transportation and the Ontario Traffic Council - including speed thresholds - that prioritize public safety, resulting in safer roads; and,

Whereas consistent with local, regional, national and international research by third parties including Sick Kids & Toronto Metropolitan University, the Canadian Automobile Association, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, the Traffic Injury Research Foundation, and the Ontario Traffic Council; the City of Brampton's ASE program has resulted in significant reductions in speed, increased speed compliance in Community Safety and School Zones, and changes in driver behaviour as outlined in the September 10, 2025 Council report titled "Automated Speed Enforcement – Traffic Safety Update";

Whereas the average recorded speed for ticket issued is 15.7 km/h over the posted limit, demonstrating that Brampton's existing threshold is both reasonable and aligned with best practices; and

Whereas between twenty and thirty percent of ASE ticket revenue is collected by the Province of Ontario.

Whereas Brampton is working to improve road safety and uphold its commitment to Vision Zero, through its ASE program and complementary traffic-calming measures such as speedbumps/humps, roundabouts, road diets, and improved signage, in order to reduce speeds, prevent collisions, and promote lawful driving behaviour.

Whereas the City of Brampton has already implemented a significant number of speedbumps, likely the most in the province with 834 locations and anticipates installing an additional 33 individual locations this year, but because speedbumps cannot be deployed in all areas around schools, a comprehensive approach to traffic calming, including Automated Speed Enforcement, has proven effective in reducing vehicle speeds, changing driver behaviour, preventing fatal collisions, and enhancing public safety;

Whereas polling in Brampton demonstrates strong and consistent public support for ASE as a tool to reduce speeding, including: Mainstreet Research (Early September 2025) showing 65% overall support, and the City-led Telephone Townhall poll (July 2025) showing 86% of participants support for speed cameras near schools and parks to help curb speeding; and

Whereas despite clear evidence and proven results from cities like Brampton, municipalities were caught off guard by the Premier's sudden announcement to cancel ASE programs across the province, made without adequate notice and consultation;

Whereas a preliminary estimate of private sector investment by companies delivering ASE solutions indicates the creation of 62 jobs and \$14 million dollars of investment in the province; and

Whereas the Premier believes some municipalities have misused ASE; but that is no reason to shut down municipal ASE programs that have proven successful at changing driver behaviour and improving public safety; and

Whereas the Premier's concerns regarding ASE can be addressed through amendments to provincial legislation, regulations and program standards that enable municipalities to consistently utilize ASE, without an outright ban on the technology; and,

Whereas Brampton's ASE program is considered best-practice and rather than banning, the Premier should meet with Mayor Patrick Brown and other municipal leaders to develop improved provincial legislation, regulations and program standards related to the ASE program; and,

Whereas it is reckless to abandon what works, and essential to maintain a program that preserves public safety, and, especially, at a very minimum, safety in school locations; and,

Whereas should the ASE program be cancelled, the considerable municipal investments to implement this provincially shaped program must be reimbursed, and additional funding must be provided to implement alternate, although not necessarily as effective, traffic calming measures.

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That Brampton City Council formally opposes the Province's decision to abruptly cancel ASE, a public safety tool enabled through provincial regulations in December 2019; and,
2. That a letter from Council be sent to the Premier, the Minister of Transportation, and local MPPs outlining Brampton's position, calling for the continuation of ASE, and Brampton Council request that the Premier meet with Mayor Patrick Brown, and other municipal leaders to negotiate consistent implementation across municipalities that utilizes best practices to uphold the public safety benefits of ASE; and,
3. That the City of Brampton immediately implement the following ASE program enhancements to accommodate concerns and maintain the technology as an effective public safety tool:
 - a. Limit the use of ASE cameras to school locations
 - b. Maintain the existing threshold and implement variable threshold speeds:
 - Maintain existing speed threshold during peak hours around schools
 - Implement a higher speed threshold for non-peak hours to enforce excessive speeding & stunt driving
 - c. Develop and implement a process to limit the number of tickets that can be issued to a single license plate within a defined period of time, excluding excessive speeding or stunt driving
 - d. Prohibit the operation of an ASE camera for six months following a speed limit change
 - e. Require that surplus ASE revenues be reinvested in road safety-related infrastructure, initiatives, and education
 - f. Require that staff report annually to Council, through the budget process, on the allocation and use of surplus ASE revenues
 - g. Require that staff report annually to Council on outcomes of the ASE program (e.g., number of tickets, speed reductions, speed limit compliance, collisions, injuries/fatalities, etc.); and,

4. That the City of Brampton request the Provincial government to amend their legislation, regulations and program standards governing ASE as follows:
 - a. Restrict the use of ASE to School locations
 - b. Use of ASE in areas that do not contain schools must be approved by the Minister of Transportation, supported by data clearly demonstrating the need and a description of why alternative traffic calming measures are not suitable for the location.
 - c. Eliminate provincial fees and charges from ASE tickets, including:
 - MTO fee, currently \$8.25 per ticket, for providing registered license plate owner information
 - Victim surcharge fee ranging from \$10 to \$125 - or 25% of the fine for speeding offences greater than \$1,000
 - d. Develop a revised fee schedule for ASE tickets that reduces the cost for lower speed infractions while maintaining higher penalties for excessive speeding and stunt driving
 - e. Extend voluntary electronic notification (SMS and/or email) to license plate holders to reduce the notification period for ASE offences, similar to license plate renewal notifications
 - f. Develop new signage to include language indicating that the location is speed camera enforced
 - g. Develop more visible ASE signage that includes the speed limit
 - h. Require municipalities to reinvest surplus ASE revenue into road safety-related infrastructure, initiatives and education
 - i. Require greater transparency from municipalities by implementing the following reporting requirements:
 - Report annually to municipal Council on how surplus ASE funds are spent.
 - Require annual public reporting of program outcomes (e.g., number of tickets, speed reductions, speed limit compliance, collisions, injuries/fatalities, etc.).

- j. Establish program standards across all municipalities for key program elements - like speed thresholds - through a process led by the Ministry of Transportation and in consultation with municipalities to ensure consistency and transparency for all municipalities in Ontario.
 - k. That the Ministry of Transportation provide greater oversight and enforcement of Municipal ASE programs through regular audits; and
5. That, should the provincial government proceed with banning the use of ASE despite Brampton's immediate actions to address concerns and requests to work collaboratively with the Province and other municipalities to continue these programs, the Province must reimburse municipalities for all costs incurred to implement ASE program; and,
 6. Staff be directed to report back on potential impacts of an ASE ban on Brampton's road safety strategy and financial investments; and,
 7. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, Brampton members of Provincial Parliament, local MPPs across the Region of Peel, all Ontario Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), and the Ontario Traffic Council; and,
 8. That the City develop an advocacy campaign consistent with this motion.

Note: Item **RM 45/2025** has been added to the Referred Matters List for the report requested in clause 6 of the recommendation above, and assigned to Michael Kralt, Director, Automated Enforcement and Court Administration, Legislative Services.

Yours truly,

Sonya Pacheco

Sonya Pacheco
Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office
Tel: 905-874-2178
sonya.pacheco@brampton.ca

(CW – 7.2)

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Premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation
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City of Brampton:

Mayor and Members of Council

Marlon Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer

Laura Johnston, Commissioner, Legislative Services

Peter Pilateris, Commissioner, Public Works and Engineering

Michael Kralt, Director, Automated Enforcement and Court Administration, Legislative Services

Shane Loftus, Director, Road Maintenance, Operations and Fleet, Public Works and Engineering

Christopher Ethier, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs and Advocacy, Office of the CAO

Andrzej Hoffmann, Senior Advisor, Intergovernmental Affairs and Advocacy, Office of the CAO

Genevieve Scharback, City Clerk, Legislative Services



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info@madawaskavalley.ca

Moved by: Mary Blank
Seconded by: Ernie Peplinski

05-RC-18 Nov 2025
18 November 2025

BE IT RESOLVED

The Council of the Township of Madawaska Valley, at their Regular Council Meeting on November 18, 2025, reviewed the correspondence and resolution from Brudenell, Lyndoch Raglan Township and passed unanimously the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley is in support of the City of Dryden's resolution requesting to incorporate mandatory water safety and Survive-to-Swim training into elementary curriculum for all Ontario students.

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be copied to the City of Dryden and be forwarded to The Honourable Minister of Education of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities, with a request for their endorsement.

X CARRIED

Suzanne Klatt

Suzanne Klatt, CAO/Clerk

***Replies to this correspondence can be forwarded
electronically to dclerk@madawaskavalley.ca***



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

Matthew Trennum
City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
Matthew.Trennum@hamilton.ca

November 19, 2025

Re: Impacts of Provincial Bill 60 on Tenants in Hamilton - REVISED

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, passed the following resolution:

Item 9.3 of the General Issues Committee Minutes 25-016:

9.3 Impacts of Provincial Bill 60 on Tenants in Hamilton - REVISED

WHEREAS, on October 23, the Provincial government introduced Bill 60, Fighting Delays, Building Faster, which seeks to weaken rent control and make rental tenure less secure;

WHEREAS, Council has introduced bylaws and policies to protect tenants from renovictions and to strengthen protections for tenants;

WHEREAS, Council has enacted new legislation to improve property standards, ensure health and safety in apartment buildings, and implement an Adequate Temperature Bylaw to address the impacts of extreme heat;

WHEREAS, the majority of residents living in Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are tenants; approximately one third of all City residents rent their homes; and tenant populations in suburban and rural Wards are growing rapidly;

WHEREAS, through Ward 2 Tenant Town Halls, the Ward 2 Tenant Survey, and the Ward 2 Tenant Council, tenants have expressed anxiety about rental tenancy and rent control including the impacts they've faced since the Provincial government changed legislation in 2018 to eliminate it;

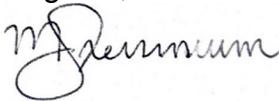
WHEREAS, the Provincial government has suggested it will backtrack on some parts of its proposed legislation but has not confirmed what the impact will be, what will be changed, or how this legislation will be implemented; and,

WHEREAS, a similar motion, entitled Impacts of Provincial Legislation that Weakens Rental Protections was passed by the City of Toronto's Executive Committee on November 4, 2025.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Mayor, on behalf of City Council, inform the Government of Ontario and all Hamilton Members of Provincial Parliament of its opposition to changes to the *Residential Tenancies Act* in Bill 60 and the weakening of tenant rights including contemplated changes to “security of tenure” or a further weakening of rent control;
- (b) That the General Issues Committee direct the City Solicitor to work with the Hamilton Legal Clinic and report back in Q1 2026 through a Closed Session Information Report to review legal options and provide advice to protect renters and challenge the provisions of Bill 60, including potential Charter protections;
- (c) That staff from the Housing Services Division report back to the General Issues Committee, through an Information Report and presentation, on the potential impact of Bill 60 including changes to “security of tenure” and rent control, in Q4 2025; and
- (d) That this resolution be circulated to AMO, FCM and all Ontario municipalities.

Regards,



Matthew Trennum
City Clerk

cc.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) info@fcm.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
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township@emo.ca; slacarte@englehart.ca; dmctavish@enniskillen.ca;
dina.lundy@erin.ca; town@espanola.ca; kpascoe@essatownship.on.ca;
coeinfo@countyofessex.on.ca; Clerks@countyofessex.ca; clerk@evanturel.com;
office@faraday.ca; nvachon@faugierstrickland.com; cschofield@forterie.ca;
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bdrury@georgianbluffs.on.ca; info@georgina.ca; gillies@gilliestownship.com;
townhall@goderich.ca; lmccabe@goderich.ca; adminoffice@gordonbarrieisland.ca;
scarr@gorebay.ca; mail@townofgrandvalley.ca; info@gravenhurst.ca;
clerk@greatermadawaska.com; info@greaternapanee.com;
clerks@greatersudbury.ca; administration@greenstone.ca; tara.warder@grey.ca;
clerks@greyhighlands.ca; clerks@grimsby.ca; info@guelph.ca; general@get.on.ca;
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info@ignace.ca; clerks@ingersoll.ca; inquiry@innisfil.ca;
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vanessa@townshipleeds.on.ca; borchard@lennox-addington.on.ca;
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admin@mattawan.ca; mattice@ntl.sympatico.ca; lwest@mcdougall.ca;
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deputyclerk@merrickville-wolford.ca; mivanic@middlesex.ca;
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admin@mindenhills.ca; annilene@town.minto.on.ca; public.info@mississauga.ca;
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clerk@nalgonawil.com; customerservice@cityofnorthbay.ca; mail@northdumfries.ca;
info@northdundas.com; clerkplanning@northfrontenac.ca; info@northglengarry.ca;
general@northgrenville.on.ca; clamb@northhuron.ca; c.parent@northkawartha.ca;
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regional.clerk@peelregion.ca; info@pelee.ca; clerks@pelham.ca;

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clerk@perth.ca; info@perthcounty.ca; township@pertheast.ca; lscott@perthsouth.ca;
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info@whiteriver.ca; Deputy.clerk@whitstone.ca; info@whitewaterregion.ca;
info@wilmot.ca; clerks@citywindsor.ca; tgarcia@wollaston.ca;
info@cityofwoodstock.ca; woolwich.mail@woolwich.ca; accessyork@york.ca



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Resolution # RC25195	Meeting Order: 7
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS The Government of Ontario has passed Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, aiming to facilitate and accelerate resource development in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 presents far-reaching implications for municipalities, First Nations, and Indigenous communities across Northern Ontario—particularly affecting natural ecosystems and regions where women, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people have historically borne the brunt of unchecked development and continue to face systemic disparities and heightened risks tied to resource extraction; and

WHEREAS Women are too often included in economic and development decisions as an afterthought, rather than as proactive and central stakeholders, despite their increasing presence in leadership across municipalities, First Nations governments, community services, and economic development organizations; and

WHEREAS First Nations of Ontario women continue to be underrepresented at decision-making tables, despite significant leadership: as of recent reports, women hold over 35% of elected Chief positions in First Nations of Ontario, and significantly more leadership positions within community organizations, health, and education boards - positions that bring deep experience in balancing development with community well-being; and

WHEREAS The legacy of natural resource development in Northern Ontario has contributed to environmental degradation and social disruption, including clear links to the ongoing crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S); and

WHEREAS The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S) identified extractive industries as a key contributor to increased vulnerability to violence, especially in isolated development zones lacking oversight and safeguards; and

Part 2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Resource extraction has historically contributed to environmental degradation, increased cost-of-living, housing instability, and elevated levels of gender-based violence, particularly in rural and remote areas; and

WHEREAS Without gender-based and culturally informed planning, development under Bill 5 risks reproducing the same harmful patterns of exclusion, exploitation, and environmental harm that have characterized previous waves of resource development; and

WHEREAS Development under Bill 5 also presents opportunities for women's economic empowerment—including entry into skilled trades, environmental monitoring, and leadership roles in infrastructure and project planning—if such pathways are made intentional, accessible, and equitable; and

WHEREAS Environmental degradation is directly linked to the health and well-being of women and children, particularly in remote and Indigenous communities where access to clean water, healthy food systems, and cultural practices are tied to land-based knowledge; and

WHEREAS The Province of Ontario has an obligation to ensure that economic growth is not achieved at the expense of women's safety, human rights, or environmental integrity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa calls on the Province of Ontario to:

1. Ensure that women, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people—particularly from Indigenous and Northern communities—are actively engaged at the forefront of all planning, consultation, and implementation processes under Bill 5, from concept to completion;
2. Establish a dedicated Ministerial role or mandate for overseeing and safeguarding women's rights, safety, and economic opportunity throughout the resource development process, including authority to apply gender-based impact assessments to proposed projects;
3. Mandate gender-based and intersectional impact assessments be carried out on all developments enabled by Bill 5, particularly with regard to safety, housing, transportation, healthcare access, and cultural impacts on women and girls;

Part 3...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- 4. Ensure environmental protections are explicitly tied to community health outcomes, especially for women and children, by investing in environmental monitoring and enforcing strong environmental safeguards tied to traditional ecological knowledge and include community-led, land-based health indicators;
- 5. Invest in training, apprenticeship, and leadership programs to ensure women and girls—particularly those in remote, Indigenous, and underserved communities—can access opportunities in the skilled trades, environmental sciences, project management, and public service tied to resource development;
- 6. Recognize and act on the findings of the MMIWG2S Inquiry by implementing protective measures around development zones, including funding for shelters, safe transportation, trauma-informed care, community safety initiatives, and anti-violence strategies embedded in community agreements;
- 7. Publish annual, public-facing progress reports on the gendered impacts of development under Bill 5, including employment statistics, leadership inclusion, environmental outcomes, and indicators of community safety and wellness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation, the Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, FONOM, NOMA, as well as all Northern Ontario municipalities and First Nations governments.

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

November 21, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL - minister.mecp@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park, 5th Floor
777 Bay Street
TORONTO, Ontario
M7A 2J3

Dear Minister McCarthy:

On October 31, 2025, the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) announced proposed amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act (CAA)*, to establish the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) to provide leadership, governance, and strategic direction to Conservation Authorities (CAs). The agency will be responsible for:

- Developing a single digital permitting platform;
- Streamlining and standardizing service delivery by setting provincewide performance, standards
as well as maintaining centralized data and updated floodplain mapping; and
- Overseeing the consolidation of Conservation Authorities.

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks are proposing that the agency would require the local Conservation Authorities to pay for the costs of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency.

Additionally, the MECP has introduced an amendment to the Conservation Authorities Act that outlines the proposed boundaries for establishing Regional Conservation Authorities. The proposed consolidation will entail, including reducing the number of Conservation Authorities from 36 to 7.

MECP has indicated that they plan to consult with stakeholders, municipalities, conservation authorities, and Indigenous communities. This consultation includes a policy proposal notice period posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario for 45 days, inviting feedback on the

proposed boundaries and criteria for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs with a deadline of December 22, 2025.

The Town understands that the timelines for the proposed CAA amendments are as follows:

- Consultation occurs throughout the Q1 2026;
- Conservation authorities operate within current governance structure until after the 2026 Municipal election; and
- Changes come into force January 1, 2027.

The Town of Goderich has identified several concerns relating to the proposed CAA amendments:

- What is the cost of establishing and operating the proposed Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA)? The OPCA would require significant resources while local watershed advisory boards would still be needed to guide priorities and provide oversight.
- What is the anticipated total cost of consolidating the 36 Conservation Authorities to 7?
- As a local organization, the Maitland Conservation is responsive to community needs. Municipalities, landowners and community partners drive the services and priorities of the organization. A move to the OPCA, and the consolidation of Conservation Authorities, would mean less municipal input on service priorities, yet member municipalities currently financially contribute over 80% of the MVCA's operating budget, while the Province provides approximately 2%.
- Will the needs of rural communities and the agricultural sector will be adequately recognized and prioritized in this consolidation? Particularly since the lead Conservation Authority, for each of the 7 new regional conservation authorities, is expected to be in an urban setting in each region.
- A core priority for Maitland Valley Conservation Authority is reducing the risk of loss of life and community damage caused by flooding and erosion. MVCA are responsible for approving development in or near natural hazard areas, ensuring that new construction and additions are not at risk from flooding or erosion in floodplains or along the Lake Huron shoreline.
- MVCA's permitting process is efficient and consistent. In 2024, the average time to process all types of permits was just 5.7 days. The average time for reviewing and issuing permits by all conservation authorities is 12.5 business days.

- From start to finish, MVCA staff work closely with landowners, emphasizing customer service and helping them identify safe building locations outside hazardous areas. Will the proposed digital permitting platform be able to match MVCA's turnaround times and maintain this high level of customer experience? Additionally, what will the costs be for developing, implementing and maintaining this new platform?

The Town of Goderich encourages the Provincial government to partner with the current Conservation Authorities to build capacity and support local solutions to watershed issues. This will require a multi-year commitment to reinvesting in Conservation Authorities.

In order to protect Ontario's prosperity, the Town would like to see an emphasis placed on developing and protecting the health of watersheds. They are the foundation of not only our economic prosperity but our life support system as well. Clean water, diverse forests and healthy soils directly support key sectors like tourism, forestry and agriculture, which in turn support economically strong local communities.

Healthy Lake Huron (HLH) is a model of collaboration between federal, provincial and county agencies, 5 Conservation Authorities and several community groups. HLH has been successful in supporting stewardship initiatives aimed at improving water quality along the Lake Huron shoreline. Using this collaborative approach across all the watersheds in Ontario to build healthy watersheds would result in effective, cost-efficient results.

Working seamlessly together, we can achieve superior results.

Respectfully,



Janice Hallahan
Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, and MPP for Huron-Bruce
The Honourable Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Environmental Registry of Ontario
Ed McGugan, Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

November 25, 2025

All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Correspondence, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
'2024 Annual Report and Presentation'**

At a meeting held on November 19th, 2025 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2025-11-19-929, adopting the below resolution:

Moved by: Councillor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded by: Councillor Robert Crate

"**Whereas** the Economic Development, Tourism, and Land Use Planning Committee (November 5, 2025) considered Correspondence, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative '2024 Annual Report and Presentation', and County Council identified this item for separate discussion at the November 19, 2025 County Council meeting;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That County Council adopt the following:

- **That** County Council approve the Northumberland County Warden to serve as the Northumberland County representative to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and direct staff to submit a membership application.

Further That this motion be distributed to all Ontario municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2025-11-19-929

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at bennett@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,
Tonia Bennett



Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By (L.C.) L. Cleveland
 Seconded By (B.C.) R. Crate

Agenda Item 11.b
 Resolution Number 2025-11-19- 929
 (2)

Council Date: November 19, 2025

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Recorded Vote
 Requested by

 Councillor's Name

Carried

 Warden's Signature

Deferred

 Warden's Signature

Defeated

 Warden's Signature



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

**Mayors Securing the
Future of Our Basin**

Annual Report 2024

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
P.O. Box 1332 New Lenox, IL 60451
312.201.4518

www.glslcities.org

Executive Summary

A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, our organization deepened its commitment to fostering resilient and thriving communities across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, emerging as a leading advocate for preparing for a changing climate and advancing sustainable economic development. With over 70 organizations (business, government, and non-profit partners) joining the Mayors Commission on Economic Transformation, we have built an unprecedented coal-

ition to chart the development of our region's economy. We remain dedicated to a prosperous and sustainable future for all our communities — that means ensuring that your residents have access to good jobs, reliable and safe infrastructure, communities that are resilient to extreme weather, and access to all the opportunities that come with being in a region that makes up over 80 percent of North America's fresh water.

\$420 M

Supported the launch of the independent **Canada Water Agency** and securing the first phase of funding under Canada's **\$420 million** Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River protection commitment.

UP TO
\$425 M

Provided project planning and grant support for **62 projects** through the **Resilient Coastal Projects Initiative** for a total project value of up to **\$425 million.***

\$400 M

Advocated for nearly **\$400 million** in funding to prevent the devastating spread of invasive carp through the Brandon Road Interbasin Project.

450

Trained approximately **450 participants** through webinars, workshops, and sessions on sustainable solutions for coastal resilience challenges.

OVER
750

Presented at various conferences to a **total audience of over 750**, highlighting the climate action initiatives spearheaded by the Cities Initiative and its members.



Photo by Ryan Hagerty/USFWS

350

Hosted **12 workshops** with industry, agency, and non-profit partners in The Blue Mountains, Montreal, and Upstate New York with a **total of 350 people participating.**

OVER
\$2 B

Helped secure over **\$2 billion** for water infrastructure funding across Canada to accelerate housing construction in our basin.



Letter from Our Co-Chairs

Dear Members,

As we reflected on 2024, our organization celebrated a year of delivering meaningful support to advance your priorities. We provided and secured financial resources, technical training, and instructional programs to help you and your staff implement effective green solutions for challenges facing your communities. We also worked alongside you and your teams to advocate for legislation and policies that improved your residents' lives. Our coalition grew to nearly 270 communities, supported by a dedicated team committed to providing the resources needed to make a real difference.

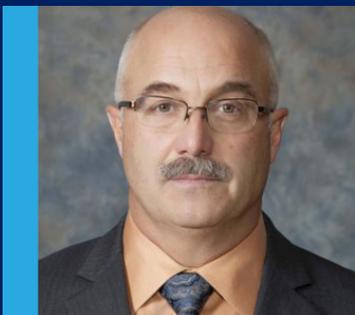
As mayors, we understood the immense challenges faced by our communities, especially when resources were limited. Our organization remained hyper-focused on helping your residents live healthy and fulfilling lives. Our mission was to safeguard the resilience and success of all communities across the basin for future generations.

Protecting the environment and a freshwater resource that is the envy of the world was critical to our region's ongoing success and ability to attract the best and brightest people, companies, and changemakers. We empowered you and your staff to address the most pressing issues impacting your residents, including flooding, coastal erosion, aging infrastructure, and ensuring that every resident had access to clean and affordable water.

We also recognized the potential for our basin to become a leading blue-green economic corridor. In 2025, our Mayors Commission on Economic Transformation planned to deliver a 10-year plan to remake our fresh coast economy and ensure that the basin remained an ideal place to live, work, invest, and play for the next 50 years.

We looked forward to your continued commitment to the Cities Initiative. Please review this report, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Let's aim to make 2025 an even more successful year for our coalition.

Mayor Gino Moretti, Co-Chair
Saint-Anicet, QC



Mayor Ryan Sorenson, Co-Chair
Sheboygan, WI



Protecting Our Environment. Securing Our Future.

KEY DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

- 1 Advocated for the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, unlocking **\$274 million** in federal funding and **\$114 million** in non-federal funding, advancing the project to the construction phase to **prevent the spread of invasive carp**.
- 2 Pushed for the **implementation of the CAD \$500 million Blue Fund in Québec** through increased royalties on important water users to finance water-quality protection initiatives, including **\$80 million** for water-infrastructure including upgrades.
- 3 Supported the launch of the independent **Canada Water Agency** to strengthen coordination of freshwater policy and securing the roll out of the first phase of enhanced funding under Canada's **\$420+ million** Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River protection commitment.
- 4 **Endorsed the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Act of 2024**, encouraging the U.S. Congress to extend the GLRI's authorization for an additional five years while increasing spending to **\$500 million** annually.
- 5 Advocated to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for fair distribution of lead service line funding under the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**, resulting in funding increases for five of eight Great Lakes states and a **\$16 million award to Milwaukee** for lead service line replacement funding.

over
\$1.9B Funding Secured
 Thanks to the
 Cities Initiative



Coastal and Climate Resilience

US PROGRAMMING

40

Provided training and technical assistance to **40 communities**, including **28 vulnerable ones**, through our Initiative for Resilient Great Lakes Coasts partnership program with NOAA.

up to
\$425M

Provided project planning and grant support for **62 projects** through the Resilient Coastal Projects Initiative for a total project value of up to **\$425 million.***

22

Provided engineering and design support for **22 projects** through our coastal programs, moving these projects one step closer to construction.

over
\$24M

Submitted over **\$24 million in grant applications to American funding agencies** for new programming at the Cities Initiative to support our members with their resilience and source water protection concerns.



ONTARIO, CA

Pursuing new federal program funding in partnership with **Conservation Ontario** and over 15 member municipalities to create **new coastal programs** on three Great Lakes over the next three years.



QUÉBEC, CA

Working to foster stakeholder collaboration among municipalities from **Greater Québec City with a hands-on workshop** to support the metropolitan community's climate adaptation mandate.

*Source: Estimated average funding per project based on 2024 data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), indicating Coastal Resilience projects at approximately \$6.88 million each.



Enhancing International Cooperation and Influence

Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Council of the Great Lakes Region** — an organization dedicated to maintaining the Great Lakes region's economic competitiveness through sustainable development — to help guide our new strategic pillar on Economic Transformation.

Established a **Memorandum of Cooperation with Conservation Ontario** to address coastal erosion, flooding and storm impacts for member communities in addition to partnering on a briefing for elected officials at the **Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Annual Conference in Ottawa**.

Recruited more than 70 businesses, government agencies, and non-profit organizations to serve as **advisors to the Mayors Commission on Economic Transformation**.

Co-organized a **Mayoral Reception at the Dutch Ambassador's residence** with Climate Mayors and Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative, which was attended by more than 100 thought leaders and government officials, including Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota

and John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the President for Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation.

Hosted an educational public event in Chicago entitled, "Honoring Our Waters," to **showcase strong partnership between Indigenous and Municipal leaders**, co-hosted by our partners at the Biinaagami Initiative, Canadian Geographic, Swim Drink Fish, and the City of Chicago.



2024 Highlights

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR THE BASIN



Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study

Hosted a high-impact policy roundtable in Washington D.C., led by the Mayors Commission on Coastal Resilience, to strengthen municipal engagement with the Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study. This event featured Major General Mark C. Quander, Commander of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, alongside other key project partners, resulting in a renewed commitment to collaborative resilience planning and actionable support for Great Lakes communities.



Great Lakes Lead Pipes Partnership at the Water Summit

Launched the Great Lakes Lead Pipes Partnership at the White House Water Summit in April 2024, led by three Mayors Commission on Water Equity members – Mayor Brandon Johnson of Chicago, Mayor Mike Duggan of Detroit, and Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Milwaukee – to expedite lead service line replacement in Great Lakes big cities with the heaviest lead burdens.





Basin-Wide Declaration Signed by Major Cities and Endorsed by All Members

With record attendance, the Cities Initiative's launched the Mayors Commission on Economic Transformation at its 2024 Annual Conference in Montréal, QC. Mayors Valérie Plante of Montréal, Mayor Brandon Johnson of Chicago, IL and Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Milwaukee, WI signed a declaration, endorsed by all Cities Initiative members, to collaborate on an Action Plan that will guide the way for our region to become a leading blue-green economic corridor



Québec Government's New Maritime Strategy

Teamed up with the Québec Union of Municipalities and the Saint-Lawrence Economic Development Network to position mayors and industry leaders as key partners as the Québec government renews its maritime strategy. This vital and strategic industry supports over 27,000 jobs in the province, and more than 350,000 jobs across the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway, while connecting the heart of North America to the Atlantic Ocean.

Be a Part of Economic Transformation

A shift from traditional industry to a sustainable blue-green economic corridor that attracts eco-friendly industries, revitalizes waterfronts, adopts renewable energy, and enhances water-based commerce, establishing the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin as a leader in sustainable development while preserving freshwater resources for future generations.



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

“



Today, the economy and environment are inextricably linked, and our success depends on integrating them seamlessly. Our 2024 initiatives—Coastal and Climate Resilience, Economic Transformation, and Enhancing International Cooperation and Influence—are vital to unlocking the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin's immense growth potential for the next 50 years. Building a blue-green economic corridor is essential for driving sustainable progress in our communities while protecting the invaluable resources that define our region.

— Jon Altenberg, CEO, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
P.O. Box 1332 New Lenox, IL 60451
312.201.4518

www.glslcities.org

Photo Credit: USEPA Environmental Protection Agency



THE FUTURE OF
**FRESH
WATER**

Mark your
calendar now for
May 14-16, 2025,
in Milwaukee!



Introducing the Cities Initiative

Local government leaders
at the heart of North America



L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES

DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE

CITIES INITIATIVE

ABOUT US



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
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THE CITIES INITIATIVE



Founded in 2003 by the Mayors of Chicago and Toronto to:

- Give communities in the region a **voice in protecting and managing the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence**
- Unite cities that share a critical resource that:
 - Provides **drinking water to 40 million Canadians and Americans**
 - Supports an **\$10T regional economy**



OUR MISSION

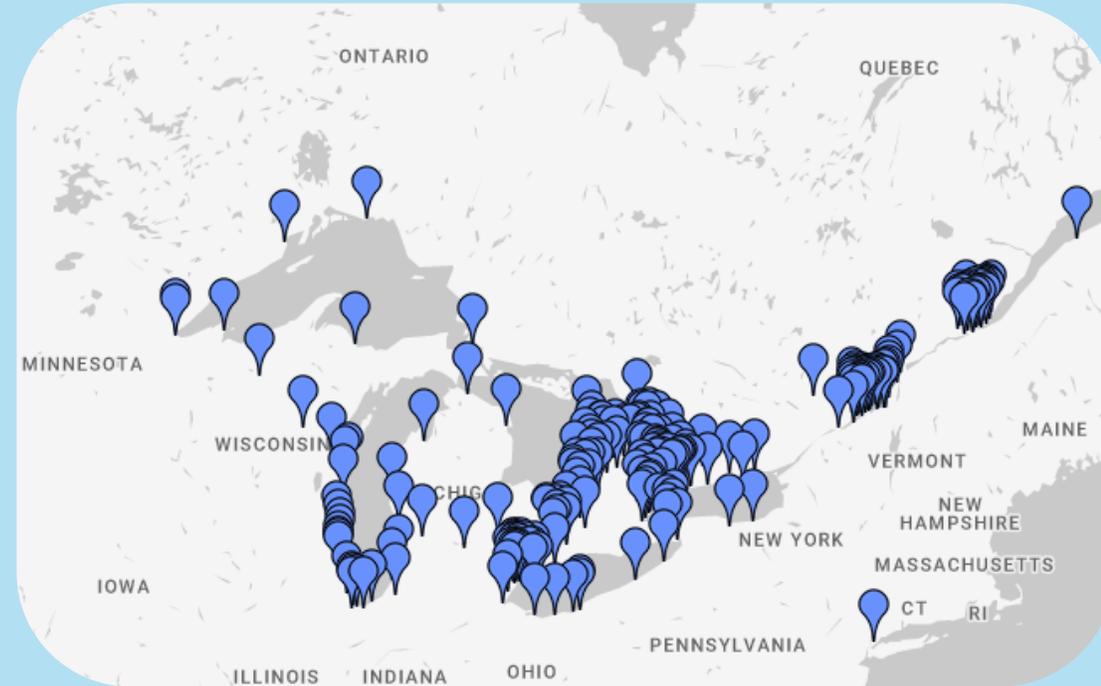
We are a multinational coalition of local government leaders working to:

- promote economic prosperity
- protect our fresh water for the benefit of current and future generations.



A GROWING COALITION

- Cities Initiative members represents more than **350 communities** and over **21 million residents** across the region
- Membership spans from **Duluth, MN** to **Gaspé, QC**
- Broadening our coalition with **Tribes and First Nations**
- **New Allies** program of associate memberships for non-profits, colleges/universities



OUR PILLARS & PRIORITIES



Healthy Lakes
and Rivers



Climate and
Coastal
Resilience



Safe and
Affordable Water



Economic
Transformation



ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
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DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN

- **Launched Sept 24** in NYC as part of Climate Week
- More than **60 attendees**, including Mayors Johnson (Chicago), Plante (Montréal), and Bibb (Cleveland)
- Broadcast online live for press in the region to tune in



ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN

- **One Vision: Develop the Fresh Coast Economic Corridor**
- Five Regional Goals
- Four Transformational Pillars
- 17 Strategies, 76 Actions, and 12 Program Concepts



Scan to consult
our Action Plan



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

REGIONAL GOALS

1

ATTRACT
HALF A MILLION
NEW
BUSINESSES

2

CREATE 18
MILLION NEW
JOBS

3

AVOID INCREASE
IN % WATER
LOSS

4

IMPROVE WATER
QUALITY FROM
"FAIR" TO
"GOOD"

5

REDUCE
EMISSIONS BY
300 MILLION MT

**Together, let's build a prosperous, resilient, and sustainable future for
the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region.**



CANADA-U.S. RELATIONS



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

A GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE STRONG RESPONSE

- Given the current climate, the Cities Initiative provides a **network of municipal leaders and partners dedicated to maintaining strong ties** between both nations
- In February, we took our ***Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Strong*** position on the trade war and launched a binational Mayors Transition Team to strategize on new CAD and U.S. federal governments and current trade context
- Reinforced during Great Lakes Day in D.C. and at our May 2025 Annual Conference in Milwaukee



#GLSLSTRONG



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

ENGAGING WITH US



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

POLICY & ADVOCACY

- Mayors Commissions
- U.S. and Canadian Days on the Hill
- Policy Resolutions



COLLABORATION & LEARNING

- Project-based partnerships
- Conferences
- International Events
- Webinars



STRATEGIC INPUT

- Board of Directors
- Ontario Regional Advisory Council
- Industry Leaders Circle



MAYORS COMMISSIONS

COMMISSIONS

- Water Access
- Community Resilience
- Economic Transformation

CORE FUNCTIONS

- Policy Development
- Advocacy
- Regional Collaboration
- Media Engagement



MAYORS COMMISSIONS

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



Help municipalities plan for, and take action to strengthen their **resiliency to impacts from climate change**

WATER ACCESS



Promote equitable access to **safe and affordable water for all residents of our region**

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION



Transform our region into a thriving **Fresh Coast Economic Corridor** by promoting sustainable, inclusive, and resilient economic development and freshwater stewardship

OTHER MEMBER BENEFITS

- **REGION-WIDE COLLABORATION** – Build relationships with local leaders from ON, QC and the US
- **DIRECT ADVOCACY** – Help move forward your priorities with provincial and federal officials
- **PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP** – We are always on the lookout for willing members to partner with us on innovative projects
- **WEGE AWARD** – Annual prize of up to \$7,500 for communities with populations under 100,000 that advance innovative water solutions
- **STAFF AND COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT** – Staff and council members are encouraged to participate in Cities Initiative events
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS** – Your work with us gets covered



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 13 – Ontario Water Leaders Summit – Oakville, ON**
- **December 8 – Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Day on the Hill – Ottawa, ON**
- **March 2026 – Great Lakes Day – Washington, DC**
- **May 6- 8, 2026 – 2026 Annual Conference – Hamilton, ON**



2025 Ontario Water Leaders Summit



Hosted by:



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
CITIES INITIATIVE
L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT



*Scan to register for the Ontario
Water Leaders Summit*

Thank You! Questions?

Phil Murphy-Rhéaume

COO / Canadian Managing Director

phillipe.murphy-rheaume@glslcities.org



ANNEX - MAYORS COMMISSIONS



MAYORS COMMISSION ON WATER ACCESS

Leadership in Canada: Grey County (ON), Repentigny (QC)

Mission Statement: *Ensuring access to safe, secure and affordable drinking water; and safekeeping the water quality and ecosystems health of our lakes and rivers.*

Priority areas:

- Ensure dedicated **long-term, predictable funding for water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure** that is not in competition with other needs. (mix of shovel-ready and other projects)
- Supporting the implementation of historic **freshwater funding** from the federal government, including direct funding in municipal projects.
- Working towards better **public access** to water assets in our regions
- Tackling **emerging pollutants and invasive aquatic species** through better monitoring, adapted standards and increased enforcement
- Supporting the **bi-national legal framework** protecting Great Lakes water quality

MAYORS COMMISSION – COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Leadership in Canada: Tecumseh (ON), Contrecoeur (QC)

Mission Statement: *Supporting our communities in their adaptation to climate change, striving for resilience of the municipalities and their infrastructure against erosion, urban flooding.*

Priority areas:

- Securing appropriate **funding for municipal resilience programs**, especially through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – Advocacy through the Climate Proof Coalition.
- Building **municipal capacity** through resilience programming, best practices and federal programs such as the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program
- Re-establishing the **shoreline erosion funding** that had been canceled in 1997.

MAYORS COMMISSION – ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Leadership in Canada: Cobourg (ON), Montréal (QC), Québec City (QC)

Mission Statement: *Charting a roadmap for the region and our cities to ensure that economic development goes hand in hand with climate action and social equity.*

Priority areas:

- Attracting **new sustainable jobs and industries** in the region, as well as supporting the creation of new regional industrial champions.
- Supporting the development of a **decarbonised energy grid** and the decarbonisation of municipal energy utilities.
- Expanding **decarbonised shipping**, supporting a modal shift to maritime/rail shipping, with better integration of the cities and their ports.
- **Redeveloping our waterfronts** to foster resilience, multi-use and publicly accessible areas in the city that support increased life quality, new developments and public access.





November 28, 2025

Premier Doug Ford

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Doug Ford:

Please be advised that Brantford City Council at its meeting held November 25, 2025 adopted the following:

12.4.11 Professional Activity (P.A) Day on Municipal Election Day – School Boards - Councillor Carpenter

Councillor Carpenter read the title of his notice of motion:

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are responsible for organizing and administering municipal and school board elections every four years, as mandated under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; and

WHEREAS local schools are traditionally among the most convenient, accessible, and familiar polling locations for voters in all communities; and

WHEREAS schools offer important accessibility features such as level entrances, parking, and public visibility that make them ideal polling stations, particularly for seniors, parents, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS the use of schools as polling locations can lead to increased costs with regards to ensuring the safety and security of students; and

WHEREAS many municipalities face challenges securing suitable and accessible alternative voting locations, resulting in increased costs and reduced accessibility for voters; and

WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act provides that school boards shall provide their facilities free of charge for the Municipal and School board elections; and

WHEREAS holding a province-wide Professional Activity (P.A.) Day for all publicly funded schools on municipal election day would alleviate concerns from school administrators for voting purposes while maintaining student safety; and

WHEREAS this coordinated approach would enhance voter convenience, improve accessibility, and help strengthen civic engagement and democratic participation by allowing electors to vote at their local schools without disrupting the student body; and

WHEREAS it would also create efficiencies and potential cost savings for municipalities by reducing the need to rent alternative facilities or implement special security measures; and

WHEREAS aligning a P.A. Day with municipal election day would require minimal disruption to the school calendar, as school boards already schedule several P.A. Days each academic year; and

WHEREAS this measure would demonstrate a spirit of cooperation between the Province of Ontario, local municipalities, and school boards to promote civic engagement and fiscal responsibility;

WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario and its members have lobbied the Province to establish a P.A day on Election Day;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The Council of the City of Brantford respectfully requests the Premier of Ontario to consider directing all publicly funded school boards in Ontario to schedule a Professional Activity (P.A.) Day on the date of the municipal election in each election year; and
- B. That this direction be made in consultation with the Ministry of Education, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and school board associations, to ensure consistency across the province; and
- C. THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:
 - i. The Premier of Ontario;
 - ii. The Minister of Education;
 - iii. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
 - iv. The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA);
 - v. The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA); and
 - vi. All Ontario municipalities for their information and support
 - vii. MPP Will Bouma

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier City Clerk,
cgauthier@brantford.ca

CC - The Minister of Education paul.calandra@pc.ola.org

The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Bwallace@opsba.org

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) aobrien@ocsta.on.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario - resolutions@amo.on.ca

All Ontario municipalities for their information and support

MPP Will Bouma - will.bouma@pc.ola.org



Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

Marit Stiles, MPP
Leader of the Official
Opposition
VIA EMAIL:
mstiles-qp@ndp.on.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 28, 2025

Hon. Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
VIA EMAIL:
kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing
VIA EMAIL:
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

RE: 6.17 Municipality of South Huron Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund & 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 19, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-382:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.17, 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be received for information; and

That the Township of Puslinch Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025 Resolution and the Municipality of South Huron Resolution of October 20, 2025 regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Leader of the Official Opposition, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of



Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

October 23, 2025

Via email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their October 20, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

418-2025
Moved By: Aaron Neeb
Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025, Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson, AMO, OSUM, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Infrastructure Hon. Kinga Surma, kinga.surma@pc.ola.org;
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack,
rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy,
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; MPP Lisa Thompson,
lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; OSUM,
osum@osum.ca; FCM, resolutions@fcm.ca; and all Ontario Municipalities



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

Phone: 613-658-3055
Fax: 613-658-3445
Toll Free: 866-848-9099
E-mail: mail@twpec.ca

P.O. Box 129,
18 Centre St.
Spencerville, Ontario
K0E 1X0

VIA EMAIL

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
All Upper- and Lower-Tier Municipalities in Ontario

Please be advised that at its Regular Council meeting held on Monday, September 29, 2025, the Council of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities' ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.

6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

If you have any questions, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,



Natalie Charette
Interim Clerk
clerk@twpec.ca



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

Phone: 613-658-3055
Fax: 613-658-3445
Toll Free: 866-848-9099
E-mail: mail@twpec.ca

P.O. Box 129,
18 Centre St.
Spencerville, Ontario
K0E 1X0

November 26, 2025

The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park, 5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Minister McCarthy:

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Southwold, at its Regular Meeting on Monday November 24, 2025 passed the following resolution:

Conservation Authority Consolidation Resolution

2025-349 Councillor Fellows – Deputy Mayor Pennings

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the Township of Southwold established the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and Kettle Creek Conservation Authority;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide over 50% of total conservation authority funding;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and

entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southwold calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipal[y governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the Corporation of the Township of Southwold supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Corporation of the Township of Southwold supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario

Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities
in Ontario.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



June McLarty
Deputy Clerk

Cc: The Honourable Andrew Lawton, MP Elgin-Middlesex-London, via email
The Honourable Rob Flack, MPP Elgin-Middlesex-London, via email
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, via email
The Rural Ontario Municipal Association, via email
Ontario Municipalities, via email
Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, via email
Elizabeth VanHooren, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority, via email

Summary of 2026-27 IPCT Proposals – Fall 2025

November 21, 2025

The Ottawa West Four Rivers OHT and PCN is pleased to share that we were able to submit **four strong IPCT proposals** to expand equitable access to coordinated and community-based primary care services. These proposals represented different models of care, addressed communities across our OHT catchment, and targeted different priority populations. The interdisciplinary evaluation panel recognized the strengths in each of these submissions.

Ontario Health East supported our request for two additional proposals, bringing our total to four, appreciating the neighbourhood level approach that we had established and recognizing the existing high number of people who are currently seeking primary care within our OHT. We also highlighted the fact that our OHT has a lower proportion of patients attached to existing IPCTs within the East region. We require the expansion of existing and the creation of net new primary care teams to achieve the vision of full attachment.

The **Kemptville Primary Care Hub** includes the creation of a new nurse practitioner-led clinic and expands support to existing local primary care practices. This fully integrated model links primary care, hospital, community, and social supports including Kemptville Health & Wellness Centre, Kemptville Medical Centre, Rideau Crossing Family Health Centre, Seniors Community Services, Leeds and Grenville Community Paramedics, and Lanark Leeds and Grenville Addictions and Mental Health, and Kemptville District Hospital. The proposal seeks to attach 10,000 net new patients over three years, with 4,000 patients attached within the first 12 months and improves equitable access to coordinated IPCT care for residents in Kemptville, North Grenville, and surrounding areas.

Western Ottawa Community Hub model was led by Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre (WOCRC) in partnership with Richmond Medical Clinic, MedTeam Clinic, Arnprior & District FHT, Voice Found, and Jewish Family Services. The proposal builds on WOCRC as a trusted community hub providing wide range of services addressing social and community needs and integrates CHC primary care services for wholistic wraparound support. This hub and spoke model leverages new CHC infrastructure to assist primary care practices without access to IPCT supports and improves equity in service delivery across west Ottawa, including Kanata, Stittsville, Richmond, Munster, Arnprior and McNab/Braeside. Aiming to attach an additional 9,200 patients over two years (8,000 in the first 12 months) this program is designed to enhance outcomes for barriered residents and improves access to coordinated neighbourhood-based primary care.

Équipe de santé familiale communautaire Montfort ouest aims to establish a new blended salary model FHT in Ottawa's west end, serving 7,000 new patients within the first 12 months. This program will address the lack of equity deserving primary care services for the Francophone population in west Ottawa and leverages a multi-purpose community facility at la Maison de la Francophonie d'Ottawa. The proposal identified an estimated 12,000 unattached Francophone residents, including approximately 50% within Ottawa West Four Rivers OHT and 50% within Ottawa OHT and Archipel OHT neighbourhoods. The new FHT will work with key community partners and Health care Connect to identify unattached Francophone residents and connect them with appropriate primary care services. This plan was informed by extensive community consultation, identifying primary care services in French in Ottawa's west-end as a priority in Montfort's Strategic Plan and is in alignment with Ontario Health's Provincial Action Plan for French-Language Health Care.

The **Kanata Stittsville FHT** represents the newest expansion of health services in Stittsville and will serve as the foundation for an envisioned Kanata-Stittsville Health Hub, centrally located on an 8-acre campus near highway 417 and accessible by the future LRT. This FHT proposal addresses a priority in our Stittsville neighbourhoods where very few primary care practices currently exist and establishes an IPCT supported by 10 primary care providers who will attach 6,000 new patients to primary care over three years. Interim locations for primary care services within Stittsville, Carleton Place and Perth were identified along with an offering of virtual and in-person care while the future site is built. The new FHT will anchor primary care and partner with hospitals, community and social services and the University of Ottawa's Department of Family Medicine to ensure sustainable growth and a resilient learning-based primary care system for Kanata-Stittsville.

We are grateful for the time and commitment of our partners to develop and submit these proposals, as well as their openness to new partnerships and collaboration during the proposal development stage and beyond. We look forward to sharing more information as it becomes available from the province, who indicated that prospective IPCTs will be notified of **funding decisions in early Spring 2026**.

Nadia Prescott, MHA (she/her)

Executive Transformation Lead

Ottawa West Four Rivers Ontario Health Team

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: ROMA Events <events@roma.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2025 4:00 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: ROMA 2026 Conference Zone Meetups



ROMA 2026: Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference
Lunch Time Zone Meet Ups

Sunday January 18: 11:30am-12:30pm

Sheraton Centre Toronto

The annual ROMA Zone Meet Ups provide a front row seat to the strategic priorities of the ROMA Board of Directors. This year, Zone Meetups are scheduled **over lunch on Sunday, January 18 from 11:30am-12:30pm**. Take advantage of this opportunity to engage with Board representatives on the key advocacy priorities and actions underway aimed at strengthening rural Ontario.

[Register today](#) for *Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference* and plan to arrive Saturday to take part in your Zone Meet Ups.

2026 Program Update

Check out the ROMA Conference website for the most up to date program information. The 2026 concurrent session line up features topics such as: strengthening rural vitality through arts and culture, best practices from Rural Community Safety and Wellbeing Plans, community engagement. the roadmap for waste-where rural municipalities fit in and much more.

Program information can be found [here](#).

Register and Book Your Accommodations

The **2026 ROMA Conference** will take place from **Sunday, January 18 to Tuesday, January 20, 2026**, at the **Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel**.

Registration Information is [here](#). Accommodation information is [here](#).

For more information reach out to events@roma.on.ca.

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: ROMA Events <events@roma.on.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 29, 2025 8:01 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Advocacy and Education at Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference



ROMA 2026: Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference

Sunday January 18 – Tuesday January 20, 2026

Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

Some Program Highlights for the 2026 ROMA Conference

The ROMA 2026 Conference is the perfect way for Ontario's rural leaders to start the year and to join your colleagues for key education and advocacy opportunities.

Your delegation meetings, the Ministers' Forum, and networking opportunities will give voice to the challenges and opportunities confronting your leadership and communities.

Mainstage programming will highlight why your leadership matters more than ever, rural health considerations, and more.

The carefully curated concurrent sessions provide insights and ideas that you can apply to your strategies and efforts at the local level.

These years concurrent sessions include:

- Discussions and strategic considerations on the importance of getting information to residents through local media.
- The Dirt on Local Cemeteries
- Strengthening Rural Vitality through Arts and Culture
- Leveraging New Opportunities to Develop Housing in Rural Ontario
- Best Practices from Rural Community Safety and Wellbeing Plans
- Rural Road Safety

- Strategies for Managing Rural Land
- From Operating Pressures to Capital Plans: A Strategic Approach to Municipal Fiscal Sustainability
- Unpacking the Implications of a New Code of Conduct
- And more!

Check out more program information [here](#). And don't forget your Zone Meet-ups over lunch on Sunday, January 18 from 11:30am-12:30pm.

Haven't registered? Do so today!

[Register Here](#)

CONTACT

events@roma.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

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November 21, 2025

Provincial Land Use Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
13th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

Re: ERO 025-1099: Consultation on Simplifying and Standardizing Official Plans

On behalf of our many municipal clients, we are submitting our comments related to the consultation on simplifying and standardizing Official Plans.

1. Introduction

Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. (Watson) is one of Canada's leading economic consulting firms, comprising municipal economists, planners, accountants, and support staff. The firm has been in operation since 1982. We work with municipalities across Canada on assignments related to growth management strategies, demographic forecasts, comprehensive urban land need reviews, employment strategies, housing studies, as well as a broad range of municipal finance and land economics studies. Watson is a recognized national leader in the field of growth management, having completed numerous comprehensive review studies for lower-tier, upper-tier and single-tier municipalities over the past two decades.

2. Overview Commentary

We appreciate the province's initiative to standardize Official Plans across Ontario, as it reflects the government's commitment to improving consistency, clarity, and predictability in planning processes. This approach has the potential to streamline approvals and advance housing and growth objectives. Drawing on our experience working with municipalities on Official Plan Reviews, we see opportunities for the province to consider changes that will support effective implementation and maximize the benefits of this initiative. Provided herein is a summary of our key recommendations and considerations.



3. Recommendations

3.1 Standardizing Land-Use Designations

We recognize the province's intent to simplify and standardize land use designations as part of standardizing Official Plans. This approach can improve clarity, add predictability and help streamline development approvals. However, based on our experience working with municipalities, we believe the following considerations are crucial.

Variation in Local Context

Land use designations are designed to reflect the unique characteristics, economic drivers, and community priorities of individual municipalities. Applying a one-size-fits-all approach would significantly reduce the flexibility needed to address local conditions. Municipalities have invested considerable effort in creating plans that respond to distinct economic opportunities, geographic constraints, and long-term planning objectives. A rigid, province-wide template regarding land use designations risks diminishing these distinctions, potentially weakening local planning goals and economic development strategies. To address this, the province should allow municipalities the flexibility to incorporate local subcategories (e.g., light, general, heavy, rural industrial uses) or overlays where necessary, to accommodate unique conditions and priorities.

Recognizing the Range of Employment Uses

A key concern is ensuring Official Plans provide more than one stand-alone employment designation to reflect the diversity of economic activity. The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS), 2024 defines "Employment Area" primarily as industrial-type development; however, this narrow definition does not capture the full range of employment-generating uses that drive modern economies. Commercial uses, such as innovation hubs, technology campuses, stand-alone research facilities, and business parks, require dedicated land and tailored policies, as they do not meet the provincial definition of an Employment Area, but are also often not suitable or feasible in pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use environments. For example, such commercial uses often require large floor plates, have specific infrastructure requirements, necessitate significant surface parking, or can introduce a substantial increase in car/truck traffic to the local area. Furthermore, land-extensive, car-oriented commercial uses, which often rely on highway visibility (e.g., car dealerships), are typically not well-suited to mixed-use environments and require distinct designations to ensure they are properly located and supported. Lastly, commercial rents, particularly for lower-order service commercial uses (e.g. auto repair, dance studios), generally cannot support higher land costs in mixed-use areas.

The province should support more than one stand-alone employment designation to reflect the diversity of economic activity within municipalities. In addition to the



traditional Employment Area designation, which primarily covers industrial uses, a separate category for other Employment Generating Uses should be established. This designation would apply to non-industrial employment uses that do not meet the provincial industrial definition and are not suitable or feasible within mixed-use environments. Furthermore, it is important to maintain well-located, distinct commercial designations for uses which directly support industrial operations in Employment Areas and/or are not well-suited or supported in mixed-use environments. These designations can form appropriate transitional lands between Employment Areas and mixed-use and/or residential areas. Providing distinct commercial designations will help municipalities protect strategic lands for employment generation, support complete communities, and respond effectively to evolving market needs.

3.2 Maintaining Secondary Plans

While Official Plans establish broad directions, Secondary Plans provide the detailed, site-specific guidance necessary to implement those directions effectively. They allow municipalities to address critical issues such as infrastructure capacity, protection of natural features, and coordination of land use in ways that Official Plans cannot.

Secondary Plans are comprehensive documents that include detailed mapping, technical studies, and design work. Without this level of detailed information, municipalities are limited in their ability to effectively plan for infrastructure, identify suitable balances across a range of required residential and non-residential land uses, protect environmental features, and deliver the community amenities needed to support urban development. This depth of analysis is essential for coordinating land use, transportation and services in a way that creates complete and sustainable communities.

3.3 Official Plan Schedules

Proposed schedules related to “Estimate of Market Need” and “Serviced Land Requirement” often require dynamic, data-driven models based on established methodologies, which are best documented through supporting background studies rather than being embedded in the Official Plan itself.

It is important to recognize that existing Official Plan schedules related to urban structure, land use and infrastructure are directly informed by comprehensive growth analysis studies, urban needs assessments and master servicing strategies, which are carried out by municipalities in conjunction with key stakeholders. These studies are designed to identify the need for urban land by planning policy area based on anticipated real estate market trends over a long-term horizon, as set out in the PPS, 2024.



Phasing strategies and associated policies can also inform Official Plan schedules, which provide direction on the timing and sequencing of municipal services required to address the estimated market need for designated urban lands, including approved urban expansion areas or urban reserve lands / future urban growth lands (where applicable). Urban land supply inventories, growth tracking systems, and servicing capacity monitoring tools must be better integrated and enhanced to enable municipalities to dynamically respond to changing real estate market conditions and infrastructure needs, which inform the broader direction of their Official Plans and supporting schedules.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments related to the proposed changes on behalf of our municipal clients.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Andrew Grunda, MBA, CPA, CMA, CEO
Jamie Cook, MCIP, RPP, PLE, Managing Partner
Jack Ammendolia, BES, PLE, Managing Partner
Peter Simcisko, BA (Hons), MBE, Managing Partner
Sean-Michael Stephen, MBA, Managing Partner
Daryl Abbs, MBE, PLE, Managing Partner

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to dispose of the balances of certain deferral and variance accounts

If the application is approved as filed, a typical residential customer and a typical general service customer of Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) would see the following billing adjustments, effective July 1, 2026:

EGD Rate Zone (former Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. customers)

- **Residential Rate 1 Sales Service and Direct Purchase** customers will see a one-time billing credit of \$15.42.

Union Rate Zones (former Union Gas Limited customers)

- **Union South Residential Rate M1 Sales Service** customers will see a billing charge of \$14.70, which Enbridge Gas proposes to spread evenly over three months to smooth bill impacts.
- **Union South Residential Rate M1 Direct Purchase** customers will see a billing charge of \$6.83, which Enbridge Gas proposes to spread evenly over three months to smooth bill impacts
- **Union North-West Residential Rate 01 Sales Service and Direct Purchase** customers will see a one-time billing credit of \$19.64
- **Union North-East Residential Rate 01 Sales Service and Direct Purchase** customers will see a one-time billing credit of \$12.07.

Other customers, including businesses, may also be affected. It is important to review the application carefully to determine whether you may be affected by the proposed changes.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

There are three types of OEB Hearings: oral, electronic and written. The applicant has applied for a written hearing. If you think a different hearing type is needed, you can write to us to explain why. During this hearing, we will question the applicant about its case. We will also hear questions and arguments from participants that have registered as Intervenor. After reviewing all the evidence, we will decide whether to approve this application.

HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information about this application and to participate in the process. Visit www.oeb.ca/notice and use file number **EB-2025-0155** to:

- Review the application
- Apply to become an intervenor
- File a letter with your comments

IMPORTANT DATES

You must engage with the OEB on or before **December 8, 2025** to:

- Provide input on the hearing type (oral, electronic or written)
- Apply to be an intervenor

If you do not, the hearing will move forward without you, and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. If you are a business or if you apply to become an intervenor, all the information you file will be on the OEB website.

COST AWARDS

The OEB intends to consider cost awards in this proceeding that are in accordance with the Practice Direction on Cost Awards and only in relation to the following:

1) The review of the following deferral and variance accounts:

Enbridge Gas Inc. Accounts

- Upstream Transportation Optimization Variance Account
- Unaccounted for Gas Volume Variance Account
- Unaccounted for Gas Price Variance Account
- Transportation from Dawn Service Deferral Account
- Deferral Clearance Variance Account
- Parkway Delivery Obligation Variance Account

- Facility Carbon Charge Variance Account
- Customer Carbon Charge Variance Account
- Carbon Charges Bad Debt Deferral Account
- Integrated Resource Operating Costs Deferral Account
- Dawn Parkway Surplus Capacity Deferral Account
- Distribution Integrity Management Program Deferral Account
- Post Retirement True-Up Variance Account
- Clean Fuel Regulation Credits Deferral Account
- Indigenous Working Group Deferral Account
- Average Use Variance Account
- Getting Ontario Connected Variance Account
- Enbridge Sustain Affiliate Recoveries Variance Account

EGD Rate Zone (former Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.) Accounts

- Storage and Transportation Deferral Account
- Open Bill Extension Deferral Account

Union Rate Zones (former Union Gas Limited) Accounts

- Unabsorbed Demand Costs Variance Account
- Short-Term Storage and Other Balancing Services

2) The review of Enbridge Gas’s 2024 Performance Scorecard.

3) The review of the methodology for disposing and allocating the deferral and variance account balances.

LEARN MORE

Ontario Energy Board

📞 1 877-632-2727 TTY: 1-877-632-2727

🕒 Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

🌐 oeb.ca/notice

Enbridge Gas Inc.

📞 1-866-362-7434

🕒 Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

🌐 enbridgegas.com