



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: February 9th, 2026
Correspondence Package No. I-26-FEB-03**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-26-FEB-03 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Ontario Investing Nearly \$2 Million to Help Entrepreneurs Plan for the Future
- b) 2026 Funding Opportunities from Ontario Arts Council – Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Gaming

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Students are you ready to unlock your entrepreneurial potential?
- b) County of Renfrew officials attend 2026 ROMA conference in Toronto
- c) County of Renfrew Council approves 2026 Budget
- d) Updated research shows more than 85,000 Ontarians were homeless in 2025

3. Correspondence from the Town of Arnprior

- a) Notice of Public Meeting – OPA 10

4. Correspondence from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit

- a) Medical Officer of Health Report to the Board

5. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Policy Update – Second Intake of Rural Ontario Development Program Open, \$700 Million Allocated for Health and Safety Water Stream

- b) [Watchfile – January 22, 2026](#)
- c) [An Information Session for Youth Considering Running for Municipal Office](#)
- d) [Policy Update – 2026 Pre-Budget Submission, Consultations on Light Vehicle Procurement and Construction Policies](#)
- e) [Watchfile – January 29, 2026](#)
- f) [Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities](#)

6. Correspondence from the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

- a) [Newsletter – January 23, 2026](#)
- b) [Newsletter – January 30, 2026](#)

7. Correspondence from Other Municipalities

- a) [Township of Southgate – OMERS Bill 68 Municipal Resolution](#)
- b) [Town of Fort Frances – Call on Province of Ontario to Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program \(OACAP\)](#)
- c) [Township of Assiginack – Elbows Up Climate Action](#)
- d) [Municipality of Markstay Warren – Closure of Sudbury’s LifeLabs Laboratory](#)
- e) [Municipality of Central Manitoulin – Sustainable Funding for Police Services](#)

8. Correspondence from MP Cheryl Gallant

- a) [Enabling Accessibility Fund](#)

9. Correspondence from Enbridge

- a) [Post ROMA and Municipal Energy Survey](#)

10. Correspondence from Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus

- a) [January Newsletter](#)

Ontario Investing Nearly \$2 Million to Help Entrepreneurs Plan for the Future

Succession Ontario will help business owners protect jobs, strengthen local communities and build a more resilient economy

February 03, 2026

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

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing nearly \$2 million to establish Ontario's first-ever business succession planning services hub to help entrepreneurs prepare for the critical process of smooth ownership transition. To deliver on the government's plan to protect Ontario businesses and workers, Succession Ontario provides essential tools and guidance to sell or buy a business, protecting good-paying jobs and strengthening communities across the province.

Delivered by the Kingston Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO), [Succession Ontario](#) is an online hub that provides tools and resources to help business owners understand the requirements for selling and exiting their business. To further support the planning process, [Small Business Enterprise Centres](#) (SBECS) located across the province will receive training and resources to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to deliver one-on-one advisory services in their local communities.

"Whether it's a family farm in Prince Edward County or a local convenience store in Sarnia, a small business can leave a lasting positive impact in their community when smoothly bought, sold or passed to the next generation," said Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business. "As many business owners prepare to retire over the next decade, our government is helping them plan for the future, so their business can continue to thrive under new leadership."

First announced in the 2025 Budget, [A Plan to Protect Ontario](#), Succession Ontario demonstrates how the province's support for small businesses is helping strengthen local economies, create jobs, drive long-term economic growth and keep Ontario competitive and resilient.

“Ensuring that businesses and the jobs that they create stay in our local communities is a top economic priority,” said Donna Gillespie, CEO of the Kingston Economic Development Corporation. “We’re proud to partner with the province and our network of 54 Small Business Enterprise Centres to deliver the training and tools entrepreneurs need to plan for the future and protect Ontario’s economy.”

With U.S. tariffs impacting workers and businesses across key sectors, the Ontario government continues to take decisive action to protect Ontario by lowering taxes, cutting red tape and duplicative processes, and making strategic investments. By helping small businesses succeed, Ontario will unleash its economic potential and make the province’s economy the most competitive place in the G7 to invest, create jobs and do business.

Quick Facts

- Following an August 2025 call for proposals from SBECs, [KEDCO](#) scored highest for its proven track record and experience in delivering effective succession planning services.
 - Only one in 10 small business owners in Canada have a formal succession plan.
 - There are over 500,000 small businesses in Ontario, accounting for approximately 98 per cent of all businesses and employing nearly 2.5 million people.
 - SBECs provide advisory services, training, and programs to help entrepreneurs launch and grow businesses.
 - Ontario’s 54 SBEC locations have helped start over 8,000 businesses, expand 2,700 and create more than 15,800 jobs in 2024-25.
-

Additional Resources

- [Succession Ontario](#)
 - [Small Business Enterprise Centres](#)
 - [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect 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](#)

Media Contacts

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economy.media@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

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Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: 2026 Funding Opportunities from Ontario Arts Council - Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Gaming

From: Denault, Billy <billy.denault@pc.ola.org>

Sent: January 28, 2026 11:38 AM

Subject: 2026 Funding Opportunities from Ontario Arts Council - Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Gaming

Good morning,

I'm writing to share information from the Ontario Arts Council (OAC), an agency of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, regarding upcoming funding opportunities that may be of interest to artists and arts organizations in your community.

The Ontario Arts Council has released its full list of **2026 funding opportunities and application deadlines**, which can be found here:

<https://www.arts.on.ca/grants/general-granting-information/grant-program-deadlines-and-important-dates>

These programs support artists and arts organizations across Ontario and can play an important role in local cultural development, economic activity, and community vitality. You may wish to share this information through municipal newsletters, social media channels, or directly with local arts and cultural organizations.

If helpful, OAC staff are also available to provide additional information or answer questions from community members working in the arts sector.

Please feel free to circulate this information as appropriate.

Warm Regards,



**Office of
MPP Billy Denault**

Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

Billy.Denault@pc.ola.org

(613) 735 6627

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Students are you ready to unlock your entrepreneurial potential?

Posted on Wednesday, January 21, 2026



RELEASE DATE:

January 21, 2026

Summer Company intake now open

Pembroke, (ON): Enterprise Renfrew County (ERC) is calling on ambitious students who are ready to step into entrepreneurship and ignite their own businesses.

The Summer Company program offers a unique opportunity for students aged 15 to 29 who are returning to school to gain hands-on entrepreneurial experience. Participants learn what it means to be their own boss while receiving guidance on business planning, marketing, financial management, and operations through structured training and one-on-one mentorship.

Successful applicants are eligible to receive up to \$3,000 in financial support, including an initial grant of \$1,500 to support business start-up costs and an additional grant of up to \$1,500 upon successful completion of the program.

Over the years, Summer Company entrepreneurs in Renfrew County have launched businesses across a wide range of industries, including creative, retail, service, and skilled trade sectors. Many participants continue to run their businesses year-round; however, students are only eligible to participate in the program once.

“One of the biggest challenges I faced was balancing production with marketing,” said Paige Hodgson of Paige’s Projex, a past Summer Company participant. “I overcame this by creating a schedule that prioritized both and learning to pace myself. The Summer Company experience showed me that I’m capable of managing a business and adapting when challenges come up.”

Enterprise Renfrew County encourages eligible students interested in entrepreneurship to explore the Summer Company program and take the first step toward building their own business.

The Summer Company program is delivered by Enterprise Renfrew County on behalf of the Province of Ontario. It is a highly sought-after initiative; therefore, interested students are strongly urged to submit their application at their earliest convenience. The application deadline is midnight on May 15, 2026.

For more information visit www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/summer-company or [email](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Hillary Panke

Program Coordinator

613-735-8224

Tina Peplinskie

Media Relations Coordinator

613-735-7288

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

Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: Summer Company Program Now Open for Applications
Attachments: Summer Company Intake Open 2026.png

From: ERC Info <ERCInfo@countyofrenfrew.on.ca>
Sent: January 21, 2026 2:18 PM
Subject: Summer Company Program Now Open for Applications

Good afternoon,

We're excited to share that the Summer Company Program is now open for applications! Summer Company supports young entrepreneurs (ages 15–29) in turning their business ideas into real, summer-run ventures. Participants receive:

- Business training and mentorship
- Support with marketing, budgeting, and planning
- Up to \$3,000 in grant funding (\$1,500 to start and \$1,500 upon successful completion)

We encourage you to share this opportunity with students, families, and community members who may benefit from starting their own business this summer.

If you know a young person with an entrepreneurial idea, this is a great chance for them to gain hands-on experience and build real-world skills.

All interested applicants are being directed to fill out a program eligibility form on our website <https://www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/summer-company> . Once completed, the Program Coordinator will contact the applicant to review their submission and discuss the next steps in the application process. Please note that the eligibility form is **not** the application. Eligible participants will be required to submit a business plan and a cash flow projection as part of the formal application. The eligibility form is used to ensure that only qualified applicants move forward.

Thank you for helping us spread the word and support youth entrepreneurship in our communities.

Kindly,
ERC Team

Hillary Panke

Program Coordinator
Enterprise Renfrew County

County of Renfrew
9 International Drive, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5
P: 613-735-8224 x 466/F: 613-735-2492

C: 613-312-9355

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

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



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County of Renfrew officials attend 2026 ROMA conference in Toronto

Posted on Wednesday, January 21, 2026



During the 2026 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference in Toronto this week Renfrew County Warden Jennifer Murphy had a chance to advocate for a number of County of Renfrew priorities during discussions with Members of Provincial Parliament including Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming Billy Denault (left) and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack.

RELEASE DATE:

January 21, 2026

Representatives from the County of Renfrew met with several Members of Provincial Parliament during the 2026 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference to discuss and advocate for issues and challenges faced by rural municipalities in Ontario.

Held in Toronto from January 18-20, the theme of this year's conference was ROMA 2026: Ontario's Rural Leaders Conference with a focus on unique challenges faced by rural municipalities. It provided an opportunity for municipal and provincial officials to connect to discuss these challenges and work towards meaningful solutions.

The gathering also provided valuable opportunities for rural-focused education, expert-led panels, keynote sessions, and engagement with key municipal sector partners, all addressing the day-to-day realities faced by local municipal leaders.

Aside from taking in the keynote address by political columnist Chantal Hébert, remarks from Ontario Premier Doug Ford and several other provincial ministers and opposition party leaders, the ROMA Conference offered municipal officials from the County of Renfrew the chance to foster partnerships and relationships across the sector, and advocate for change.

The County of Renfrew was fortunate to take part in several delegation meetings:

- **Ministry of Energy & Mines – Associate Minister Sam Oosterhoff:** Advocating for support to advance local biomass projects, grid upgrades, and economic development tied to Whitewater Region's magnesium mine.
- **Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming – Minister Stan Cho:** Highlighting the need for stable, equitable tourism funding and MAT reforms to support rural operators and economic development.
- **Ministry of Education – Parliamentary Assistant Jess Dixon:** Addressing growing child-care needs driven by population growth and incoming military personnel, calling for expanded investment in spaces and programs.

- **Ministry of Health – Parliamentary Assistant John Jordan:** Requesting expansion of the Learn and Stay Grant to include paramedic programs, funding for the Mesa Initiative, and movement toward paramedic self-regulation.
- **Ministry of Long-Term Care – Minister Natalia Kusendova-Bashta:** Seeking permanent and expanded funding for the Community Paramedic Long-Term Care Program to support seniors aging in place.
- **Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade – Parliamentary Assistant Stéphane Sarrazin:** Emphasizing the need for enhanced, stable funding for the Small Business Enterprise Centre Network (Enterprise Renfrew County) to better support local entrepreneurs.
- **Ministry of Natural Resources – Associate Minister Kevin Holland:** Discussing forestry sector priorities and regional economic opportunities in terms of local biomass projects.
- **Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness – Minister Trevor Jones:** Discussing abattoir capacity, guardian dog legislation, deadstock capacity and other barriers to growth within the agriculture sector in Renfrew County.

Renfrew County Warden Jennifer Murphy called the ROMA Conference an invaluable opportunity for Renfrew County and she is encouraged by the conversations which occurred.

“These meetings allow us to speak directly with provincial leaders about the realities our communities face and the innovative solutions we are advancing locally. I am incredibly proud of how County Council and our staff work together to present clear, united messages that reflect the needs of our residents,” she said. “Delegation sessions give us the chance to advocate for fair access to services, strategic investment, and the partnerships that keep our County strong. I look forward to continuing this work in the weeks ahead as we champion made-in-Renfrew County approaches that truly support our communities.”

County officials had the opportunity to join other municipal delegations to show support for their requests to various provincial ministries.

As part of the ROMA Tradeshow there was a MESA booth featuring front-line staff who shared successes of the collaborative approach to compassionate care in the community to address the root causes of homelessness, substance use and addictions and mental health. While this model started in Renfrew County and it is now being duplicated in communities around the province.

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) is the rural voice of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). The Association is an integral part of AMO and several of its Executive Members serve on the AMO Board of Directors. Policy, research and advocacy activities are undertaken by ROMA through AMO. ROMA represents rural communities through its policy and advocacy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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

County of Renfrew Council approves 2026 Budget

Posted on Friday, January 30, 2026



County of Renfrew Council has approved the 2026 budget during the Budget Workshop on January 29. At the conclusion of the meeting Warden Jennifer Murphy thanked Corporate Services Vice-Chair Councillor David Mayville (left) and Chair Councillor Peter Emon for leading the discussions during the workshop.

RELEASE DATE:

January 30, 2026

Budget balances affordability concerns with essential service delivery and long-term responsibility

County of Renfrew Council has approved the 2026 County Budget, a plan that protects essential services, responds to changing community needs, and continues to move key County priorities forward, while recognizing the very real affordability pressures being felt by residents across the Ottawa Valley.

The 2026 budget was developed in an environment of rising costs and growing service demands being experienced by municipalities across Ontario. Council worked through the process with a focus on maintaining services residents rely on every day, while making responsible decisions that support the long-term sustainability of the County.

For 2026, the County's levy reflects weighted assessment growth of 1.23% and a levy increase of 6.68%. This corresponds to a \$28.71 rise in residential property taxes for every \$100,000 in assessed value. Given that Renfrew County's median residential property value is currently \$217,000, the average homeowner would spend \$1,007 in 2026 for the County portion of their taxes.

Warden Jennifer Murphy said the 2026 budget required difficult discussions and disciplined decision making

"This has been one of the most challenging budgets our County has ever faced. Balancing significant financial pressures with our responsibility to maintain the essential services our residents rely on required difficult conversations and thoughtful decision making," she said. "I want to extend my sincere thanks to Council for their perseverance and leadership throughout this process, and to our dedicated staff for their expertise, hard work, and unwavering commitment to serving our community. Together, we have charted a responsible path forward in a demanding year."

Chair of the Corporate Services Committee, Councillor Peter Emon, emphasized the balance Council was working to achieve.

“This year’s budget was especially challenging as we worked to strike a balance between addressing our community’s concerns about affordability and ensuring residents continue to have equitable access to essential services” he said. “At the same time, we must plan for services that need to be updated, retooled, or newly developed as community needs evolve and best practices emerge across the many sectors we support.”

The County’s approved budget supports the delivery of major County responsibilities, including Long-Term Care, Paramedic Service, Public Works, Housing and Homelessness Programs, Ontario Works and employment supports, Child Care and EarlyON Programs, Planning, Economic Development, and Corporate Services that support front-line operations.

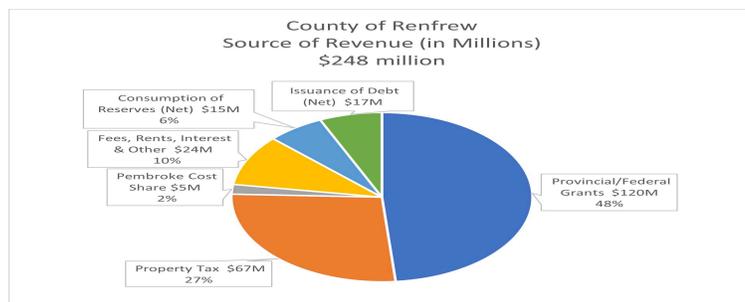
The budget also reflects the County’s commitment to long-term financial planning, including continued focus on infrastructure and facility needs, and the ongoing reality of asset renewal pressures affecting communities across Ontario.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

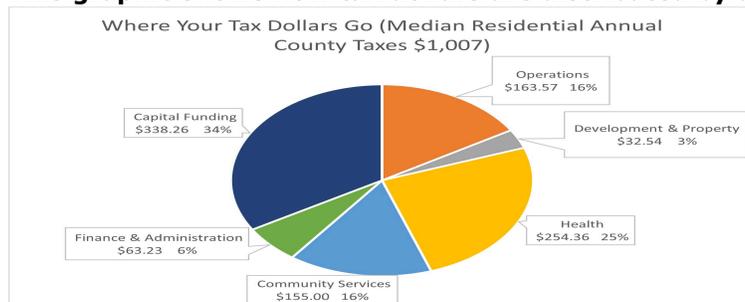
Craig Kelley Chief Administrative Officer 613-735-7288

Daniel Burke Treasurer 613-735-7288

Property taxes account for approximately one-quarter of the County revenues, with other sources of revenue shown in the chart below:



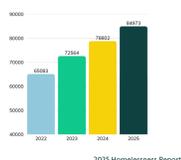
This graphic shows how tax dollars are distributed by department:



Updated research shows more than 85,000 Ontarians were homeless in 2025

Posted on Monday, February 02, 2026

85,000 Ontarians Were Homeless in 2025



RELEASE DATE:

February 2, 2026

The County of Renfrew is highlighting new data released by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on homelessness in Ontario. As predicted in AMO's groundbreaking work in 2025, without meaningful and collective intervention, the crisis continues to grow.

Nearly 85,000 Ontarians experienced homelessness in 2025, up eight per cent from 2024. The figure also represents a 50 per cent increase since 2021. Without significant intervention, homelessness in Ontario could double by 2035, and reach nearly 300,000 people in an economic downturn.

Homelessness continues to grow the fastest in rural and northern communities. Rural homelessness was up by more than 30 per cent last year. In Northern Ontario, it grew by more than 37 per cent over the last year.

While dedicated investments and actions have dealt with several large urban encampments, there are small and dispersed encampments across Ontario – nearly 2,000 were reported in 2025 compared to 1,400 in 2024.

The update was conducted by HelpSeeker Technologies, in partnership with AMO, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) and the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA).

Locally, the County of Renfrew continues to see growing housing instability and increasing complexity among individuals and families seeking support. The community housing waitlist now exceeds 2,000 households, and demand for homelessness prevention services, emergency supports, and outreach continues to rise. In January 2026 the County recorded 46 people in our By-Name Data who identified as being chronically homeless (homeless for a period of six months or more), a notable increase compared to January 2025 where the County recorded 27 people in our By-Name Data who identified as being chronically homeless.

Through initiatives such as the Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub (HART Hub), which provides coordinated access to health, social, and housing supports, and the Mesa Outreach Team, which works directly in the community to engage individuals experiencing homelessness or housing precarity, the County is taking proactive steps to support residents and prevent homelessness where possible. While progress has been made through these collaborative approaches, we can't solve the problem alone.

The crisis stems from decades of underinvestment in deeply affordable housing, income support and mental health and addictions treatment, combined with escalating economic pressures on communities.

Ontario is the only province where responsibility for social housing has been downloaded to municipalities. Municipal investment in housing and homelessness programs has grown significantly in recent years, totalling \$2 billion in 2025.

The County of Renfrew joins AMO in urging provincial and federal governments to take significant, long-term action on affordable housing, mental health and addictions services, and income supports to fix homelessness and improve local economies and quality of life for all Ontarians.

AMO's recommendations

As per AMO's 2025 report, Ontario needs a fundamentally new approach that focuses on long-term housing solutions over temporary emergency measures and enforcement:

- To address chronic homelessness, an additional \$11 billion over 10 years would focus on capital investments to develop more than 75,000 new affordable and supportive housing units, as well as increased funding on prevention efforts.
- To ensure that current encampment residents are quickly and appropriately housed, Ontario needs to invest an additional \$2 billion over eight years.

AMO further recommends:

- Continued federal funding through the National Housing Strategy to maintain critical programs like the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit.
- Collaboration amongst all orders of Government to ensure our homelessness and housing dollars are having the biggest impact, including coordinating data and outcomes across programs, connecting services, and tracking every dollar from investment to impact.

The [full report](#) and [backgrounder](#) provide a detailed analysis and actionable solutions for governments and stakeholders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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



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



**The Corporation of the Town of Arnprior
Notice of Application for Official Plan Amendment
OPA 10 and Notice of Public Meeting**

Take Notice that pursuant to the requirements of the Planning Act, the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior advises that an application for amendment to the Town of Arnprior Official Plan, as amended, has been received and was deemed a complete application.

And Further, Take Notice that an in-person public meeting giving the public an opportunity to make representations in respect of the Official Plan Amendment will be held on **Monday, February 23rd, 2026** at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior.

Subject Lands:

The lands affected by the amendment are legally described as McNab Concession A, Part of Lot 5, Town of Arnprior (see key map).

Purpose and Effect of the Amendment:

The effect of the amendment is to redesignate the lands from C2 to C.2.7.8 and from C2 to C2.7.9 as shown on Schedule 'A' and add policies for the new designations to reduce the setback to a watercourse for new development from 30 meters from the high water mark to 15 meters from the high water mark for the section of Jedd Creek shown as "subject to C2.7.8" on Schedule "A" attached hereto, and from 30 meters from the high water mark to 20 meters from the high water mark for the section of Jedd Creek shown as "subject to C2.7.9" on Schedule "A" attached hereto. The subject lands are also the subject of a County of Renfrew draft plan of subdivision application (File No. 47T24005). The proposed Official Plan amendment is requested to allow for development of the subject property for a residential subdivision as proposed.

More Information:

Copies of the proposed amendment, material provided under Section 17 and 21 of the Planning Act and any additional information relating to the proposal, are available for inspection at 105 Elgin St. W. by contacting the Planning office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1816 during regular office hours or by emailing planning@arnprior.ca.

Any Person may participate in the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the amendment.

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of (reference to council and name of municipality, or name of planning board or approval authority, as the case may be) to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to (name of municipality or planning board) before the proposed official plan (or official plan amendment) is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to (name of municipality or planning board) before the proposed official plan (or official plan amendment) is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party. If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town of Arnprior on the proposed official plan amendment, you must make a written request to Town of Arnprior c/o Planning, Town of Arnprior, 105 Elgin St. W., Arnprior ON K7S 0A8.

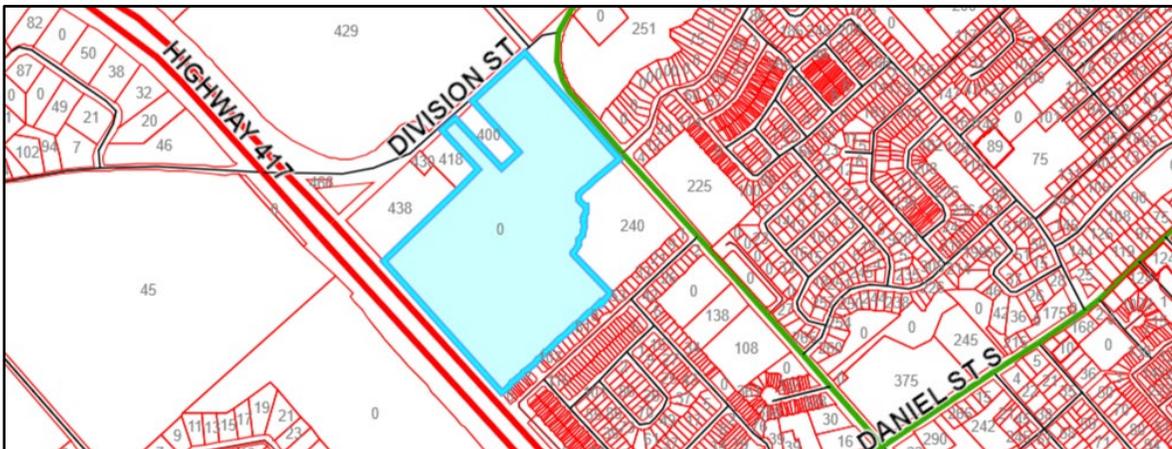
If you are receiving this notice because you are the owner of property in the area of the amendment that contains seven or more residential units, you must also post this notice in a location that is visible to all of the residents of your property.

Privacy Disclosure: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record. The Town to such persons, will disclosed/make this information available as the Town deems appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Town with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

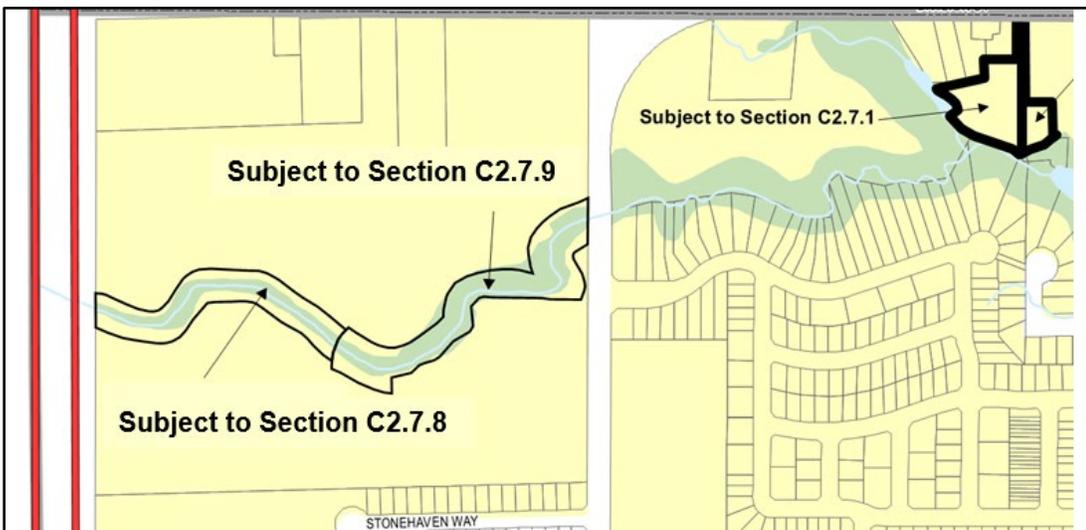
Dated at the Town of Arnprior this 2nd day of February 2026.

Kaila Zamojski, Clerk
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
Arnprior, ON
K7S 0A8

Key Map:



Schedule "A"





Medical Officer of Health Report to the Board

January 27th, 2026

HEALTH PROTECTION

Immunization

Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA):

In December and early January 3809 notices were sent to students who were not up to date with vaccines required under ISPA. These students have until February 12th, 2026, to update their immunization status and send the information to RCDHU. As of January 16th, over 20% of students who received a notice had updated their vaccines and/or records as required under ISPA.

Immunizations can be accessed by booking an appointment with a health care provider, by attending a RCDHU high school clinic, or by booking an appointment at RCDHU's catch up clinics. Clinics are offered at various locations across Renfrew County and District. Appointments can be booked online via the online booking system or by calling the Immunization Intake Line. As of January 9th, RCDHU has hosted 5 out of 11 planned ISPA high school clinics, which will continue this month. It is important to note that immunizations administered through Health Care Providers must be reported by parents to RCDHU through the online Immunization Connect Ontario tool (ICON) or via email, mail, or fax.

Grade 7 School-Based Immunization Clinics:

The first round of Grade 7 school immunization clinics for Hepatitis B (HB), Meningococcal, and human papilloma virus (HPV) was completed on November 17th, 2025. A total of 39 school-based clinics were hosted across RCD with approximately 1100 students being eligible for immunizations. In total, 753 doses of HPV vaccine, 707 doses of HB vaccine, and 834 doses of Meningococcal vaccine were administered at these school-based clinics. Students may also choose to be vaccinated through their healthcare provider or by booking an appointment at an RCDHU routine immunization clinic. The second round of grade 7 school immunization clinics will start in the spring of 2026.

COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination:

Compared to the 2024/25 season, RCDHU has administered 10% more doses of COVID-19 and 43% more doses of influenza vaccine this 2025/26 season. As of January 14th, RCDHU had administered 3796 doses of COVID-19 vaccine and 3633 doses of influenza vaccine through community-based clinics and mobile vaccination services to retirement homes and congregate care settings. RCDHU has also dispensed a total of 16 505 doses of influenza vaccine and 1932 doses of COVID-19 vaccine to health care partners across Renfrew County and District (RCD).

Pharmacies continue to be an active channel for the public to receive both COVID-19 and

influenza vaccine. As of January 14th, pharmacies in RCD had administered approximately 8300 doses of COVID-19 vaccine. So far this season, approximately 28% of COVID-19 doses administered in RCD have been through RCDHU, with about 60% administered by pharmacies and 12% by other partners.

Fall 2025/26 COVID-19 vaccination coverage among older adults aged 65+ in RCD is 36%, which is higher compared to the rate in Ontario (32%). By the end of the 2024/25 season, local coverage in this age group reached 41%.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Adult Vaccination:

Between October 1st, 2025, and January 9th, 2026, RCDHU administered 1144 doses of Adult RSV vaccine through community-based clinics and mobile vaccination services to retirement homes and congregate care settings. This is more than double the doses of Adult RSV vaccine administered by RCDHU at this time last season, which is largely due to expanded eligibility criteria. Vaccine is also available through health care providers, for which RCDHU has dispensed 3550.

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

Between October 1st, 2025, and January 9th, 2026, 202 doses of the passive immunization agent for infants, nirsevimab (also known as Beyfortus®) were administered to eligible infants and high-risk children by RCDHU and delivering hospitals. Coverage among newborns in RCD born October-December 2025 is approximately 70%. Additionally, RCDHU dispensed 382 doses to primary care physicians and continues to offer appointment-based community immunization clinics for eligible infants.

Safe Water – Private Drinking Water Testing

In partnership with Public Health Ontario, RCDHU promotes a private well water testing service for residents of RCD to monitor for E. coli and total coliform bacteria in their drinking water supply. This service is especially valuable during times of flooding and drought. Private citizens collect their own samples using water bottles supplied by RCDHU and return filled samples to 5 designated locations across RCD (Barry's Bay, Laurentian Hills, McNab Braeside, Renfrew, and Pembroke). In 2025, a total of 4273 samples were processed at the laboratory. 3147 (74%) samples did not contain E. coli or total coliform bacteria. The RCDHU website offers many resources to assist clients with understanding water results and describes methods to remediate and maintain safe drinking water. Public health inspectors at RCDHU are also available to address drinking water concerns or questions.

Smoke-Free Ontario Act – Tobacco and Vape Retailer Enforcement

Renfrew County and District Health Unit enforces the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act \(SFOA\), 2017](#) in workplaces, public places, schools, health care facilities, tobacco and vapour retailers, specialty vape stores, and other designated places. Public health inspectors conduct routine inspections, investigate complaints, and conduct youth access compliance checks. Tobacco and vape retailers are prohibited from selling and supplying tobacco and vapour products to anyone under 19 years old. RCDHU has completed a series of vape retailer and specialty vape store enforcement checks with youth test shoppers to determine compliance with sales to minors. A total of 60 vape retailers were inspected for sales to minors, along with 5 specialty vape stores. Six sales were committed (5 vape retailers and 1 specialty vape store). Follow-up enforcement checks with those

operators who attempted sales to individuals under the age of 19 are planned for 2026.

Infection Prevention and Control – Outbreak Management

RCDHU actively monitors infectious disease incidence in the community and in our institutions. All congregate care living and health care facilities are required to inform RCDHU of enteric disease outbreaks. In 2025, there were 14 institutional enteric outbreaks with three confirmed as norovirus to be the causative agent. For comparison, there were 9 confirmed institutional enteric outbreaks in 2024, and 5 confirmed outbreaks in 2023. So far, there have been 2 institutional enteric outbreaks in 2026. Public health inspectors work with our institutions to advise, inspect, and educate staff on best practices for preventing and controlling enteric outbreaks.

Infectious Diseases

Respiratory outbreak activity was low to moderate throughout November, steadily progressing to very high in the last 2 weeks of December. There was a total of 4 respiratory outbreaks in November versus 18 outbreaks in the month of December, with over 70% occurring in the second half of the month. Influenza A was the primary pathogen identified, with COVID-19 and unknown pathogens constituting the remaining percentage. The incidence rate of RSV was very low, with 1 outbreak throughout November and December.

Community cases of influenza were very high, with over 90 new cases for weeks 51 and 52, and 74 cases in week 53. The current seasonal influenza total is 307 cases. The likely peak for influenza activity occurred from December 14th to December 27th, and activity is beginning to slow. The first case of Influenza B was reported in the week of December 14th-20th.

Hospital bed occupancy for respiratory illness remains very high since the second week of December. Respiratory-related emergency department visits remain very high, making up between 15% and 18% of total visits throughout the month of December.

HEALTH PROMOTION

Outreach Team and SPRITE Testing

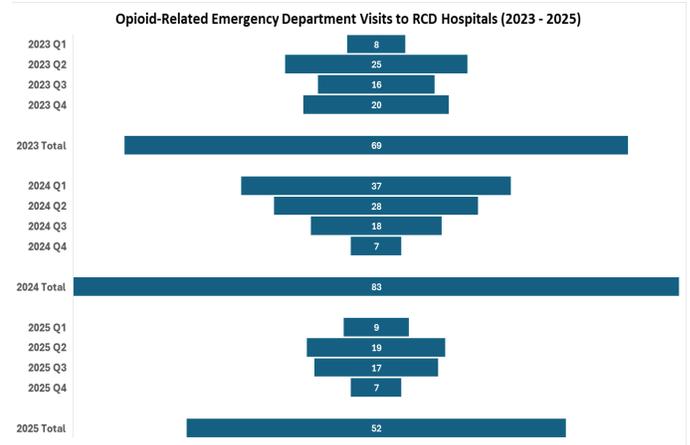
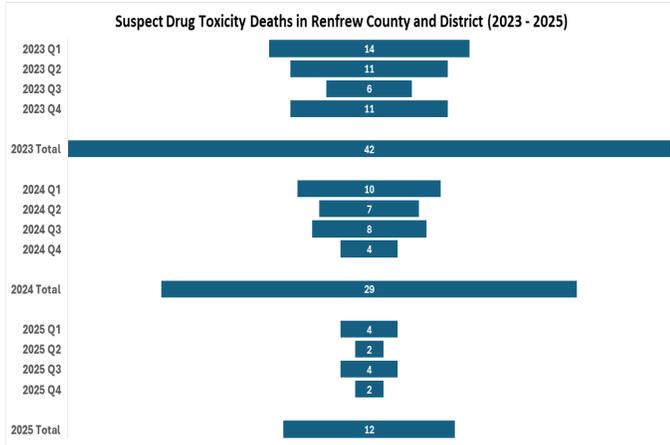
The Outreach Team continues to bring RCDHU services to clients across RCD and forge partnerships with community agencies. In 2025, the Outreach Team added three new community partners and now visits all food banks in RCD. Over the course of 2025, the Outreach Team completed 102 visits to 25 different locations across the county. During those visits, 522 naloxone kits were distributed, and 331 people were trained in their use. The team continues to provide harm reduction and sexual health supplies, offer sexual health testing, and connect clients to other RCDHU services or community partners where needed.

SPRITE testing continues to be offered at suitable Outreach Team events and at RCDHU's Pembroke office. As of January 14th, a total of 219 tests for syphilis, HIV, and hepatitis C have been completed under this program, with 102 of those tests being completed at Outreach locations. Individuals that tested positive have been successfully referred for follow-up and treatment. These clients tested are at high risk for acquiring sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections and do not have a family doctor or the means to seek out testing on their own.

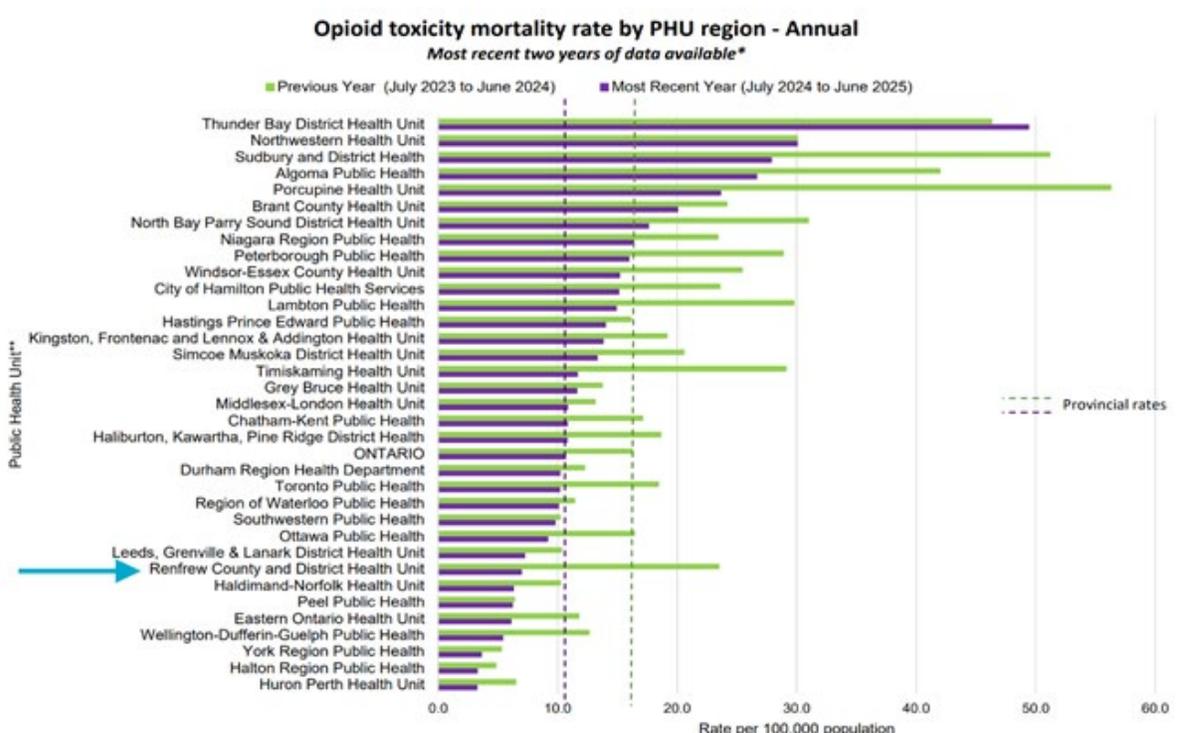
Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy

With the beginning of 2026, it's important to recognize the tremendous efforts of all organizations, their staff, and clients in implementing many of the priorities of the Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy (RCDDS) in 2025.

The opioid crisis remains a complex public health issue, driven by the combination of several factors, including highly toxic synthetic opioids, socioeconomic impacts, and mental health challenges. Last year, RCD experienced a significant decrease in two key opioid-related metrics: deaths and emergency department visits. When compared to 2024, as of December 18th, 2025, suspect drug toxicity deaths and opioid-related emergency department visits declined by 59% and 37% respectively.



Most Ontario Public Health Unit regions experienced a decline in their opioid toxicity mortality rate when comparing the most recent provincial data for the periods of July 2023 to June 2024, and July 2024 to June 2025; however, RCD's reduction in mortality rate was among the largest in the province.



While the dedicated, collaborative efforts of RCDDS partners have had a strong, positive impact on drug-related harms across our communities, ongoing vigilance is required. On January 15th, an [overdose alert](#) was issued. The alert was informed by both reporting from a community partner and the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario. Preliminary data for January 2026 (to date) indicates a significant increase in drug toxicity related deaths relative to last year's monthly average of 1 death per month. The specific substances involved in the deaths are unknown at this time and we continue to monitor the situation closely.

Nutrition – You're the Chef

You're the Chef (YTC) is a hands-on food literacy and cooking program for students in grades 5 to 8 that builds practical food skills, confidence with cooking, and connections to the Ontario curriculum. During the 2025–2026 school year, interest in YTC has increased significantly, with 19 schools expressing interest in the program. This includes 26 new teachers, in addition to two teachers who delivered YTC last year. To date, two YTC workshops have been completed and three new training sessions have been delivered, with additional training and program delivery anticipated as the school year continues.

This level of engagement represents substantial growth compared to the previous school year, when three training sessions were delivered across four schools and three schools implemented the program. Increased interest may reflect greater awareness of YTC among schools and educators. Feedback from teachers who have implemented YTC has been consistently positive, reinforcing both the demand for this programming and its alignment with public health priorities related to healthy eating, skill development, and long-term health outcomes for children and youth across RCD.

CATCH My Breath

RCDHU's Substance Use Health Team participated in a research project evaluating the CATCH My Breath curriculum for preventing vaping among Ontario high school students. The study, approved by Ontario Tech University's Research Ethics Board and the Renfrew County and District School Board, involved:

- Parent consent forms and three short online surveys for students (before, 3 months after, and 12 months after the program), covering demographics and vaping attitudes/behaviors.
- Delivery of two 60-minute lessons by trained Public Health staff, focusing on vape components, health risks, social norms, and strategies to resist peer pressure.
- Participation from 3 schools (Barry's Bay – 2 classes, Deep River – 2 classes, and Opeongo – 1 class, ~28 students each) during November and December.
- The trained health unit staff also had to complete post-delivery questionnaires within 2 days of program delivery.

Bump to Baby – Online Prenatal Education Program

RCDHU offers a free online prenatal program called Bump to Baby, in partnership with Southeast Public Health. This program can be completed at the client's own pace and gives the flexibility to learn when it's the most convenient. Information covered in Bump to Baby includes:

- Pregnancy
- Labour and delivery
- Feeding your baby

- Caring for your baby and keeping them safe
- Parenting
- Helpful services in Renfrew County and District

In addition to the information provided in the program, clients are offered a phone call for additional support from a Public Health Nurse. Clients register through our website by completing the Bump to Baby Online Prenatal Program Registration Form.

The program is promoted through social media (Facebook and X), as well as a [promotional poster](#) with a QR code available for printing and distribution.

Since RCDHU began offering the program in June 2025, 88 pregnant individuals have registered for the program.

Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP)

The OSDCP provides services to seniors (65+) who have a net family income below \$25 000 for a single senior, and \$41 500 for a couple. Seniors (65+) who are enrolled in the OSDCP can access services through RCDHU's dental clinic locations in Pembroke and Barry's Bay, or through our service level agreement providers throughout RCD. RCDHU dental clinics include regular hygiene visits, as well as dental services for routine checkups, emergencies, restorative care, or extractions.

In 2025, RCDHU administered 727 dental services appointments and 544 hygiene services appointments between the Barry's Bay and Pembroke clinic locations. RCDHU also coordinated denturist services for 70 seniors to receive either complete or partial dentures, depending on their individual needs.

As of July 31st, 2025, 977 residents in RCD have received dental services through the OSDCP since the beginning of the program.

Submitted by: Dr. Jason Morgenstern
Medical Officer of Health
Renfrew County and District Health Unit

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 4:12 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Second Intake of Rural Ontario Development Program Open, \$700 Million Allocated for Health and Safety Water Stream



AMO Policy Update – Second Intake of Rural Ontario Development Program Open, \$700 Million Allocated for Health and Safety Water Stream

Top Insights

- The second intake of the [Rural Ontario Development Program](#) is now accepting funding applications to support municipal economic development projects.
- The province is allocating \$700 million to help municipalities build, expand or rehabilitate aging water infrastructure as part of the [Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#).

Rural Ontario Development Program

At the 2026 ROMA conference, the provincial government launched a second intake of the Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program. The application deadline is February 26, 2026.

The ROD program provides cost-share funding for projects that help rural communities:

- Address barriers and build capacity for economic development

- To attract, retain and expand businesses
- Attract and retain investment and jobs
- Strengthen regional partnerships and economic resilience
- Address workforce development challenges
- Transform community assets to drive economic development

\$700 Million Allocated for Health and Safety Water Stream

The provincial government announced that \$700 million has been allocated to help municipalities build, expand or rehabilitate aging water, wastewater, stormwater, flood and erosion infrastructure.

This funding is from the Health and Safety Water Stream of the \$4 billion Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program.

Funding will be allocated to existing applicants, and successful recipients will be announced in the coming weeks.

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2026 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - January 22, 2026



January 22, 2026

In This Issue:

- Healthy Democracy Tools and Resources for 2026.
- Don't forget to submit your municipal *Impact Stories!*
- Municipal Information & Data Analysis System (MIDAS) - Important Notice.
- Free Information session for Youth Considering running for Municipal Office.
- Addressing Needs for Dynamic Populations Workshop.
- AMO Regional and Single-Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up: 2026.
- New year, new skills: Navigating Conflict Relationships.
- Lead Where You Live - A Guide to Running for Municipal Council.
- More Dates! Free workshop series for those seeking re-election & first-time candidates.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate.
- Webinar: Demystifying Job Order Contracting.
- Blog: Privacy Impact Assessments: A Strategic Imperative for Ontario Municipalities.
- It's 2026! Time to post your Notice of Participation.
- Webinar: Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later report update.
- Applications are open: AMCTO-Mitacs MIIP.
- Municipal Student Survey.
- IESO Webinar on Long Lead Time (LLT) Procurement.
- Upcoming Webinar: Low-Carbon Energy Framework.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Resolve to foster healthier municipal democracy in 2026 with help from AMO. With the next municipal election just around the corner take a look at [AMO Healthy Democracy tools and resources launched](#) to help you strengthen participation in Ontario's local governments.

AMO is developing a public affairs campaign to showcase the people and impact behind municipal work across Ontario – and we want to feature your career profile. From frontline roles to leadership, we want to show what it takes, and who it is, that keeps municipalities running. If you are interested in participating, this is the last call to complete the [Impact Story Submission Guide](#) and email your submission to workforce@amo.on.ca.

The MMAH FIR system and all associated applications - reporting etc. including the MIDAS data feeds, will be down for a necessary system upgrade beginning on January 30, 2026. The maximum outage

period is January 30, to March 1, 2026, inclusive. [MIDAS](#) will be operational, however no new FIR data will be uploaded during this time.

Education Opportunities

Facilitated by current municipal leaders, these sessions will provide insights and strategies to build your understanding and confidence around how to become a candidate and running a campaign. View [full workshop details and register here](#).

The CCBF team at AMO addressed changing populations at the [2025 ROMA conference](#). A [workshop](#) identified new strategies to balance existing infrastructure needs and growth needs.

You can now register for the AMO Regional and Single Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up meet. Scheduled for Monday, February 23 from 10am-12noon. We would love to hear from you on questions you have for Caucus Chair Riley Brockington. Send your questions to events@amo.on.ca. This is an important event to gain insight and share your thoughts. [Register here](#).

Gain skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones. This 2 part, interactive workshop will explore the constructs, traps and pitfalls of conflict relationships, and how to approach, plan and execute relationships successfully. [Register here to save your spot](#).

The [Lead Where You Live Resource](#) provides key information for anyone running in the 2026 municipal election. This guide will introduce you to some of the key steps in that process. It will also give you a sense of what life is like as an elected member of a municipal council.

If you missed *AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* workshop registration, we are offering more dates to register. It's designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. It's offered at no charge in two streams: first time candidates, and those considering re-election in 2026. [Full details and registration information here](#).

AMO's [Running for Municipal Office - Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate](#) 90 minute free workshop provides useful insights and strategies to support you in getting your name on the ballot. While this workshop focuses on individuals from underrepresented communities, all are welcome to participate.

LAS

Job Order Contracting (JOC) is a new method of construction project delivery in Canada. Join the Canoe Procurement Group on February 12 at 2PM EST to learn how and why JOC works. [For more information and to register, click here](#).

Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) are no longer a theoretical best practice; they are a practical, strategic necessity for municipal leaders. LAS' Freedom of Information and Privacy Program Management service partner, Vayle, contributes [a blog explaining the importance of PIAs](#) and how to start implementing them.

It's that time of year again – ensure you comply with the [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#). If your municipality plans on using one or more LAS [programs and services](#) this year, be sure to post your [Notice of Participation](#) on your procurement website.

Municipal Wire*

HelpSeeker Technologies is hosting a webinar for policymakers, public servants, and sector leaders on January 27th at 12:00PM to discuss the newly released Municipalities Under Pressure report. [Click here to register](#).

Applications are now open for the next intake of the AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program. This program offers municipalities a cost-effective way to identify, advance, and address innovation or research challenges by partnering with a post-secondary student interested in a career in local government. To learn more or to submit an application, [Click Here](#).

AMO is partnering with the University of Waterloo's Work-Learn Institute to better understand how municipalities can more effectively attract and retain the next generation. If you've supervised a student – or know someone who has – please forward them this short, [anonymous survey](#) to share their experiences. If you have any questions, please contact WGardiner@amo.on.ca.

The IESO is [hosting a webinar](#) on January 29 to discuss the design of the upcoming LLT procurement including community engagement requirements, and timelines for municipal support confirmations. You can also register for a [municipal breakout session](#) following the main session.

Pollution Probe and QUEST Canada are hosting a webinar on January 27 at 11:00 to explore a new framework for benefiting from low-carbon energy innovation in Ontario rural, remote and Indigenous communities. [Register here](#).

Careers

[Planner I - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: February 6, 2026.

[Director, Planning Services – City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: February 13, 2026.

About AMO

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

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: Calling all Youth! Everything You Need to Know About Running for Municipal Office

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>

Sent: January 28, 2026 11:01 AM

To: Robin Paquette <rpaquette@arnprior.ca>

Subject: Calling all Youth! Everything You Need to Know About Running for Municipal Office



An Information Session for Youth Considering Running for Municipal Office

If you are a youth interested in running for municipal council in October 2026, we have a workshop for you! The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is offering a series of workshops for young people thinking about running for municipal office in the October 2026 elections.

These sessions will provide insights and strategies to build your understanding and confidence around how to become a candidate and running a campaign.

Facilitated by three current municipal leaders, Natasha Salonen-Mayor of the Township of Wilmot, Cam Wales-Councillor, City of Brockville and Aidan Kallioinen-Councillor, Town of Espanola, you will gain firsthand insight into:

- What to expect running as a candidate and as young person
- Critical strategies for successfully campaigning for municipal office
- Understand what it takes to become a candidate
- Strategies for engagement including communication
- And more!

Dates:

- Wednesday, February 18, 6:30-8:00PM
- Wednesday, March 11, 6:30-8:00PM
- Wednesday, April 15, 6:30-8:00PM

Registration: FREE

See full workshop details [here](#).

Register Here

Questions? Reach out to events@amo.on.ca.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 1:49 PM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Policy Update - 2026 Pre-Budget Submission, Consultations on Light Vehicle Procurement and Construction Policies



AMO Policy Update – 2026 Pre-Budget Submission, Consultations on Light Vehicle Procurement and Construction Policies

Top Insights

- AMO published its [2026 Pre-Budget Submission](#) today. AMO continues to call on the province to review the municipal fiscal framework, and to take immediate actions on funding municipal infrastructure, health and social services, and homelessness needs.
- The province’s [proposed “Buy Ontario” procurement policy](#) responds to AMO’s advocacy calling for a framework that balances protecting Ontario jobs with ensuring municipal procurement is on-time and on-budget.

AMO 2026 Pre-Budget Submission

AMO’s [2026 Pre-Budget Submission](#) continues to call on the province to sit down with municipalities to update the fiscal arrangements that make Ontario’s communities safe, affordable, healthy, and prosperous. We also ask the province to take immediate action in funding municipal infrastructure, health and social services, and homelessness needs. Our specific asks are:

Request 1: Provide long-term municipal infrastructure funding for housing and the economy

- This includes extending the Building Faster Fund beyond 2026.

Request 2: Fully funding health and social services that are provincial responsibilities

- Including revisiting local share hospital requirements, moving forward with the public health funding review, and implementing a provincial physician recruitment system.

Request 3: Bringing together municipal and federal partners to address the homelessness crisis

- Including investing \$11 billion for homelessness prevention and deeply affordable and supportive housing, providing operating dollars to unlock Build Canada Homes capital funding, and working with the federal government to secure a renewed National Housing Strategy.

The key supporting evidence that forms the basis of our requests are:

The municipal fiscal environment

- At \$2,104 per person, Ontario had the second highest property taxes per capita in Canada, in 2024. Property taxes accounted for 50% of municipal revenue in 2024.
- Municipal share of government revenue (for all three orders of government) continues to decline and stood at 10.2% in 2024.

Infrastructure spending

- Municipalities continue to fund 80% of infrastructure costs as provincial and federal contributions have remained largely unchanged since 2018.
- One dollar invested in infrastructure generates an additional \$6 in economic activity.

Health and social services spending

- Municipal funding of provincial responsibilities in health and social services has increased 1.5 times since 2019, and stood at \$5.4 billion in 2024.

- The province’s transfer payments to municipalities are one of the lowest in Canada, at \$6,380 per Ontarian, in 2024.

State of homelessness and homelessness spending

- Approximately 85,000 individuals were homeless in 2025, an increase of 8% from the previous year. Without new interventions, Ontario’s homeless population could double in a decade, even under conditions of steady economic growth.
- Municipalities account for the largest share and fastest growing share of homelessness and housing funding.

Provincial Consultation on Light Vehicle Procurement and Construction Policies

The Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement is consulting on [proposed procurement requirements](#) that would expand the [Buy Ontario Act](#) to apply to municipalities and prioritize “made-in-Ontario” for procurement of light fleet vehicles. This approach reflects feedback from AMO and municipalities including:

- Allowing municipalities to buy from out of province if Ontario-made vehicles are not available or are cost-prohibitive, ensuring municipalities can procure on time and on budget.
- Protecting the ability to use local procurement by-laws/policies to get the best value-for-dollar and invest in local businesses.
- Protecting municipalities from liability under trade agreements like the Canada-European Comprehensive Trade Agree (CETA) by including municipalities under the provincial directive, and requiring vendors to attest that they meet the Ontario-made definition.

The proposed requirements would also prioritize “Ontario-made” and “Canadian-made” procurement for goods and services used for capital infrastructure and construction projects. AMO will work with MPBSD to understand the potential impact to projects with a focus on mitigating cost and timeline escalation.

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 10:00 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO Watchfile - January 29, 2026



January 29, 2026

In This Issue:

- Just launched: AMO's *Make Your Municipal Move* public campaign.
- Healthy Democracy tools and resources for 2026.
- Municipal Information & Data Analysis System (MIDAS) - important notice.
- New funding: Rural Ontario Development Fund: Second intake is now open.
- Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative.
- OSUM Conference: Save the date: April 29 – May 1 in Parry Sound.
- Free Information session for Youth Considering running for Municipal Office.
- AMO Regional and Single-Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up: 2026.
- New year, new skills: Navigating Conflict Relationships.
- Lead Where You Live - A Guide to Running for Municipal Council.
- More Dates! Free workshop series for those seeking re-election & first-time candidates.
- The phase-out of mercury containing lamps has started.
- Webinar: Demystifying Job Order Contracting.
- Webinar: Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later report update.
- IESO Webinar on Long Lead Time (LLT) Procurement.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

AMO's new public advertising campaign, *Make Your Municipal Move*, brings awareness to municipalities and highlights the diverse career opportunities that are available at the level of government closest to people and communities. To learn more about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit municipalmove.ca, or email WGardiner@amo.on.ca.

Resolve to foster healthier municipal democracy in 2026 with help from AMO. With the next municipal election just around the corner take a look at [AMO Healthy Democracy tools and resources launched](#) to help you strengthen participation in Ontario's local governments.

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Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Rural Affairs is [accepting applications](#) for the Rural Ontario Development Fund until February 26. Register for [an information session](#) being held February 12.

Under the Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative, the governments of Canada and Ontario will be accepting applications from February 17 to March 17 for [new funding](#) to help local businesses grow international and domestic sales.

Education Opportunities

The 2026 annual OSUM Conference is in Parry Sound April 29-May 1. Save the date and stay tuned for information on registration, accommodations and programming!

Many young people are inspired to run for municipal council, not everyone understands the ins and outs of doing so. Facilitated by current young municipal leaders, these sessions provide insights and strategies to build your understanding and confidence on becoming a candidate and how to run a campaign. View [full workshop details and register here](#).

You can now register for the AMO Regional and Single Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up meet. Scheduled for Monday, February 23 from 10am-12noon. This interactive session provides an opportunity for questions and answers on AMO's strategic policy and government relations priorities and approach. If you have top of mind questions, you can submit them in advance to events@amo.on.ca. [Register here](#).

Gain skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones. This 2 part, interactive workshop will explore the constructs, traps and pitfalls of conflict relationships, and how to approach, plan and execute relationships successfully. [Register here to save your spot](#).

The [Lead Where You Live Resource](#) provides key information for anyone running in the 2026 municipal election. This guide will introduce you to some of the key steps in that process. It will also give you a sense of what life is like as an elected member of a municipal council.

If you missed *AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* workshop registration, we are offering more dates to register. It's designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. It's offered at no charge in two streams: first time candidates, and those considering re-election in 2026. [Full details and registration information here](#).

LAS

The [phase-out of mercury containing lamps](#) (fluorescent, metal halide, sodium, etc.) has started. Don't get left in the dark with outdated lighting systems. Contact Christian to use our simple, turn-key [Facility Lighting Service](#) this year.

Job Order Contracting (JOC) is a new method of construction project delivery in Canada. Join the Canoe Procurement Group on February 12 at 2PM EST to learn how and why JOC works. [For more information and to register, click here](#).

Municipal Wire*

HelpSeeker Technologies is hosting a webinar for policymakers, public servants, and sector leaders on January 27th at 12:00PM to discuss the newly released Municipalities Under Pressure report. [Click here to register](#).

The IESO is [hosting a webinar](#) today, January 29 at 2 pm to discuss the design of the upcoming LLT procurement including community engagement requirements, and timelines for municipal support confirmations. You can also register for a [municipal breakout session](#) following the main session.

Careers

[Vacant Unit Tax Compliance Auditor - City of Hamilton](#). Closing Date: February 4 2026.

[Court Enforcement Officer / Agent d'exécution des actes de procedure - Ministry of the Attorney General / Ministère du Procureur general](#). Closing Date: February 10, 2026.

About AMO

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

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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

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

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

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Kaitlyn Wendland

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 10:01 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: AMO's Healthy Democracy Leaders Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities



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

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 — (No Cost to Participate)

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

Workshop Dates

Stream 1: Considering Re-Election in 2026

Original Dates

- November 26, 2025
- January 28, 2026
- February 25, 2026
- March 25, 2026

Newly Added Dates

- February 19, 2026
- March 26, 2026
- April 23, 2026
- May 7, 2026

[Register here for STREAM 1](#)

Stream 2: First-Time Candidates for 2026

Original Dates

- December 3, 2025
- February 4, 2026
- March 4, 2026
- April 1, 2026

Newly Added Dates

- March 10, 2026
- April 7, 2026
- April 28, 2026
- May 19, 2026

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.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD KENOZIDJ KIZIS 23RD, 2026

FRIDAY JANUARY 23RD, 2026

WWW.ALGONQUINSOFPIKWAKANAGAN.COM | 613-625-2800

Content

- Updates & Notices
 - Chief & Council Update
 - Election Update and Nomination Meeting
 - Membership Meeting (**RESCHEDULED**)
 - AOPFN Limited Partnership
 - AOPFN Website
- News & Events
 - Trapping Course (**REGISTRATION CLOSING**)
 - RCDSB Save the Date
 - Annual Fishing Derby (AOPFN Fire & Rescue)
- Volunteers Needed
 - Round Dance Planning Committee
 - Correctional Service of Canada
- Resources and Contacts
 - Jordan's Principle
- Health Updates
 - Alzheimer's Awareness Month
 - Breakfast Club (Child Oriented)
 - Food Recalls
- Employment Opportunities
 - Training Opportunity (Construction)
 - Park Cleaner (Seasonal)
 - Call to Tender (115 Kiwita Inamo)
 - Early Childhood Educator
 - Paid Training Opportunity (Bus Driver)
 - Driver - Specialized Transportation
 - Winterization Maintenance (Nigig)
 - Facilitator Call Out
 - Caterer Call Out
 - Census Jobs
- Community Information
 - Hours of Operation
 - Membership Additions

Membership Notice

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

Contact - Curtis Jahn at 613-625-2800 ext 231
Email - coordinator.lem@pikwakanagan.ca

Office Closures: February

Please note for next month that the Administration Building will be closed at **12:00PM on Friday, February 13, 2026** and will return to regular operations at **8:30AM on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Click here to read
entire newsletter

Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD KENOZIDJ KIZIS 30TH, 2026

FRIDAY JANUARY 30TH, 2026

WWW.ALGONQUINSOFPIKWAKANAGAN.COM | 613-625-2800

Content

- Updates & Notices
 - Nomination Meeting & Election Updates
 - Membership Meeting (**RESCHEDULED**)
 - Registered Vacant Traplins
 - AOPFN Limited Partnership
 - AOPFN Website Info
- News & Events
 - Trapping Course (**POSTPONED**)
 - RCDSB Save the Date
 - Annual Fishing Derby (AOPFN Fire & Rescue)
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 - Correctional Service of Canada
- Resources and Contacts
 - Canada Revenue Agency
- Health Updates
 - Community Health Calendar (February)
 - Heart Health Month
 - Breakfast Club, Strong & Steady Updated
 - Movement is Medicine Lunch and Learn
 - Food Recalls
- Employment Opportunities
 - Training Opportunities (Various)
 - Early Childhood Educator
 - Paid Training Opportunity (Bus Driver)
 - Driver - Specialized Transportation
 - Administrative Assistant (Union of Ontario Indians)
 - Census Jobs
 - Winterization Maintenance (Nigig)
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 - Snow Removal for Home Care Clients
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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Township of Southgate
Administration Office**
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

January 21, 2026

Re: Township of Southgate - Notice of Motion – OMERS Bill 68 Municipal Resolution

Please be advised that at the January 21, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-027

Moved By Deputy Mayor Dobreen

Seconded By Councillor Shipston

WHEREAS the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

WHEREAS the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

WHEREAS these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

WHEREAS the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS municipalities are already under significant financial strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Southgate does not support the legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Southgate supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model, with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, MPP Paul Vickers, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green

Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
MPP Paul Vickers
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities

January 26, 2026

Re: Resolution # 2025 - Call on Province of Ontario to Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP)

On January 12, 2026, Council of the Town of Fort Frances passed the following into resolution:

Whereas the Fort Frances Municipal Airport serves the Town of Fort Frances, the District of Rainy River, and the First Nation communities of the Southern Treaty #3 region; and

Whereas the Fort Frances Municipal Airport plays a vital role in supporting medevac flights, wildfire response operations, business travel, tourism, and the movement of essential goods for the entire region; and

Whereas the termination of scheduled passenger air service in May, 2024 resulted in the loss of eligibility to funding through the federal Airport Capital Assistance Program (ACAP); and

Whereas other provinces, including British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, have recognized the importance of regional airports by establishing dedicated provincial funding programs, and Ontario currently does not; and

Whereas maintaining aging airport infrastructure has become increasingly difficult without predictable provincial support; and

Whereas regional airports serve broader provincial and regional interests, and municipalities cannot shoulder the financial burden alone.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Fort Frances hereby calls upon the Province of Ontario to:

- 1. Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP) to provide dedicated annual funding for small and regional airports; and*
- 2. Ensure eligibility for a broad range of capital projects, including safety upgrades,*

equipment replacement, and runway maintenance; and

3. Engage municipalities in program design, ensuring local needs and realities are reflected in funding criteria; and

4. Recognize the essential role of airports in medevac and emergency services, especially in remote and northern communities.

Moved by Michael Behan, Seconded by Steven Maki, Carried.

For more information about this resolution, please contact the Office of the Clerk

Chelsea Greig, Municipal Clerk | cgreig@fortfrances.ca

Ally Lewis, Communications Coordinator & Deputy Clerk | alewis@fortfrances.ca



TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

IN CHAMBERS

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 07:00 PM

Moved BY: Councillor Hooper

Resolution # **008-01-2026**

Seconded BY: Councillor Bowerman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we add our support to the Elbows Up Climate Action request from Canadian local governments to the leaders of all federal political parties.

()

Agenda Number: 14.c.
Resolution Number 2026-RCM-029
Title: Closure of Sudbury's LifeLabs Laboratory
Date: February 2, 2026

Moved by:



Seconded by:



WHEREAS LifeLabs has announced the planned closure of its laboratory processing facility in Greater Sudbury, with services being transferred to facilities in Southern Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Sudbury LifeLabs laboratory currently provides essential diagnostic testing services to residents of Markstay-Warren and communities throughout Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS the closure raises serious concerns regarding increased turnaround times for critical medical testing, potential service disruptions, and risks to patient care due to transportation delays, particularly during winter months and adverse weather conditions; and

WHEREAS timely access to laboratory diagnostics is a critical component of an effective healthcare system and is essential to the health and well-being of rural, senior, and vulnerable populations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren hereby expresses its opposition to the closure of the LifeLabs laboratory in Greater Sudbury;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council formally requests the Province of Ontario, the Ministry of Health, and LifeLabs to reconsider this decision and to maintain local laboratory processing capacity in Sudbury to ensure reliable and timely diagnostic services for Northern Ontario residents;

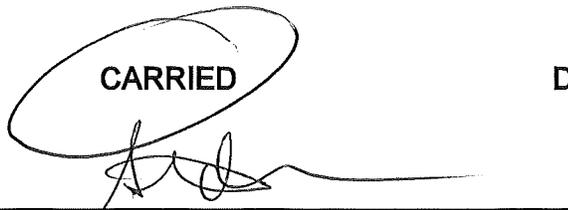
AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the attached draft communication and a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
- MPP France Gélinas, Nickel Belt
- MPP John Vanthof, Timiskaming–Cochrane
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
- LifeLabs Ontario

CARRIED

DEFERRED

DEFEATED



Mayor

February 2, 2026

The Honourable John Vanthof, MPP
Timiskaming–Cochrane
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

RE: Concerns Regarding the Closure of the LifeLabs Laboratory in Greater Sudbury

Dear MPP Vanthof,

On behalf of the Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren, I am writing to express our serious concerns regarding the announced closure of the LifeLabs laboratory facility in Greater Sudbury.

The Sudbury LifeLabs facility plays a critical role in providing timely diagnostic services for residents throughout Northern Ontario, including those in Markstay-Warren and surrounding communities. The planned transition of laboratory processing services to facilities located in the Greater Toronto Area raises serious concerns regarding longer turnaround times, potential service disruptions, and increased risks to patient care. Particularly during winter months and periods of inclement weather that frequently affect northern transportation routes.

Reliable access to diagnostic testing is essential to the health and well-being of our residents. Many of our citizens rely on timely laboratory results to support urgent and ongoing medical treatment. Any delays or disruptions may result in adverse health outcomes, particularly for seniors, rural residents, and vulnerable populations.

Council is also concerned about the potential loss of skilled laboratory professionals from our region, further weakening already strained healthcare services across Northern Ontario.

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren respectfully urges the Province of Ontario to engage with LifeLabs and the Ministry of Health to explore options that would maintain local laboratory processing capacity in Sudbury and ensure that residents of Northern Ontario continue to receive timely, high-quality diagnostic services.



Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We appreciate your continued advocacy on behalf of Northern Ontario communities and respectfully request your support in addressing this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Serré". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Marc Serré, CAO/Clerk
Municipality of Markstay-Warren
Encl. Closure of Sudbury's LifeLab Laboratory Resolution
cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
MPP France Gélinas, Nickel Belt
MPP John Vanthof, Timiskaming–Cochrane
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
LifeLabs Ontario



6020 Highway 542, P.O. Box 420
Mindemoya, ON P0P 1S0
Tel:705-377-5726
Fax:705-377-5585

Email: ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca

February 3, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier for the Government of Ontario;
Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General;
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
Mary ten Doeschate, Manitoulin Police Services Board Veronique Dion; and
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

RE: SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR POLICE SERVICES REQUEST

Please be advised that at the Municipality of Central Manitoulin Council meeting of January 29, 2026, the following motion was approved:

021-2026 That the Council of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin supports the following motion from the City of Peterborough meeting dated November 3, 2025:

*Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to maintain a police service;
and*

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to constitute a municipal board to have policing responsibility for the municipality, or enter into a written agreement for an alternate provision of policing services; and

Whereas the City of Peterborough has constituted a municipal board; and

Whereas municipalities, across Ontario, with a police service board, are required to "ensure adequate and effective policing is provided in the area for which they have policing responsibility in accordance with the needs of the population in the area and having regard for the diversity of the population in the area" and

Whereas police service boards within municipalities where court proceedings are conducted are required to ensure the security of judges, other judicial officials, members of the public participating in court proceedings, ensuring the secure custody of persons in custody who are on or about the premises, including persons taken into custody at proceedings; and

*Whereas the provision of court security is not part of providing adequate and effective policing;
and*

Whereas the cost of providing court security is a cost of the municipality, regardless of whether all matters originate within that municipality; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to have and maintain critical infrastructure, including appropriate police facilities and equipment, to ensure adequate and effective policing is provided; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019; and

Whereas these cost increases stem from provincially mandated requirements including training, certification, technology, reporting, and staffing obligations necessary to bring local police services into compliance with the Act; and

Whereas municipalities have no discretion in implementing these measures and limited ability to absorb the resulting financial pressures within existing budgets; and

Whereas policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of the costs to implement provincial mandates;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

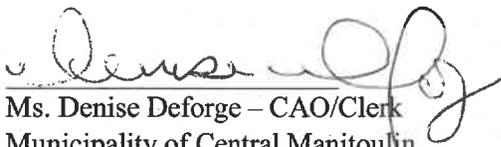
Council request that the Province of Ontario provide targeted financial assistance to municipalities to offset any additional costs that are directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, and not general increases to police budgets; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that:

*Council urge the Province of Ontario to review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities so that communities with growing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and
Therefore, be it further resolved that: Council request that the Province of Ontario provide stable sustainable funding to offset costs associated with the provision of providing court security services;
and*

That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Manitoulin Police Services Board Chair, and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

Sincerely,


Ms. Denise Deforge – CAO/Clerk
Municipality of Central Manitoulin

cc. File

Kaitlyn Wendland

From: Gallant, Cheryl - M.P. <cheryl.gallant@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2026 11:40 AM
To: Group Arnprior
Subject: Enabling Accessibility Fund



CHERYL GALLANT

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
ALGONQUIN-RENFREW-PEMBROKE



Dear Nick Smith Center,

The Enabling Accessibility Fund is now accepting applications for projects that make communities and workplaces across Canada more accessible for persons with disabilities.

Eligible organizations can apply for funding between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000.

In order to be eligible for funding, your organization must be one of the following:

- not-for-profit organization (including social enterprises)
- for-profit organization with up to 99 full-time equivalent employees
- municipal government where the population of the municipality is less than 100,000, as per the 2021 census

The deadline to apply is March 12, 2026, at 3:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST).

To learn more visit cherylgallant.com/programs/enabling-accessibility/

Sincerely,

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

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE

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

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

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

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Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: Post-ROMA and Municipal Energy Survey

From: Anik Benoit <Anik.Benoit@enbridge.com>

Sent: January 26, 2026 9:20 AM

To: Lisa McGee <lmcgee@arnprior.ca>; Robin Paquette <rpaquette@arnprior.ca>

Subject: Post-ROMA and Municipal Energy Survey

Hello Mayor McGee and Members of Council,

I wanted to share some insights from our recent participation at the ROMA conference. We had the pleasure of engaging with numerous municipalities and gathered valuable feedback and perspectives.

As you know, Enbridge Gas prides itself on being your trusted reliability partner, and the utility of choice for over four million customers in Ontario. As rural and small urban municipalities plan for growth, natural gas delivers reliable and affordable energy to homes, businesses, industry, and communities.

Our critical infrastructure network is purpose-built for needs of Ontario's diverse communities. During extreme weather, like the current polar vortex, our strategic storage and delivery systems protect customers from price spikes and blackouts, keeping families warm and hospitals, businesses, and communities running and resilient.

In 2026, energy planning will be a central issue, subject to fierce debate and discourse, but it is also an opportunity to elevate the needs and perspectives of Ontario's rural and small urban communities on their energy choices and growth objectives.

To remain engaged and support open and informed discussions, we encourage you to:

1. Complete our [Municipal energy survey](#) to provide your municipality's perspective and practical considerations related to access to natural gas network to meet local needs.
2. Follow our [Natural Gas Matters](#) page and sign up for updates.
3. Become engaged in key consultations, like the upcoming [Model Franchise Agreement review](#), integrated gas-electric planning process, and more.

As always, our team of municipal advisors and energy solution specialists are here to help and provide information on a range of demand and supply side alternatives, energy efficiency programs, and commercial expansion opportunities. We are keen to explore how we can deepen our collaboration to support your development vision as your community navigates this critical period of growth, renewal, and revitalization.

Stay warm and safe this week!

Anik Benoit

Advisor, Municipal & Stakeholder Affairs
Conseillère, Affaires municipales

ENBRIDGE

Cell: 343.998.4719

2571 Lancaster Rd Ottawa On K1B4L5

www.enbridgegas.com

Safety. Integrity. Respect. Inclusion. High Performance.
Sécurité. Intégrité. Respect. Inclusion. Haute Performance.

I mindfully acknowledge that I live and work on land that has been inhabited by and cared for by Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial. I recognize and respect the historic connection to this shared land and, as such, we have a responsibility to preserve and care for the land, and learn from the original inhabitants.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kaitlyn Wendland

Subject: FW: EOWC Newsletter: December 2025

From: Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus <eowc@eowc.ccsend.com>

Sent: February 2, 2026 9:44 AM

To: Robin Paquette <rpaquette@arnprior.ca>

Subject: EOWC Newsletter: December 2025



Newsletter

January 2026

EOWC Advocacy Update

The EOWC Champions Regional Priorities and Partnerships at ROMA 2026



Left-to-right: Billy Denault, MPP, Renfrew - Nipissing - Pembroke; François Landry, Warden, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry; Richard Kidd, Warden, Lanark County; Corinna Smith-Gatcke, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville; Bonnie Clark, Chair, EOWC; Hon. Rob Flack, Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Jennifer Murphy, Warden, Renfrew County; Steve Ferguson, Mayor, Prince Edward County; Steve Clark, MPP, Leeds - Grenville Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes; John Jordan, MPP, Lanark - Frontenac - Kingston.

The EOWC, representing 103 rural and small-urban municipalities, participated in the 2026 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference in Toronto to advance key regional priorities.

Representing 1.1 million residents across 50,000 square kilometres, the EOWC highlighted three priorities with the Ontario Government:

- Strengthening affordability for municipalities, businesses, and residents
- Establishing a regulated paramedic college in Ontario
- Modernizing the OPP billing model and Provincial Offences Act fines

Throughout the conference, the EOWC met with provincial leaders, opposition parties, and sector partners, including:

- Minister of Rural Affairs Lisa Thompson and Parliamentary Assistant, Steve Pinsonneault
- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack
- Solicitor General Michael Kerzner
- Parliamentary Assistant Amarjot Sandhu (Infrastructure)

- Ontario NDP, Ontario Liberal Party, Green Party of Ontario
- Hydro One

Regional MPPs also joined meetings to support advocacy efforts on behalf of eastern Ontario's 1.1 million residents, including:

Steve Clark, Billy Denault, David Piccini, John Jordan, Dave Smith, Ric Bresee, and Tyler Allsopp.

[Read the EOWC's ROMA Package](#)

The EOWC Elects Chair and Vice-Chair at 2026 Annual General Meeting



Left-to-right: Nathan Townend, Vice-Chair, EOWC; Bonnie Clark, Chair, EOWC.



Left-to-right: Bill Saunders, Warden, Frontenac County; Dave Burton, Warden, Haliburton County; Bob Mullin, Warden, Hastings County; François Landry, Warden, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry; Nathan Townend, Vice-Chair, EOWC; Corinna Smith-Gatcke, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville; Doug Elmslie, Mayor, City of Kawartha Lakes; Richard Kidd,

Warden, Lanark County; Bonnie Clark, Chair, EOWC; Jennifer Murphy, Warden, Renfrew County; Bob Crate, Warden, Northumberland County; Meredith Staveley-Watson, Executive Director, EOWC, Mario Zanth, Warden, United Counties of Prescott and Russell; Steve Ferguson, Mayor, Prince Edward County.

The EOWC hosted its 2026 Annual General Meeting on January 9 in Kingston, bringing together leaders from all levels of government to reflect on regional progress and set priorities for the year ahead, including the welcome of its 2026 Board of Directors.

During the meeting, Bonnie Clark, Warden of Peterborough County, was acclaimed as Chair for 2026, with Nathan Townend, Warden of Lennox and Addington County, appointed as Vice-Chair. Their leadership will guide the EOWC's continued work on economic resilience, infrastructure, housing, health care, and other key priorities for eastern Ontario.

The EOWC extends its appreciation to guest speakers Minister Lisa Thompson, Minister Nolan Quinn, Minister Rob Flack, Earl Provost, Ontario Agent-General, Chicago, and EORN Chair Jennifer Murphy for sharing their insights. The EOWC also welcomed a wide range of government and sector partners, underscoring the value of strong collaboration across the region.

The EOWC Presents Ontario Budget Recommendations to Minister of Finance



Left-to-right: Meredith Staveley-Watson, Executive Director, EOWC; Zee Hamid, MPP, Milton; Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister, Ministry of Finance; Stephen Crawford, Minister, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement; Natalie Pierre, MPP, Burlington.

On January 29, EOWC Executive Director, Meredith Staveley-Watson, presented the EOWC's recommendations for Ontario's 2026 Budget to Ministers Peter Bethlenfalvy and Stephen Crawford, alongside MPPs Natalie Pierre and Zee Hamid.

Earlier in January, the EOWC submitted a comprehensive set of recommendations to the Government of Ontario focused on modernizing the municipal fiscal framework, strengthening rural and small-urban communities, and ensuring municipalities have the tools and resources needed to deliver essential services.

Our recommendations include:

- A renewed provincial–federal–municipal partnership to create a reliable fiscal framework
- Tailored support for rural and small-urban municipalities to meet housing and infrastructure goals
- Strategic investment in trade-enabling ports to grow the "Highway H2O" corridor
- A regulated paramedic college to modernize training and expand care
- A sustainable, transparent approach to OPP policing costs
- Inclusion of more rural communities in the Building Faster Fund
- A coordinated, province-wide effort to address homelessness, addictions, and mental health

[Read the EOWC's Ontario Pre-Budget Consultation Submission](#)

In The Media

CBC News Article: "Eastern Ontario wardens want regulatory college for paramedics"

The EOWC's ROMA 2026 priority to establish a regulated paramedic college in Ontario was recently featured in a [CBC article](#), which included

an interview with EOWC Chair Bonnie Clark. The article examined the Caucus's call for modernized legislation and stronger professional oversight for paramedics; an issue advanced by the EOWC at this year's ROMA Conference.

CBC highlighted the EOWC's position that a regulated college would help standardize licensing across Canada, attract more paramedics to Ontario, and support the expansion of community-based care.

In the interview, Chair Clark emphasized that a regulated paramedic college would allow paramedics to work to their full scope of practice, helping to ease pressure on emergency departments and improve access to care, particularly in rural communities.

The CBC coverage reinforces the importance of the EOWC's advocacy and the growing momentum to modernize Ontario's approach to paramedic regulation.

Construction Completed on New Long-Term Care Home in Athens



Left-to-right: Michael Barrett, MP, Leeds - Grenville - Thousand Islands - Rideau Lakes; John Jordan, Parliamentary Assistant, Ministry of Long-Term Care; Steve Clark, MPP, Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes; Corinna Smith-Gatcke, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

The G. Tackaberry and Family Home in Athens has officially opened, marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the new 192-bed long-term-care facility. Construction of the home spanned approximately three and a half years.

The opening was attended by Local MP Michael Barrett, MPP Steve Clark, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care and MPP for Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston John Jordan, Warden Corinna Smith-Gatcke, as well as local mayors and community leaders. This facility represents the largest capital construction project in the history of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment in Eastern Ontario

Eastern Ontario is receiving funding through the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program – Health and Safety Water Stream to support critical water and wastewater infrastructure upgrades.

These investments include:

- The [Municipality of Tweed will receive up to \\$821,250 to upgrade its water treatment plant.](#)
- The [Village of Madoc is receiving \\$4,692,075 to rehabilitate and expand its sanitary sewer trunk.](#)
- The [Town of Bancroft will receive \\$2,226,500 to rehabilitate the Town's York River overflow water control structure.](#)

Partner Updates



EORN

**EASTERN ONTARIO
REGIONAL NETWORK**

On December 17, 2025, EORN issues their semi-annual newsletter. The issue includes:

- Cell Gap Project update
- Testimonial
- Thirty-four new 5G Cell towers operational
- Eastern Ontario Infill Broadband Project
- Meet EORN staff

[Read the Newsletter](#)

Regional Updates and News



Ontario Invests \$26 Million to Train More Long-Term Care Staff

Ontario is [investing more than \\$26 million to train nearly 3,000 new frontline staff in long-term care](#), strengthening care for residents while helping students study and work in their local communities. The funding supports professional development for current workers and expands the Living Classrooms program, which integrates hands-on training directly in long-term care homes.

Ontario Expanding Teaching Clinics to Connect 300,000 More People to Primary Care

Ontario is [investing up to \\$8 million to plan and expand 16 primary care teaching clinics across the province](#), helping connect 300,000 more people to primary care. Working in partnership with Ontario's medical schools, these clinics will train future family doctors and health-care professionals in team-based settings while providing care in communities with high need.

Ontario Investing \$700 Million in Water Infrastructure to Support Communities and Housing

Ontario is [investing an additional \\$700 million to help 127 municipalities and First Nations communities upgrade and expand critical water and wastewater infrastructure](#). Delivered through the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, the funding will support access to safe drinking water, create jobs, protect communities from extreme weather and unlock new housing opportunities.

Ontario Launches \$20 Million Program to Support Rural Communities

Ontario has launched [the second intake of the \\$20 million Rural Ontario Development Program](#), supporting rural municipalities, businesses, Indigenous groups and not-for-profit organizations to strengthen local economies, build infrastructure and protect jobs.

Canada and Ontario Invest \$20 Million to Support Farmers and Agribusinesses

The governments of [Canada and Ontario are investing up to \\$20 million through the new Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative to help farmers, food processors and agribusinesses expand into new domestic and international markets](#). The funding will support market development, product innovation and equipment upgrades, helping Ontario food producers grow global sales, strengthen competitiveness and build long-term resiliency amid economic uncertainty.

Upcoming Events



**GREAT LAKES AND
ST. LAWRENCE**
CITIES INITIATIVE

GLSLCI Conference

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will be hosting their annual conference from May 6-8, 2026, in Hamilton, Ontario.

[Register](#)



EOWC 2026 Queen's Park Advocacy Day

On May 11, 2026, the EOWC will head to Toronto for our Queen's Advocacy Day, advocating for the needs of eastern Ontario's 103 municipalities.



2026 CAMA Conference

From May 25-27, 2026, CAMA will host their 52nd Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Whistler Convention Centre, in Whistler, British Columbia.

[More information](#)

Connect With Us on LinkedIn, Facebook and X



About the EOWC

The EOWC is a regional non-profit organization representing 13 upper and single-tier municipalities across eastern Ontario. The EOWC supports and advocates on behalf of 103 municipalities and serves 1.1 million residents. The EOWC covers an area of approximately 50,000 square kilometers from Northumberland County to the Québec border.

The EOWC has gained support and momentum by speaking with a united voice to champion regional municipal priorities and work with government, business leaders, the media, and the public.

Visit the EOWC's website at eowc.org.

Connect with the EOWC

2026 Chair, Warden of Peterborough County, Bonnie Clark

2026 Vice-Chair, Warden of Lennox and Addington County, Nathan Townend

Executive Director, Meredith Staveley-Watson

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