



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: March 23rd, 2026
Correspondence Package No. I-26-MAR-06**

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package No. I-26-MAR-06 be received as information and filed accordingly.

General Information Items:

1. Correspondence from the Government of Ontario

- a) Ontario and Canada Investing More Than \$228 Million to Protect Workers and Key Industries
- b) Ontario Giving Workers, Retailers and Consumers More Choices on Family Day and Victoria Day
- c) Ontario Investing \$47 Million to Expand Community Non-Profit Programs
- d) Ontario Launches 2026-2027 Francophone Community Grants Program
- e) Ontario Launching Classroom Supplies Fund to Support Elementary School Teachers and Students
- f) Ontario Marks Major Milestone in Construction of New CHEO Integrated Treatment Centre
- g) Ontario Opening HOV Lanes to More Drivers on Provincial Highways
- h) Ontario Permitting “Bring-Your-Own” Alcoholic Beverages at Outdoor Public Events
- i) Ontario Taking Action to Protect Local Communities and Break the Cycle of Addiction
- j) Ontario Updating Cyber Security, Privacy and Access Framework to Align More Closely with Jurisdictions Across Canada

2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew

- a) Support for Upgrading Highway 11 and 17 as a Nation-Building Project – Priority Emphasis on Highway 17 in the County of Renfrew
- b) Deadline for Sports 4 All Fund Applications Approaching Quickly

3. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- a) Watchfile – March 5, 2026
- b) Conservation Authority Consolidation, New Buy Ontario Municipal Procurement Requirements, Proposals on Drug Enforcement
- c) Watchfile – March 12, 2026

4. Correspondence from the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

- a) Newsletter – March 13, 2026

5. Correspondence from Other Municipalities

- a) The Township of North Dumfries Resolution – Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025
- b) The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward – Resolution 2026 – 111
- c) Municipality of the Town of Fort Frances
- d) Municipality of Rideau Lakes – Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)
- e) Municipality of Strathroy-Cardoc – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
- f) The Township of Oro Medonte – Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns
- g) Township of Wellesley – For Info. 5/2026 – Municipality of Wawa re: School Bus Safety and Stop Arm – Councillor Sebben
- h) Renfrew County Neurodiversity Resource Fair – Dragonfly Family and Learning Services & Horton Township

6. Correspondence from Enterprise Renfrew County

- a) Youth Entrepreneurship Intake Now Open Summer Company 2026
- b) Partnering With Your Credit Union – Banking Solutions for Small Business

- c) [Legal Bootcamp with OWRN](#)
- d) [Free Business Training Information Sessions 2026](#)

7. Correspondence from Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

- a) [EORN Cell Gap Project Monthly Update February 2026](#)

8. Correspondence from South Ottawa Vallet OPP Detachment Board

- a) [Minutes – Meeting February 4th, 2026](#)

9. Correspondence from CIBC

- a) [Join the Canadian Cancer Society CIBC Run for the Cure Volunteer Community](#)

10. Correspondence from Town of Arnprior

- a) [Donation of Technological Equipment to the Fire Department](#)

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario and Canada Investing More Than \$228 Million to Protect Workers and Key Industries

New funding will help up to 27,000 workers in Ontario retrain, upskill and stay competitive in the face of U.S. tariffs

March 10, 2026

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

OTTAWA — The Ontario government is taking further action to protect Ontario workers by expanding training and employment supports for those impacted by tariffs and global trade disruptions. Through a \$228.8 million investment from the Government of Canada over the next three years, Ontario will deliver the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response, helping up to 27,000 workers across the province retrain, upgrade their skills and stay competitive in key sectors of the economy, including softwood lumber, steel and automotive manufacturing.

“Ontario’s workers are at the forefront of our economy, and our government will never shy away from helping them when it’s needed,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “As tariffs continue to impact key sectors, we are standing with the workers and communities feeling these pressures the most. Through this funding, we’re helping workers retrain, upgrade their skills and move into new opportunities so they can continue to work, thrive and support their families while keeping Ontario strong, competitive and resilient.”

As part of this initiative, Ontario will deliver targeted programs through [Skills Advance Ontario \(SAO\)](#), which helps workers stay employed, upgrade their skills and move into new in-demand jobs, while helping employers retain experienced staff during periods of economic uncertainty. In addition, SAO will support workforce development in high-growth sectors such as health care, skilled trades, energy and natural resources.

A wide range of workers and employers will be eligible, including laid-off and unemployed workers seeking new skills for in-demand jobs, employees whose workplaces are participating in Employment Insurance (EI) work-sharing

agreements and workers who need additional skills training to adapt and stay competitive within companies directly impacted by tariffs, or within communities that rely heavily on those industries.

“Canada’s workforce is strongest when employers and training partners work together. As global trade evolves, no worker will be left behind,” said Patty Hajdu, Minister of Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario. “Through the Workforce Tariff Response, that means providing the tools and training workers need to secure good jobs, continue building strong communities, and ensure Canada remains resilient in the face of global challenges.”

Applications for the Skills Advance Ontario program are open and will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Employers and employment and training service providers can submit their project proposals at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/skills-advance-ontario-sao>. Workers and jobseekers interested in the program are encouraged to contact participating employers and service providers or [Employment Ontario](#) directly.

Ontario continues to take decisive action to protect workers, businesses and communities in the face of global trade disruptions. By investing in skills training and helping employers retain experienced staff, the province is strengthening key industries and building a stronger, more competitive and resilient economy that can create good-paying jobs for generations to come.

Quick Facts

- Ontario programs like Protect Ontario Workers Employment Response (POWER) Centres, Better Jobs Ontario and Integrated Employment Services may also receive additional funding through the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response.
 - [Employment Ontario](#) is providing free employment services and training programs for jobseekers, workers and employers online, via phone or chat or in person at more than 700 service locations across Ontario. In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Employment Ontario network helped over 693,000 Ontarians.
-

Quotes

"Ontario's workforce is among the most talented and highly sought after in the world, with deep capabilities across the steel, manufacturing, lumber and automotive industries. As global supply chains undergo unprecedented realignment, the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response will equip workers with the skills and resources necessary to build a more competitive, resilient and prosperous economy."

- Vic Fedeli

**Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade and Member of
Provincial Parliament for Nipissing**

"We must stand together to protect the workers who depend on the good paying jobs in Ontario's forestry sector. The support provided through the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response will give workers the training and skills needed to build a more competitive, resilient forestry sector that can stand up to changing markets and trade uncertainties."

- Mike Harris

**Minister of Natural Resources and Member of Provincial Parliament for
Kitchener-Conestoga**

"Workers in Ontario's forest sector are facing real pressure from global tariffs and market shifts. By working together, our federal and provincial governments are ensuring forestry workers can access the training and employment supports they need to adapt, stay competitive and protect northern Ontario communities."

- Kevin Holland

**Associate Minister of Forestry and Forest Products and Member of
Provincial Parliament for Thunder Bay**

"Steelworkers know that global tariffs and economic uncertainty can put good union jobs at risk and create real challenges for working families and communities. Investments like the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response are important to ensure workers have access to the training and support they need to protect jobs, strengthen our industries, and build a more resilient workforce."

- Kevon Stewart
USW District 6 Director for Ontario & Atlantic Canada

"We are thrilled that the Governments of Canada and Ontario have launched the Canada-Ontario Workforce Tariff Response initiative. Programs that help retrain laid off workers and upskill those currently employed in sectors under pressure is exactly what is needed right now. When tariffs are causing layoffs and undermining new investment, and when workforce disruptions occur due to these tariffs or due to the adoption of new technologies, reinvesting in one of Canada's and Ontario's great competitive advantages, our skilled workforce, is just smart public policy."

- Ken Delaney
Executive Director, CSTEC

"We welcome this announcement from Ministers Hajdu and Piccini. Algoma Steel, like many companies in the steel sector, is navigating a challenging and uncertain trade and market environment. The support being provided by the Governments of Canada and Ontario for affected workers is welcome and will help workers and communities during this period."

- Rajat Marwah
CEO, Algoma Steel

"The Canada Ontario Workforce Tariff Response initiative will provide support to workers and industries affected by softwood lumber tariffs and help to stabilize sectors that are vital to Ontario's economy. By strengthening workforce skills and professional development, this program will contribute to a resilient, knowledgeable, and future ready forestry profession across the province."

- Brandon Williamson
Associate R.P.F., President, Ontario Professional Foresters Association

"The government's dedication to a healthy and resilient workforce in an acutely troubled time helps employers navigate unprecedented trade disputes with greater confidence. The best result for all of us is to rebuild a more dynamic economy so we get through this with collective momentum."

- Flavio Volpe
C.M., President, Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association

"The launch of Skills Advance Ontario is a decisive step forward by the federal and provincial governments to shield Ontario's auto industry from costly and harmful American tariffs. This initiative will help close the skilled labour shortage facing Ontario's new car and truck retailers and provide well-paying careers for the next generation of automotive technicians."

- Todd Bourgon
CEO, Motor Vehicle Retailers of Ontario

"The Canadian Association of Mold Makers strongly welcomes this timely and strategic investment in Ontario's workforce. As global trade pressures continue to impact key sectors, direct support for workers, skills development, and employer-led partnerships is critical to protecting jobs, strengthening our industrial base, and ensuring Ontario and Canada remain competitive, resilient, and ready for the future."

- Nicole Vlanich
Executive Director, Canadian Association of Moldmakers

Additional Resources

- [Employment Ontario](#)
 - [Skills Advance Ontario](#)
 - [Ontario Investing \\$70 Million to Protect Workers Affected by U.S. Tariffs](#)
 - [The Workforce Tariff Response](#)
-

Related Topics

Jobs and employment

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

Media Contacts

Michel Figueredo

Minister Piccini's Office

michel.figueredo@ontario.ca

Media Relations

Communications Branch

mlitsdmedialine@ontario.ca

Jennifer Kozelj

Senior Communications Advisor and Press Secretary

Office of the Minister of Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for FedNor

jennifer.kozelj@labour-travail.gc.ca

Media Relations Office

Employment and Social Development Canada

819-994-5559

media@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Giving Workers, Retailers and Consumers More Choice on Family Day and Victoria Day

Province proposing to allow retail business to stay open on select holidays while maintaining robust protections for workers

March 13, 2026

[Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement](#)
[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

As part of its plan to protect Ontario, support workers and businesses, and provide more choice and convenience for families, the provincial government is proposing changes that would allow retail business establishments across the province to open on Family Day and Victoria Day, while maintaining strong protections for workers who wish to take the holiday off.

With this proposal, retail business establishments would have the option to stay open and serve consumers and families, and eligible retail employees could work and earn time-and-a-half premium pay, in addition to automatically receiving their full public holiday pay. These changes would create a fairer, more consistent approach for businesses and workers while allowing families to enjoy the convenience of select retail stores on these days.

“By giving retailers the option to open on Family Day and Victoria Day, we are supporting employees and businesses while giving families more choice and convenience to shop at their local retail stores,” said Stephen Crawford, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement. “These changes will give many employees the flexibility to agree to pick up extra shifts at increased pay, while maintaining their right to take the day off.”

Family Day and Victoria Day are non-religious, statutory holidays observed across Ontario, making them well-suited for a harmonized retail framework. The proposed approach would only apply to those two holidays, continuing to respect Ontario’s long-standing commitment to protecting religious observance and worker choice. All employee rights under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* (ESA), including public holiday pay, premium pay and the right for many retail employees to refuse work on a public holiday will remain fully in place.

Currently, retail business holiday rules vary significantly across municipalities, creating a fragmented and confusing patchwork for consumers and an uneven playing field for businesses and their employees. In some municipalities, stores may open on these holidays, while in neighbouring regions they are required to close. As a result, a worker in one area of the province such as York Region, has the choice to take on time-and-a-half premium pay shifts while a similar worker in Peel Region is not given that same option. The proposed changes will address these gaps by bringing a fairer, more consistent approach for these two holidays that will enhance consumer convenience, give more choice to workers and allow business to thrive.

“Exploring a consistent, province-wide approach for retailers on Family Day and Victoria Day would give businesses greater flexibility while respecting the choice of workers,” said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “As Ontario continues to grow, it’s important our rules keep pace with how people live, work and shop today. Our government will continue protecting workers while strengthening Ontario’s economic resilience and productivity so businesses can thrive, invest and create more opportunities for workers across the province.”

Quick Facts

- The Ontario government is aiming to have these changes take effect in time for Victoria Day 2026.
- The proposed changes would only apply to Family Day and Victoria Day. Existing provincial and municipal authority to require retail business closures on all other public holidays would be maintained.
- The changes being proposed would remove these two holidays from the application of the RBHA and remove municipal authority to require retail business closures on those holidays.
- Employee protections under the ESA — including public holiday pay and the right to refuse work for many retail employees — would continue to apply because Family Day and Victoria Day would remain public holidays under the ESA.
- Retail businesses would generally have the choice to open or close on these holidays; the proposed changes would not require stores to open.

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

Giulia Paikin

Minister's Office

Giulia.Paikin@ontario.ca

Communications Branch

MPBSDP.MediaRelations@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing \$47 Million to Expand Community Non-Profit Programs

Funding will support 153 local non-profit organizations to create jobs and build stronger communities

March 10, 2026

[Tourism, Culture and Gaming](#)

TORONTO – The Ontario government is investing more than \$47 million this year through the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to support 153 non-profit organizations, First Nations communities and small municipalities that deliver innovative programs to promote active lifestyles, support arts, culture and heritage, and expand opportunities for children and youth across the province. This funding delivers on the government’s plan to protect Ontario by making strategic investments to strengthen local services and build stronger, more resilient communities.

“From helping seniors stay active to creating employment opportunities for youth and expanding access to arts and recreation, non-profit organizations play a vital role in protecting our communities,” said Stan Cho, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. “Through OTF’s Grow grants, we’re investing in organizations that deliver real local impact and supporting initiatives that protect local services and strengthen the well-being of families across Ontario.”

Every year, OTF Grow grants support community organizations across the province with investments of up to \$600,000 to expand and improve the delivery of community-based programs and services that Ontario families rely on.

Some of this year’s recipients include:

- A sport and recreation initiative with expanded programs to empower Indigenous youth in Northwestern Ontario through active living, leadership development and community engagement.
- A youth employment program delivering job readiness training, coaching and inclusive work experience to help rural youth with disabilities build skills, confidence and independence.

- A year-round arts and culture initiative in Peel Region, with new weekly low barrier workshops and events that increase access, support artists, and strengthen community belonging.
- A community food program improving volunteer systems to expand access to affordable produce and foster inclusion for residents experiencing food insecurity.

"The Ontario Trillium Foundation is pleased to invest in this new round of Grow grants, which are designed to improve the lives of Ontarians. These grants play an essential role in helping non-profit organizations broaden their local programming to address diverse community needs," said Katharine Bambrick, CEO of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Through OTF's various granting programs, including Grow and Seed, Ontario has invested more than \$857 million in over 7,700 projects since 2018. These investments have created more than 10,700 full-time jobs and generated over \$1.3 billion in economic benefits for communities across the province. For more information and a list of recipients, visit the Ontario Trillium Foundation's [website](#).

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. Its mandate is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario by investing in community-based initiatives and strengthening the impact of the province's non-profit sector.
- Applicants can apply for funding of \$100,000 to \$600,000 over two or three years through OTF's Grow grant stream to expand, improve or adapt an existing program or service.

Additional Resources

- [The Ontario Trillium Foundation](#)

Media Contacts

Scott Clark

Minister's Office

Scott.Clark@ontario.ca

Denelle Balfour

Communications Branch

MTCG.media@Ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Launches 2026-2027 Francophone Community Grants Program

Province continuing to protect Francophone communities and support their growth

March 12, 2026

[Francophone Affairs](#)

TORONTO – The Ontario government is continuing to support the province’s vibrant Francophone communities with the launch of the [2026–2027 Francophone Community Grants Program](#) (FCGP). Through the FCGP, Ontario is protecting the cultural and economic vitality of the Francophone community by funding initiatives that improve access to French-language services, strengthen organizational capacity and promote Francophone culture.

“Ontario’s Francophonie is at the heart of our provincial identity and prosperity,” said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs. “Through the FCGP, our government is investing in the future of our Francophone communities and organizations, equipping them to bring forward new projects and opportunities that will power strong, sustainable economic growth in French-speaking communities for generations to come.”

Community organizations and businesses are invited to submit their projects by April 23, 2026, under one of the program’s two streams: Community and Culture or Economic Development. Organizations and businesses can receive up to \$50,000 for projects that focus on providing products and services to Francophones in the province, including promoting the recruitment and training of bilingual Francophone staff, or offering opportunities to celebrate and foster understanding of Ontario’s Francophonie.

The Francophone Community Grants Program is part of the government’s plan to protect Francophones communities across the province by strengthening their economic, social, and cultural vitality.

Quick Facts

- Applications must be submitted through the [Transfer Payment Ontario portal](#) between Thursday, March 12 and Thursday, April 23, 2026, before 5 p.m.

Eastern Time (ET).

- Organizations and businesses interested in applying to the program are encouraged:
 - to consult with a [regional development advisor](#) before submitting their grant application;
 - to participate in the [information sessions](#) that will be offered virtually—one in French on March 25 and one in English on March 26, 2026. These sessions will be recorded and posted online.
 - Since 2018, more than 260 organizations in Ontario have received approximately \$16 million in funding.
 - The call for proposals is launched with a six-week submission period, followed by the announcement of selected projects in summer 2026.
 - Projects must be completed by March 31, 2027.
 - In 2025–2026, the total number of projects funded by the program was 71.
-

Additional Resources

- [Learn about the process for applying for funding under the Francophone Community Grants Program.](#)
 - [Projects selected under the 2025-2026 Francophone Community Grants Program.](#)
 - [Other available funding opportunities from the Ontario Government.](#)
 - [Ontario's Francophone Economic Development Strategy.](#)
-

Related Topics

Business and economy

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

Education and apprenticeship

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

Heritage, arts and history

Learn about heritage conservation, cultural institutions and creative grants the province has to offer. [Learn more](#)

Media Contacts

Liz Tuomi

Minister's Office

416-473-8377

liz.tuomi@ontario.ca

Communications Branch

Ministry of Francophone Affairs

MFA.media@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Launching Classroom Supplies Fund to Support Elementary School Teachers and Students

Province providing \$750 for each homeroom teacher to ensure every classroom has the supplies students need to succeed

March 11, 2026

[Office of the Premier](#)

[Education](#)

[Finance](#)

ETOBICOKE — The Ontario government is launching the Classroom Supplies Fund to provide elementary school homeroom teachers with direct access to \$750 in funding each school year for classroom supplies. The new fund, which will be launched as part of the province's 2026 budget, will ensure teachers have the materials they need in their classrooms without paying up front and is part of the government's ongoing work to ensure the provincial education system is supporting student success and helping them reach their full potential.

"Our government is making record investments so that our students have the support and supplies they need to succeed and grow in school," said Premier Doug Ford. "The new \$750 Classroom Supplies Card will give teachers across the province access to the resources they need, without forcing them to cover the costs themselves or wait to be reimbursed. It's just one of the ways we are supporting our students and teachers while ensuring Ontario's education system is focused on student success."

Beginning in September 2026, homeroom teachers will have access to \$750 each school year through a new provincial website, allowing them to order classroom supplies directly, with materials delivered to their schools. Each teacher will receive a Classroom Supplies Card directing them to the website, with instructions on how to access the site. The website will offer a grade-by-grade selection of commonly used classroom items, including writing supplies, notebooks, calculators, chalk, arts and crafts materials, tissues and paper towels. This will make it easier for elementary teachers to order what they need without paying up front and waiting for reimbursement, ensuring consistent access to supplies in every classroom across the province.

“Our government continues to make record investments to build an effective and strong education system. We are committed to protecting student learning and ensuring teachers have the support they need for every student to thrive,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “We will continue to strengthen accountability across the system and ensure that every investment is focused on student success and reaches the classroom where it matters most.”

Input from elementary teachers and school boards will inform the selection of supplies available to support both educators and students. The Classroom Supplies Fund reflects the government’s ongoing work to build a strong, consistent and well-supported public education system with a back-to-basics approach that is focused on improving student outcomes.

“We know that many teachers have been paying out of pocket for supplies. That isn’t fair for teachers or students,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. “While school boards receive funding for classroom resources, we have not always seen those dollars consistently reach every classroom. That is why we are putting funds directly in the hands of teachers to ensure their classrooms are equipped to support student achievement.”

More information about how the government continues to make progress on its plan to protect Ontario, by making Ontario one of the most competitive places to invest and do business in the G7 by building a more competitive, more resilient and more self-reliant economy, will be included in the *2026 Budget*, to be released on March 26, 2026.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is providing [historic levels of education funding](#) in 2025-26, with an investment of \$30.3 billion in Core Education Funding to focus key resources where they matter most: on student success.
- In November 2025, Ontario passed the [Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025](#), which simplifies, streamlines and broadens the Minister of Education’s powers of oversight, including over school board finances, governance and program performance.
- When school boards fail to meet their responsibilities, the government has not hesitated to act. Supervisors have been appointed to [eight school boards](#) to address concerns regarding growing deficits, depleting reserves and ongoing cases of mismanagement.
- Nominations are open for the new [Elizabeth Dowdeswell Award for Advancing Democracy Through Education](#), which recognizes Ontario elementary and

secondary school educators who champion democratic values and civic engagement through innovative teaching practices.

Additional Resources

- [Strengthening student achievement in our schools](#)
- [School board reviews and investigations](#)
- [Ontario Strengthening Governance, Accountability and Transparency in School Boards, Postsecondary Institutions and Children's Aid Societies](#)
- [Ontario Increasing School Board Accountability to Protect Students, Families and Taxpayer Funds](#)

Media Contacts

Hannah Jensen

Premier's Office

Hannah.Jensen2@ontario.ca

Emma Testani

Minister Calandra's Office

Emma.Testani@ontario.ca

Media Relations

Ministry of Education

EDUMedia@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Marks Major Milestone in Construction of New CHEO Integrated Treatment Centre

The new state-of-the-art facility will connect children and youth with special needs to high-quality care close to home

March 11, 2026

[Children, Community and Social Services](#)

OTTAWA — The Ontario government is marking a significant milestone in the construction of the CHEO Integrated Treatment Centre in Ottawa with a virtual ceremony, for the raising of the final structural beam. Once operational, this new 200,000 square-foot centre will deliver enhanced care to more than 13,700 children and youth with special needs and their families, in eastern Ontario. This project is in addition to the government's plan to protect Ontario's health-care system by investing nearly \$60 billion in more than 50 major hospital projects across the province over the next 10 years.

"The new CHEO Integrated Treatment Centre will deliver enhanced, high-quality care in a state-of-the-art building right here in Eastern Ontario," said Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. "It will bring specialized programs and professionals together, making it easier for children, youth and their families to find supports under one roof."

The government is supporting the construction of the new Integrated Treatment Centre, that will be connected to the CHEO hospital by a tunnel and will bring care providers together in one place, so families can conveniently get the services they need. Once operational in 2028, the new centre will provide patients and families with:

- Rehabilitation services and support therapies on-site, such as occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech-language therapy and recreation therapy
- Coordinated care for children and youth with multiple or complex special needs, including supports through the Ontario Autism Program
- Supports and coordinated care through the Extensive Needs Service, which connects families with a multidisciplinary team, such as doctors, social workers and behavioural consultants, to provide tailored supports

"Our government is proud to be celebrating this significant construction milestone alongside the community and our partners from CHEO, the CHEO Foundation and its Kids These Days campaign," said George Darouze, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. "This milestone moves the project one step closer to reality, with a new building to meet the growing need for children's development services in a modern and fully accessible space which will benefit residents of Ottawa and Eastern Ontario."

Ontario is investing to build new modern children's treatment centres across Ontario. Other projects include construction on the new Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent, planning for the new Lansdowne Children's Centre in Brantford, successful completion of Grandview Kids in Ajax, and the successful relocation of Health Sciences North Children's Treatment Centre in Sudbury.

Quick Facts

- Special needs can include, but are not limited to, communication disorders, physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, acquired brain injuries and chronic and/or long-term medical conditions. They can include specific diagnoses such as cerebral palsy, down syndrome, spina bifida, autism spectrum disorder and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.
 - The CHEO Integrated Treatment Centre is a 200,000 square foot new building that will transform care for more than 13,700 children and youth with special needs, along with their families, in eastern Ontario.
 - Ground was broken in April 2025, and it will be fully operational by 2028.
 - Families with questions about their child's development and support needs can contact their local [Children's Treatment Centre](#) to be connected to care.
 - Ontario has a \$60 billion plan to build health care infrastructure.
-

Quotes

"Today's construction milestone underscores the tremendous dedication of everyone supporting CHEO's new Integrated Treatment Centre, from workers and project partners to community members. Once complete, the centre will provide children and youth with special needs better access to coordinated, specialized care, closer to home. Our government's landmark investment in children's treatment centres is part of our more than \$223 billion capital plan to build and protect Ontario by renewing critical infrastructure, strengthening our communities and keeping workers on the job."

- Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of Infrastructure

"Infrastructure Ontario is proud to work with CHEO, EllisDon and our government partners to deliver a modern, accessible facility that will improve how children and youth with special needs access care in eastern Ontario."

- Angela Clayton
President and CEO, Infrastructure Ontario

"This beam carries signatures and handprints today — signatures from some of the people who have made this project possible, but most importantly, the handprints of those kids this project is for. Together, these signatures and handprints signal the shared vision of what care for children and youth can and should be. The ITC represents the next era of CHEO's 10 year redevelopment plan — and a tangible step toward a future where services are coordinated, accessible, and designed with families at the centre."

- Vera Etches
President and CEO, CHEO

"More than 50 years ago, generous donors helped build CHEO so families in our region could access dedicated pediatric care close to home. Today, that same spirit of community support is shaping the future through the Integrated Treatment Centre. This beam signing marks a powerful milestone made possible by donors past, present and future who believe deeply in the health and well-being of our kids."

- Steve Read
President and CEO, CHEO Foundation

Additional Resources

[Learn about the services and supports available at your local children's treatment centre.](#)

Media Assets



Related Topics

Family and social services

Services for children, youth, families and individuals who need support, and advancing the interests of women across Ontario. Includes information on major life events and care options, including marriage, births and child care. [Learn more](#)

Government

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

[Learn more](#)

Health and wellness

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

Media Contacts

Douglas Allingham

Minister's Office

Douglas.Allingham@ontario.ca

Media Relations

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

media.mccss@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Opening HOV Lanes to More Drivers on Provincial Highways

Off-peak access would reduce gridlock and keep drivers moving

March 17, 2026

[Transportation](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is proposing a regulatory amendment to the *Highway Traffic Act* that would allow single-occupant vehicles to use High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes during off-peak hours, making better use of existing highway infrastructure to help reduce gridlock and keep drivers moving on provincial highways. Ministry of Transportation modelling shows the change would improve travel times for all users, with average speeds increasing in both HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) and general-purpose lanes across major highways during off-peak hours. If implemented, this change would take place before the end of 2026, following a period of public consultation.

“Gridlock is costing our economy billions of dollars every year and robbing Ontario drivers of valuable time and quality of life,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “By allowing single-occupant vehicles to use HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes during off-peak hours, we would help keep drivers moving across the province, so they can spend less time in traffic and more time with their families and friends.”

HOV lanes are currently restricted to vehicles with two or more occupants, as well as buses, licensed taxis, green-plate vehicles, airport limousines, motorcycles and emergency vehicles. The government is exploring regulatory changes to allow single-occupant vehicles to drive on all existing, planned and future HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes during designated off-peak hours. Existing HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lane rules would apply outside of off-peak hours, which will be identified through analysis of current traffic data and consultations. These times will not include the busiest weekday morning or evening commute periods. Once finalized later this year, the new off-peak hours will be set out in regulation.

“Expanding the use of HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes would give more drivers the freedom to choose which lanes they use outside of rush hour,” said Hardeep Singh Grewal, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation. “By rethinking our approach to HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes, we’re standing up for drivers and ensuring we get the most out of Ontario’s transportation network.”

Ontario currently has 237 kilometres of HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes, with plans underway to add another 146 kilometres to the network. Expanding the use of HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes would ensure drivers have more choice to reach their destination during off-peak hours.

Quick Facts

- Single-occupant vehicles remain the dominant mode of transportation on Ontario’s highways, representing 72 per cent of vehicles on provincial highways in 2022.
- The proposed use of HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes during off-peak periods will be informed by consultations with stakeholders and traffic data.
- Commercial motor vehicles longer than 6.5 metres would continue to be restricted from using HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes under the proposed changes.
- Single-occupant vehicles with High-Occupancy Toll permits can pay to access HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes on sections of the Queen Elizabeth Way, Highway 403 and Highway 410.

Additional Resources

- [High Occupancy Vehicle \(HOV\) lanes](#)

Related Topics

Driving and road safety

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

Jobs and employment

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

Recreation and tourism

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

Media Contacts

Dakota Brasier

Minister's Office

Dakota.Brasier@ontario.ca

Julia Caslin

Communications Branch

MTO.Media@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Permitting "Bring-Your-Own" Alcoholic Beverages at Outdoor Public Events

Province supporting local festivals, small businesses and tourism

March 17, 2026

[Attorney General](#)

TORONTO — To help support local tourism and drive economic growth, the Ontario government is expanding "bring-your-own" (formerly tailgate) event permits for municipally designated cultural or community outdoor public events, including farmer's markets, movie screenings, art exhibits and neighbourhood festivals. The expanded permit will allow people who attend these events to bring their own alcohol for consumption in designated areas.

"Starting this spring, Ontario is giving communities more flexibility to safely and responsibly enjoy cultural and outdoor events," said Attorney General Doug Downey. "The 'bring-your-own' event permits will help save attendees money, lower overhead costs for event organizers and contribute to local economies."

Municipalities will be required to pass a bylaw authorizing the use of alcohol in public, if they do not already have one in place, and establish a local process that would determine whether an event qualifies as community or cultural. Starting April 30, 2026, event organizers in participating municipalities will be able to apply for bring-your-own permits through the [Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario \(AGCO\)](#).

"Our government is always working to find new ways to empower local communities, boost economic activity and increase tourism," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "By giving Ontario municipalities the choice to make use of this new initiative, our government is directly contributing to their economic well-being while ensuring adults can continue to safely and responsibly enjoy their favourite products."

The "bring-your-own" permit change will be enabled by an amendment to a regulation under the *Liquor Licence and Control Act*, giving community and cultural organizations greater flexibility ahead of the spring and summer event season.

Quick Facts

- Previously, only organizers of live sporting events were able to obtain this type of permit.
- Only individuals 19 years of age and older will be allowed to bring alcohol to events holding a "bring-your-own" event permit.
- The province will continue working closely with the AGCO to uphold existing rigorous standards for licensing, regulation and social responsibility, ensuring events are safe and reflect community priorities.
- The bring-your-own initiative builds on the recent amendment to the *Liquor Licence and Control Act* [to allow alcohol sale and consumption on pedal pubs](#).
- In 2024, Ontario's tourism industry supported more than 300,000 jobs and nearly 104,000 tourism-related businesses. That same year, the sector contributed \$34 billion to Ontario's GDP.

Quotes

"Allowing safe and responsible alcohol consumption at outdoor public events helps support local festivals, small businesses and tourism, while giving people more opportunities to come together. By modernizing outdated rules and keeping public safety front and centre, our government is protecting Ontario's hospitality and tourism sectors, and giving communities the flexibility they need to host high-quality events that residents and visitors can enjoy."

- Stan Cho
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

"These permitting changes represent a meaningful step forward—bringing communities together and supporting the growth of tourism-related businesses across the province. I'm proud to support this common-sense measure."

- Graham McGregor
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

"Across Ontario, local events showcase the pride, culture and entrepreneurial spirit that define our communities. By modernizing these rules, our government continues to make responsible, innovative changes that help boost tourism and contribute to local economies."

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

Additional Resources

- [Permits Regulation](#)
- [All Ontario Grocery and Big-Box Stores Now Able to Sell Alcoholic Beverages](#)
- [Ontario Cutting Wholesale Alcohol Prices to Support Restaurants and Bars](#)

Related Topics

Courts, justice and law

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

Media Contacts

Julia Facca

Minister's Office

julia.facca@ontario.ca

Alexandra Wilkes

Communications Branch

mag-media@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Taking Action to Protect Local Communities and Break the Cycle of Addiction

Province ending funding for all drug injection sites in communities with a HART Hub

March 16, 2026

[Health](#)

TORONTO — As part of the government's plan to protect families and communities, the province is ending provincial funding for the seven active drug injection sites that exist in communities that are supported by an existing Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub. To date, the province has invested almost \$550 million to support 28 HART Hubs across Ontario. This latest step responds directly to local concerns over public safety associated with these sites and furthers the government's plan to fund treatment and lasting recovery from addiction, rather than continued public funding of drug injection sites.

"Our government is focused on treatment, recovery and safer communities," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Through our almost \$550 million investment to establish HART Hubs across the province, we are ensuring people struggling with addiction can access the care and supports they need to break the tragic cycle of addiction and rebuild their lives while protecting Ontario communities."

To begin the process, the province will initiate a 90-day wind-down period, 60 days more than is required, in order to give clients time to transition to the support provided by their local HART Hub. The seven sites which will no longer receive funding include two sites in Toronto, two sites in Ottawa and one site each in Niagara, Peterborough and London. During this period the government will work directly with the municipalities and community partners to ensure a safe, coordinated wind-down of provincial funding for the drug injection sites and successful transition into the new model of recovery.

This action builds on [legislation passed in 2024 that prohibits](#) injection sites from operating within 200 metres of schools, and child-care centres. The government remains clear that the focus must be on treatment, recovery and safer communities. To date, HART Hubs have delivered care through more than 100,000

client interactions, connecting people to treatment and support. Hundreds of individuals have also accessed supportive housing and recovery-focused services that help people stabilize their lives and begin the path to recovery.

Through [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#) and building on the [Roadmap to Wellness](#), the province is connecting individuals to integrated mental health and addictions services, where and when they need it.

Quick Facts

- The [Community Care and Recovery Act, 2024](#) was passed in December 2024 and establishes a 200-metre restriction on drug injection sites from operating near schools, child-care centres and other designated premises, while requiring provincial approval before municipalities can seek federal exemptions or funding for supervised consumption or safer supply services.
 - The *Safer Municipalities Act, 2025* was passed in June 2025 and includes new measures that prohibit the public consumption of illegal substances and provide police and provincial offences officers with enforcement tools, including the ability to direct individuals to stop consuming illegal substances in public spaces or leave the area, with noncompliance constituting an offence.
 - In March 2025, [the government announced](#) an investment of almost \$550 million to open a total of 28 HART Hubs across the province. To date, 27 of these 28 Hubs are operational delivering recovery-focused care and supports in communities across the province.
 - HART Hubs will add close to 900 supportive housing units across Ontario, helping people stabilize their lives and transition to long-term housing.
 - Through the [Roadmap to Wellness](#), Ontario is investing \$3.8 billion over 10 years to close gaps in mental health and addictions care and build a world-class system. This investment is helping create new services and expand programs across the province.
-

Additional Resources

- [Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hubs \(HART Hubs\) locations](#)
- [Ontario Approves Transition of Nine Drug Injection Sites into Treatment Hubs | Ontario Newsroom](#)
- [Ontario Protecting Communities and Supporting Addiction Recovery with New Treatment Hubs | Ontario Newsroom](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Roadmap to Wellness: A Plan to Build Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions System](#)

- [Find out how you can access mental health support](#)
-

Related Topics

Government

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

[Learn more](#)

Health and wellness

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

Media Contacts

Ema Popovic

Minister Jones' Office

ema.popovic@ontario.ca

Media Relations

Communications Branch

media.moh@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Updating Cyber Security, Privacy and Access Framework to Align More Closely with Jurisdictions Across Canada

Changes will support increased data security and greater privacy

March 13, 2026

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

TORONTO — Ontario is taking action to better protect people's privacy, public information and sensitive data, including stronger safeguards for children's information. These updates will modernize the province's digital government and privacy framework by introducing enhanced cyber security rules for the broader public service as well as updated Freedom of Information (FOI) timelines and processes. The changes include the exclusion of cabinet ministers and their offices from FOI requirements, which will more closely align Ontario with the approach taken by other jurisdictions in Canada.

"After nearly 40 years, we are modernizing Ontario's privacy protections and bringing the province's technology practices into the 21st century," said Stephen Crawford, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement. "These updates will strengthen cyber security, protect cabinet confidentiality and ensure responsible modern governance."

Introduced in 1988, Ontario's current access and privacy framework has gone nearly four decades without any major updates and is no longer reflective of today's technology or digital practices. Designed before email, mobile devices and cloud-based systems became the norm, the outdated framework creates unnecessary privacy risks for both government and the public. While nearly every province and the federal government have modernized their legislation to adapt to the changing technological landscape, Ontario has fallen behind.

The updated framework will close longstanding gaps, strengthen cyber security, reduce red tape and better protect confidentiality by taking a number of actions, including:

Aligning Ontario's FOI framework:

- Excluding the records of the premier, cabinet ministers, parliamentary assistants and their offices under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA). Ontario is currently one of only two jurisdictions in Canada (the other being Nova Scotia) without explicit protections for records belonging to cabinet ministers or their offices. This weakens clarity of protections for cabinet decision-making and undermines the confidentiality and candidness of discussions between ministers and their offices. Robust FOI requirements will remain in place, including when it comes to government decision-making in the form of direction from ministers and their offices to the public service.
- Updating legislation to require relevant institutions to provide reasonable, timely assistance to requesters when a request contains insufficient detail or requires further information.
- Codifying the practice of releasing voluminous requests in stages while processing continues in order to get information to requesters quickly and allow more time to process requests.
- Updating FOI timelines and terminology to provide clarity and certainty, including extending FOI response timelines to 45 business days and providing more flexibility to manage large volume and complex requests.

Strengthening cyber security and data protection to reflect modern day practices:

- Implementing enhanced cyber security rules for vital public services with mandatory cyber security practices for hospitals, school boards, children's aid societies and post-secondary institutions. This includes requiring school boards to notify parents or guardians when students' personal information is disclosed to third-party software, ensuring families have the information they need to make informed decisions.
- Requiring broader public sector organizations to complete cyber maturity assessments every two years, report critical incidents and designate a single point of contact in the event of a cyber security incident, enhancing the province's ability to prevent and respond to cyber-attacks.
- Allowing information contained in employee accounts to move between institutions or ministries when a public sector employee moves positions. This change would help employees within the Ontario Public Service move between ministries or positions without their email accounts being disrupted, helping them get on the job faster and with less disruption.

Together, these updates will help build a more responsible and secure digital framework for the province, enhancing information flow, cutting red tape and strengthening privacy protections to reflect how modern governments operate.

Quick Facts

- In 2019 the government strengthened oversight by the [Auditor General and Financial Accountability Office](#), increasing transparency and providing the public with better tools to track government spending.
 - Ontario also expanded [open data](#), publishing thousands of government datasets so researchers, journalists, and the public can explore government produced information.
 - In 2024, Ontario established clear rules for [responsible and transparent use of artificial intelligence in government](#), including disclosure and oversight requirements.
-

Additional Resources

- [Freedom of Information in Ontario \(FIPPA & MFIPPA\)](#)
 - [Enhancing Digital Security and Trust Act, 2024 \(EDSTA\)](#)
 - [Ontario Cyber Security Resources](#)
 - [Ontario Open Data Catalogue](#)
-

Related Topics

Government

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

Media Contacts

Jerome Bennett

Minister's Office

Jerome.Bennett@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2026

Office of the
County Warden



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-7288
FAX: 613-735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

March 12, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via email: pm@pm.gc.ca

RE: Support for Upgrading Highways 11 and 17 as a Nation-Building Project — Priority Emphasis on Highway 17 in the County of Renfrew

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the County of Renfrew Council, I am writing to express strong support for the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities' (FONOM) recent correspondence advocating for the modernization of Highways 11 and 17 as a nation-building opportunity under the Building Canada Act and associated nation-building criteria.

The County of Renfrew continues to underscore the urgent need to modernize the Highway 17 corridor within our County, a critical segment of the Trans-Canada Highway that supports day-to-day mobility for residents, commercial traffic, emergency response, and regional economic activity. As a primary east-west route, Highway 17 is essential to the reliability of supply chains and the safe movement of goods and people through Eastern and Northern Ontario.

Council is particularly concerned with the safety risks associated with existing two-lane conditions, where collision severity and operational challenges are heightened by mixed traffic, winter weather conditions, and heavy commercial volumes. Modernization measures, including targeted four-laning and the proven 2+1 highway model, represent practical, evidence-based approaches to improving safety and traffic operations.

The County of Renfrew also wishes to highlight FONOM's confirmation that if the Province of Ontario formally advances this project as a priority, the Government of Canada is prepared to participate at a 50-per-cent funding level. A clear and public federal signal regarding readiness to partner at this level would meaningfully support timely provincial advancement and provide confidence to communities that depend on this corridor.

Upgrading Highways 11 and 17, and specifically the Highway 17 corridor serving the County of Renfrew, meets the nation-building criteria by delivering:

- Improved public safety through reduced head-on collision risk and safer passing opportunities;

- Economic growth by strengthening freight reliability and regional productivity;
- National security and emergency readiness through resilient east–west connectivity;
- Indigenous participation and partnership opportunities through early engagement, procurement, and community benefits;
- Climate resilience via infrastructure suited to more frequent severe weather events; and
- Shovel-ready deliverability, noting Ontario’s progress through its planned 2+1 pilot and the ability to scale improvements in staged, corridor-based segments.

Accordingly, the County of Renfrew respectfully encourages the Government of Canada to provide a clear, public statement confirming its willingness to partner, at a 50% federal participation level, should Ontario bring forward the modernization of Highways 11 and 17 as a formal priority. Such a statement would help unlock full provincial participation and accelerate progress on a corridor of national significance.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. The County of Renfrew would welcome the opportunity to support ongoing discussions with federal and provincial partners, FONOM and affected municipalities to advance a safer and more resilient Trans-Canada corridor.

Respectfully,


Jennifer Murphy
Warden
warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

- c. Premier Doug Ford
Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport
Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
MP Cheryl Gallant, Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke
MPP Billy Denault, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Renfrew County Local Municipalities



Deadline for Sports 4 All Fund Applications Approaching Quickly

Posted on Tuesday, March 17, 2026



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 17, 2026

The application process for the Sport 4 All Fund, the legacy fund of the Renfrew County 2023 Ontario Winter Games, is straightforward. Individual youth, sports clubs and organizations and municipalities across Renfrew County are eligible to apply for the funds. The application deadline is Friday, March 20, 2026 at 12 p.m.

The Sport 4 All Legacy Fund, totalling \$375,000 will be distributed across three key areas:

1. **Youth Sport Grant (up to age 21):** Allocating \$20,000 annually, with grants up to \$1,500.00 per request, to assist with equipment costs, travel expenses, registration fees, and more.
2. **Sports Clubs:** Providing \$20,000 annually, divided into four grants of \$5,000 each, to support teams, clubs, and organizations with specific needs.

- 3. Major Sports Infrastructure:** Offering \$40,000 annually, split into four grants of up to \$10,000 each, for new construction or improvements to existing sports facilities. These grants aim to enhance accessibility, increase participation, improve facility quality, or introduce new sporting options.

Application forms and more information available on the Ottawa Valley Community Foundation website: www.givingthatgrows.com/applying-for-funds/.

Background Information

The fund was made possible through the generosity of local businesses and individuals, who collectively contributed nearly \$400,000 to support the 2023 Ontario Winter Games hosted by the County of Renfrew. For more information on the application process and eligibility criteria, please visit the [County of Renfrew's official website](http://www.givingthatgrows.com) or contact the Ottawa Valley Community Foundation at foundation@givingthatgrows.com.

Sport 4 All Fund applications opened on Monday, February 2, 2026, and the deadline for submitting applications is Friday, March 20, 2026, at 12 p.m. Successful applicants will be notified beginning Monday, April 20, 2026. This round of Sport 4 All funds will support sports activities and investments in the 2026 season.

The Ottawa Valley Community Foundation, previously known as the Pembroke Petawawa District Community Foundation, was founded in 2008 to address vital community needs as the support from government and service clubs declined.

For more information please contact:

Jamie L. Bourgeois – Community Liaison

Email: [**foundation@givingthatgrows.com**](mailto:foundation@givingthatgrows.com)

Phone: 613-633-0059

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

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



March 05, 2026

In This Issue:

- Opportunity: AMO Board of Directors Election 2026-2028.
- Take a look at AMO's Responding to Constituents Handguide.
- Recording: Unlock AMO's New Workforce Development Campaign Assets.
- Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative.
- AMO Conference Early Bird Rates End Thursday, March 12.
- Supporting your Run for Municipal Office in 2026: Resources and Workshops.
- Indigenous Candidates Thinking of Running for Office.
- Workshop: Lead through crisis with confidence.
- The All Risk Municipal Grant Application Deadline is May 1.
- BPS Energy Data Reports due July 1, 2026.
- Blog: Why Canadian Municipalities Must Rethink Cybersecurity in the Age of AI.
- Reduce Employee Group Benefits Costs.
- Apply now: AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program.
- Free Intersectoral Action Training Series to enhance well-being in Ontario.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

We encourage all Council members and senior municipal employers to consider a leadership role on AMO's Board of Directors for the 2026-2028 term. Please find preliminary information on this opportunity [on the AMO website](#). Further information will be released in spring 2026 when nominations open.

AMO's [Responding to Constituents Handguide](#) includes tools to help reduce escalation, set boundaries, offers sample response language, and foundational policies to back you up. This is one of seven guides found within [AMO's Leading with Respect Handguides](#), which all provide practical tools to help councils and staff manage conflict and foster a culture of civility.

In case you missed it, check out this week's recording of AMO's Municipal Workforce Development Project webinar that walks you through how to leverage the brand new [Make Your Municipal Move](#) campaign assets and ready-made templates to drive local engagement through your own channels. [Watch the webinar recording here](#).

Provincial Matters

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

Education Opportunities

Are you joining us for the AMO Conference in Ottawa this year? Now is the time to register to access delegation meeting opportunities, networking, learning and more. [Secure your spot before next Thursday](#), March 12th at 6 pm for early bird rates.

AMO is offering programs designed to support aspiring candidates and returning elected officials. Whether you are considering your first run for office, seeking re-election, represent an underrepresented community, or a youth, we have a program tailored for you. Resources range from helping you make the decision to run or run again, to building your team, crafting your message, and getting out the vote, and

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

includes the *Lead Where You Live* guide for key steps in the process. Register for workshops and access resources [here](#).

AMO has expanded their Healthy Democracy Leadership Series. AMO is offering a series of workshops for urban Indigenous peoples' 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. [Register here](#).

Municipal leaders need to know what to say and do during a crisis. Join us March 11th & 12th for a two half-day course that will give you the tools frameworks, and confidence to lead your community through an emergency. [Secure Your Spot](#).

LAS

The *All Risk Municipal Grant – Investing in Municipal Risk Resiliency* recognizes and supports innovative risk management practices within Ontario municipalities. [Submit your ideas by May 1](#) for a chance to receive \$10,000 towards your projects.

Only 4 short months until your [annual energy reports](#) are due to the Ministry of Energy and Mines. The LAS [Energy Planning Tool \(EPT\)](#) make this easy, especially if you are part of our [Electricity](#) and/or [Natural Gas](#) programs. Don't wait - get started on your reporting today. Not sure where to start – join the Ministry's webinar on either [April 28](#) or [May 26](#) from 11a-12p, or contact BPSsupport@ontario.ca.

AI-enabled attacks are the number one defining trend that could reshape the Ontario municipal threat environment as municipalities increase their AI usage. Learn what AI cyber threats are and how to mitigate the risks by reading our latest blog contributed by our CIMOM program partner, ISA Cybersecurity. [Click here](#).

The LAS Group Benefits program offered by Mosey & Mosey helps reduce your employee group benefit costs. The plan offerings are customizable to your municipality's needs, and quotes are free of charge. [Visit our website for more information](#).

Municipal Wire*

Don't miss your chance to apply 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](#).

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Tamarack Institute are offering public health units, governments, and others a [virtual learning series](#) on strengthening collaboration to enhance well-being in Ontario.

Careers

[Manager of Legal - Town of Innisfil](#). Closing Date: March 9, 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](#)

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

[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)

To unsubscribe, please [Opt Out](#)

155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Conservation Authority Consolidation, New Buy Ontario Municipal Procurement Requirements, Proposals on Drug Enforcement

Policy Update • March 11, 2026

Top Insights

- The province finalizes plans to consolidate conservation authorities and provides details on governance, funding, and transition period timelines.
- The province has proposed new municipal procurement requirements that prioritize 'Ontario Made' and 'Canada Made' goods and services for light fleet vehicles and construction procurement.
- Following AMO's recommendations, the province is proposing to exempt municipal and other select housing operators from a new law that makes landlords liable for knowingly allowing illegal drug production or trafficking in their buildings.
- The province is considering new enforcement powers for transit special constables for drug offences.

Finalized Plans on Conservation Authority Consolidation Respond to AMO Recommendations

Following AMO advocacy, the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks has revised its approach to consolidating conservation authorities (CAs). The province's revised position takes steps against some of AMO's recommendations, which we'd shared in our [2025 comments](#), by:

- **Increasing the number of regional CAs from seven to nine**, better reflecting distinct geographies and regional development contexts across the province.
- **Introducing Watershed Councils and Transition Committees** to help maintain local expertise and relationships, and support business continuity.
- **Providing \$3 million of annual provincial funding** which is vital for transition support and delivering long-term service improvements desired by the province.

These legislative changes would come into effect once amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* are passed by the provincial legislature. The new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency is overseeing the transition and full regional integration is targeted for early 2027.

Implementation of these reforms entails significant risks for municipalities around the transition, budgeting, governance, funding, and public communications. AMO calls on the province to work collaboratively and transparently with municipalities, conservation authorities, developers, and Indigenous representatives to address these risks.

AMO will comment on the proposed legislative changes once they are tabled in the spring session.

Buy Ontario regulations for municipal procurement of light duty fleet vehicles, capital infrastructure and construction projects

AMO has [submitted feedback](#) to the province's [regulatory proposal](#) under the *Buy Ontario Act* which would require municipalities to give preference to Ontario and Canadian goods and services for light fleet vehicle and construction procurements. AMO supports these measures.

Last year, AMO consulted with the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement (MPBSDP) and the municipal sector on light fleet vehicle procurement. We applaud the province's decision to incorporate [feedback provided](#) by AMO and the municipal sector into their proposed fleet procurement rules. We are now advancing similar recommendations to help ensure an effective implementation of proposed construction procurement rules.

Advocacy on Construction Procurement Policy

Since December 2025, AMO has held three consultation sessions in partnership with MPBSDP to gather feedback from senior municipal professionals working across 140 municipalities in procurement, finance, public works, and legal departments on the impact of the proposed procurement approach. Building on this feedback, [AMO's submission](#) puts forward recommendations to avoid undue time and cost increases:

1. **Keep Local Flexibility:** Provide municipalities with the flexibility to establish local policies that ensure value-for-money procurement while addressing the distinct

- needs and priorities of their communities.
2. **Clarify New Procurement Rules:** Provide clear definitions of “Ontario Made” and “Canada Made,” guidance on compliance, and flexibility in scoring bids. Move implementation to 2027 to avoid disrupting 2026 budgets and construction seasons.
 3. **Coordinate with Existing Funding Programs:** Ensure procurement rules do not conflict with provincial or federal grants, risking funding losses or project cancellations — especially for housing infrastructure.
 4. **Match Supply and Demand:** Work with industry to ensure domestic capacity can be ramped up to meet the anticipated increase in policy driven demand.

Regulations under Measures Respecting Premises with *Illegal Drug Activity Act, 2025* (MRPIDAA)

AMO provided a [submission](#) to the regulatory proposal for the MRPIDAA. It recognizes the provincial government’s positive change to remove long-term care homes and municipal, non-profit and co-operative providers of community, transitional, and supportive housing from the definition of ‘landlord’ in the regulations under the Act. This change reflects AMO’s advice to the province about the implementation of Bill 10, the *Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act, 2025*.

Without this exemption in place, these landlords would be subject to legal risk and vulnerable clients could experience new housing barriers. Through these proposed changes, the government is helping to maintain a strong housing continuum for vulnerable people while still addressing illegal drug activity.

Proposal to Extend Authorities to Transit Special Constables under the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2025*

The government is [considering](#) extending certain police officers powers to authorized special constable transit employers and their special constables to charge and arrest for more drug offences.

In the legislative [submission](#) about Bill 6, the *Safer Municipalities Act*, AMO outlined its view is that while new powers may be useful in very specific situations, that enforcement should be not the primary response to homelessness and intersecting mental health and addictions crisis. We need significant and sustained provincial investments in deeply affordable housing plus improvements to income security and a comprehensive approach to mental health and addictions.

Contact:

Policy

policy@amo.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

Share this article:

Related Content



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HOMELESSNESS
ASSET MANAGEMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

**2026 Pre-Budget
Submission,
Consultations on Light
Vehicle Procurement and
Construction Policies**

JAN 28, 2026 • POLICY
UPDATE



ASSET MANAGEMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
HOUSING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

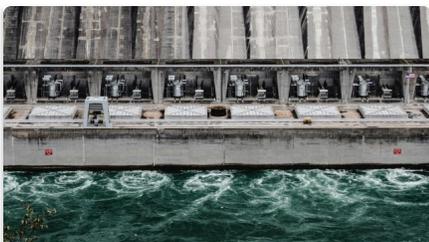
JAN 21, 2026 • POLICY
UPDATE



AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BUILDING CODE

**Bill 56 Introduced,
Building Code
Amendments
Submission and
Advocacy on Removing
Building Code
Enforcement from
Provincial Courts**

OCT 21, 2025 • POLICY
UPDATE



ENERGY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Criteria for Special
Economic Zones, Natural
Gas Expansion Program
Advocacy, Updated
Energy Project Guidance
for Municipalities,
Opposing Bill 30 at
Standing Committee**

OCT 10, 2025 • POLICY
UPDATE



March 12, 2026

In This Issue:

- Municipal Information & Data Analysis System - Get access!
- Opportunity: AMO Board of Directors Election 2026-2028.
- Recording: Unlock AMO's New Workforce Development Campaign Assets.
- Consultation on 2026-2029 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.
- Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative.
- AMO Conference Early Bird Rates End Today at 6 pm.
- Celebrating 70 years of Ontario's Small Urban Municipalities: Program Update.
- Supporting your Run for Municipal Office in 2026: Resources and Workshops.
- Indigenous Candidates Thinking of Running for Office.
- Take a look at AMO's Chairing Meetings Effectively Handguide.
- Asset Management Orientation for Council.
- The All Risk Municipal Grant Application Deadline is May 1.
- Canoe Webinar: Procurement Confessions.
- IPAC Emerging Leaders Conference.
- Free Intersectoral Action Training Series to enhance well-being in Ontario.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

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

We encourage all Council members and senior municipal employers to consider a leadership role on AMO's Board of Directors for the 2026-2028 term. Please find preliminary information on this opportunity [on the AMO website](#). Further information will be released in spring 2026 when nominations open.

In case you missed it, check out this week's recording of AMO's Municipal Workforce Development Project webinar that walks you through how to leverage the brand new [Make Your Municipal Move](#) campaign assets and ready-made templates to drive local engagement through your own channels. [Watch the webinar recording here](#).

Federal Matters

Environment and Climate Change Canada are seeking feedback on their Sustainable Development Strategy by May 12. Provide feedback through [online questionnaire](#), by [e-mail](#), or through participating in an upcoming [webinar](#).

Provincial Matters

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

Education Opportunities

Are you joining us for the AMO Conference in Ottawa this year? Now is the time to register to access delegation meeting opportunities, networking, learning and more. [Secure your spot before 6 pm today](#) for

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

In this milestone year, the 2026 Conference program content is a reminder why OSUM matters to your leadership. Join solution driven conversations on homelessness, infrastructure challenges, and strong mayor powers. Be a part of the conversation - [view program outline and register now](#).

AMO is offering programs designed to support aspiring candidates and returning elected officials. Whether you are considering your first run for office, seeking re-election, represent an underrepresented community, or a youth, we have a program tailored for you. Resources range from helping you make the decision to run or run again, to building your team, crafting your message, and getting out the vote, and includes the *Lead Where You Live* guide for key steps in the process. Register for workshops and access resources [here](#).

AMO has expanded their Healthy Democracy Leadership Series. AMO is offering a series of workshops for urban Indigenous peoples' 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. [Register here](#).

AMO's [Chairing Meetings Effectively Handguide](#) provides principles, tools, and tactics to support chairs manage and oversee civil, fair, and accessible discussions including proactive conflict management and de-escalation approaches. This is one of seven guides found within [AMO's Leading with Respect Handguides](#), which all provide practical tools to help councils and staff manage conflict and foster a culture of civility.

Municipal staff play a critical role in preparing Council for leadership. Provide feedback for a new toolkit (handbook and training videos) for AMO's asset management onboarding through this [survey](#).

LAS

The *All Risk Municipal Grant – Investing in Municipal Risk Resiliency* recognizes and supports innovative risk management practices within Ontario municipalities. [Submit your ideas by May 1](#) for a chance to receive \$10,000 towards your projects.

Join Stéphanie and Tony from [Canoe](#) as they share some of the strangest stories they've encountered in the world of procurement. [Register here](#) for 'Procurement Confessions: The Good, The Bad, and the "Did That Really Just Happen?"' on March 25th at 10:00AM.

Municipal Wire*

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Tamarack Institute are offering public health units, governments, and others a [virtual learning series](#) on strengthening collaboration to enhance well-being in Ontario.

The Institute of Public Administration of Canada is hosting a professional development event focused on service delivery excellence on April 21. [Register for](#) virtual or in-person attendance.

Careers

[Associate Director, Communications - Association of Municipalities of Ontario](#). Closing Date: April 3, 2026.

[Program Advisor, Infrastructure Asset Management - AMO](#). Temporary full time (18-months) maternity leave coverage. Closing Date: March 27, 2026.

[Deputy Chief Administrative Officer \(DCAO\), Infrastructure, Development and Environment - City of Guelph](#). Closing Date: March 24, 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

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

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)

To unsubscribe, please [Opt Out](#)

155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Pikwakanagan Tibadjumowin

CHÌBAYATIGO-KÌJIGAD NIKI KIZIS 13TH, 2026
FRIDAY MARCH 13TH, 2026

WWW.ALGONQUINSOFPIKWAKANAGAN.COM | 613-625-2800

CONTENT

- Updates & Notices
 - Chief & Council Update
 - Swearing In Ceremony
 - Guardians Update
 - AOPFN List of Candidates & Info
 - US Border Updates (Status Cards)
 - Dual Exhibition
- News & Events
 - Round Dance
 - Meet & Greets
 - AOPFN LP
 - Indigenous Theatre: Rose
 - Nigig
- Volunteers Needed
 - Round Dance Planning Committee
- Resources and Contacts
 - Resources Numbers
 - Wellness Hub
- Health Updates
 - Overdose Alert
 - Substance Use
 - Medetomide
 - Protein Foods
 - Children's Oral Health
 - Fluoride
 - Calendar
 - Liver Health
 - Heart Smart
 - Mind in Motion
 - Strong & Ready
 - Kicksledding
- Employment Opportunities
 - ECE (Casual/On Call)
 - ECE (Floater)
 - Land & Environmental Officer
 - Project Coordinator - Communications
 - Canadian Mint
 - Tenders
- Community Information
 - Snow Removal for Home Care Clients
 - Hours of Operation
 - Membership Additions

Membership Notice

The Administration phone system was updated to voIP and we are still working out the technical issues. Please bear with us. If the call drops, please call back or email us.

Website Information

Don't forget that you can access the members only section at algonquinsofpikwakanagan.ca by clicking on the "Membership Section" under the Pikwakanagan tab.

**MARCH IS EPILEPSY
AWARENESS MONTH
IN CANADA!**



[View Full Newsletter Here](#)



—The TOWNSHIP of—
NORTH DUMFRIES

106 Earl Thompson Road, 3rd Floor
PO Box 1060
Ayr, ON N0B 1E0

March 11, 2026

Sent via Email:

Premier of Ontario, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Brian Riddell, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario

RE: Resolution – Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025

Please be advised, at the Council Meeting held on March 9, 2026 the Township of North Dumfries Council considered the enclosed resolution received from the Township of Southgate regarding Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

“THAT the Resolution received from the Township of Southgate regarding Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025 be received;

WHEREAS arable land is a critical finite resource; and

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

WHEREAS Ontario’s farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of North Dumfries support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Brian Riddell, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.”

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Good". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Good, Clerk
Township of North Dumfries
519-632-8800 ext. 122
agood@northdumfries.ca

encl.

**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

February 20, 2026

Re: Township of Southgate – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025

Please be advised that at the February 18, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-073

Moved By Councillor Shipston

Seconded By Councillor Ferguson

WHEREAS arable land is a critical finite resource; and

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

WHEREAS Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Southgate support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

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

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green

Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
MPP Paul Vickers – Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound
Senator Rob Black
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Municipalities in Ontario

March 13, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026 the following resolution regarding OPP - Sustainable Police Services Funding was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-111

DATE: January 29, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are required to maintain a police service or detachment board; and

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

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has asserted that the fiscal framework enabling municipalities provided critical policing and public safety services is broken, and AMO requests an urgent update of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship;

WHEREAS double digit increases in municipal annual Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) budgets are unsustainable, especially as Ontario municipal police services tackle provincial responsibilities such as mental health, addictions, and homelessness challenges that place police resources under enormous financial strain;

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 (the Act);

WHEREAS the costs of other measures such as providing provincial court security are increasing and are not part of providing core, adequate and effective municipal policing; and

WHEREAS rural municipalities are especially negatively impacted by these developments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward (Council) requests that the Province provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act and not general increases to police budgets; and

THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to expeditiously review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities, so that communities with changing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and



From the Office of the Clerk
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727
clerks@pecounty.on.ca | www.thecounty.ca

THAT this resolution of Council be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

CARRIED

Yours truly,

Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch





OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Phone: (807) 274-5323 | Fax: (807) 274-8479

Mailing Address: 320 Portage Avenue
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Email: town@fortfrances.ca

Website: www.FortFrances.ca

March 16, 2026

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is to formally inform you that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 9, 2026, the following oral motion was carried by Mayor and Council:

Oral Motion:

THAT Council provide a resolution of support for the City of Sarnia letter regarding Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability;

AND THAT the resolution of support be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities, the Honourable Doug Ford and all those cc'd in the City of Sarnia letter.

Mover: Kaleb Firth

Seconder: Bill Morrison Jr

Result: CARRIED

Thank You / Merci / Miigwech,

Ally Lewis
Deputy Clerk



Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097
rideaulakes.ca

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township
mayor@rideaulakes.ca
613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
All Members of Parliament
All Provincial Cabinet Ministers
MPP Steve Clark
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Council Resolution
Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Willsie
Seconded by: Councillor Derbyshire

WHEREAS the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc is a community deeply rooted in agriculture, with a significant portion of our local economy and heritage dependent on the sustainability of farming and food production;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is losing an estimated 319 acres of farmland daily to non-agricultural development, posing a significant threat to the province's long-term food security and the viability of the agri-food sector;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21, the *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*, currently before the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, seeks to preserve productive agricultural land by requiring Agricultural Impact Assessments before zoning changes can occur and by establishing a Foodbelt Protection Plan;

AND WHEREAS the protection of prime agricultural land is not only a matter of food sovereignty but also of fiscal responsibility, as low-density residential sprawl on farmland frequently incurs higher long term infrastructure and service costs for municipalities compared to agricultural land use;

AND WHEREAS providing certainty regarding the agricultural land base encourages long-term investment by farmers in their operations, soil health, and local businesses, thereby strengthening the rural economy of Strathroy-Caradoc;

AND WHEREAS low-density urban sprawl increases the per-capita cost of municipal infrastructure and service delivery—including roads, water, wastewater, and emergency services—creating a long-term financial burden on the Municipality that often exceeds the tax revenue generated by such development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc hereby expresses its support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*,

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca



MUNICIPALITY OF STRATHROY-CARADOC

The Corporation of the
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
52 Frank Street, Strathroy ON N7G 2R4

to ensure that Ontario's prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to send a letter of support for Bill 21 to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the leaders of the Opposition parties;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all municipalities within the County of Middlesex to encourage broader municipal support.

Carried.

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca

March 13, 2026

Hon. David Piccini
Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
14th Floor, 400 University Ave
Toronto ON M7A 1T7

Re: Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns

Dear Minister Piccini,

At its meeting of Council on March 11, 2026, the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte received correspondence from Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) regarding the above-mentioned request for support.

The Township of Oro-Medonte fully supports AORS in their request, as our staff have, on numerous occasions, been subjected to abusive and aggressive behaviour from members of the public. We respectfully request your support in advancing measures that will strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors. With provincial partnership, municipalities can better safeguard the individuals who work tirelessly to maintain critical services and keep our communities functioning safely.

Sincerely,



Mayor Randy Greenlaw

Cc: Premier Doug Ford
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation
Hon. Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure
Doug Downey, MPP Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS)
Ontario Municipalities
Members of Oro-Medonte Council



Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini
14th Floor, 400 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise an urgent health and safety concern that is increasingly placing municipal workers and subcontractors at risk while they maintain the critical infrastructure our communities rely on every day.

While the Occupational Health and Safety Act establishes important protections against workplace hazards, it does not adequately address a growing and very real threat: unsafe working conditions created by interference, harassment, and dangerous actions from members of the public.

Through consultations with AORS members across the province, we are hearing consistent and deeply troubling examples of escalating behaviour directed at municipal workers - particularly winter maintenance operators. These are not isolated incidents, but a pattern that is becoming increasingly normalized during significant weather events. Examples reported to AORS include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snow plow and refusing to get off until the operator agreed to plow his road next.
- Two municipal staff members being confronted, accosted, and aggressively yelled at in public - one at a gas station and another while simply standing in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions that were not even under that municipality's jurisdiction, as well as a mailbox that had been struck.
- A voicemail left by a resident threatening to shoot a municipal plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident angry about snow at the end of their driveway jumping in front of an active plow and refusing to move. The plow was delayed for over an hour during a major snow event, placing service levels and the municipality's overall emergency response at risk. The situation was only resolved once supervisors and by-law officers arrived on scene.

These incidents represent only a small sample of what municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are experiencing across Ontario. What was once limited to disgruntled complaints has escalated into direct threats, physical interference, and dangerous confrontations that place workers, subcontractors, and the public at risk. This issue is becoming a systematic threat to municipal service delivery and is only amplified during significant weather events.

Municipal workers and their contracted partners are responsible for maintaining roads, bridges, sidewalks, and other essential services - often in extreme weather and high-risk environments. When these workers are threatened or obstructed, it becomes not only a workplace safety issue, but a broader public safety concern. In some cases, conditions have become so unsafe that

municipal staff and subcontractors have walked off job sites, jeopardizing timely service delivery during critical events.

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

- Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, when a municipality declares a Significant Weather Event, municipal winter maintenance vehicles and operators - including subcontractors working on behalf of municipalities - should be afforded enhanced protection, with interference or obstruction treated with the same severity as interference with police, fire, or paramedic services.
- Establish clear public-safety interference provisions, similar in intent to Ontario's Slow Down, Move Over legislation, that recognize the essential role of municipal roadside workers.
- Consider adopting provisions similar to Manitoba's recently passed Bill 38, an amendment to their Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2026, which requires motorists to maintain a minimum distance of 30 metres behind snowplows where speed limits are 80 km/h or lower, and 100 metres where speed limits exceed 80 km/h.

These changes would provide clarity, deterrence, and enforceability—sending a strong message that interference with municipal workers performing essential services will not be tolerated. Just as Ontario protects first responders from obstruction during emergencies, we must extend similar protections to the public works professionals who keep our communities safe, connected, and functioning.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns further and to collaborate on legislative solutions that better protect municipal workers and subcontractors while strengthening public safety across the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

Walid Abou-Hamde, Ontario Road Builders' Association Chief Executive Officer



Solicitor General of Ontario Michael Kerzner
George Drew Building, 25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise serious concerns regarding the safety of municipal workers and subcontractors who are increasingly facing harassment, threats, and dangerous interference from members of the public while delivering essential municipal services - particularly during winter maintenance and emergency operations.

Across Ontario, municipal public works teams are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure that residents depend on every day, including roads, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage systems. During significant weather events, these workers are frontline responders, ensuring emergency vehicles can travel safely and that communities remain connected and accessible. However, the behaviour directed at them has escalated well beyond routine complaints and has become a direct threat to both worker safety and public safety.

Through consultations with AORS members province-wide, we continue to receive troubling reports that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. These include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snowplow and refusing to get off until the driver agreed to plow his road next.
- Two staff members confronted and aggressively accosted in public - one at a gas station and another while simply waiting in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions and a mailbox strike that were not even related to that municipality.
- A voicemail threatening to shoot a plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident jumping in front of an active plow during a major snow event and refusing to move, delaying operations for over an hour and jeopardizing service levels and overall emergency response.

These examples represent only a small sample of the experiences municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are facing across the province. What was once occasional frustration has escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, and direct interference with equipment and operations.

Equally concerning is that municipalities do not always receive consistent enforcement support when these incidents occur. We have heard directly from members who contacted the Ontario Provincial Police for assistance and were advised that, unless a physical assault had already taken place, the situation was "not a police matter." Waiting until a worker has been physically harmed before intervention is neither preventative nor acceptable.

This gap leaves municipalities and workers vulnerable and sends an unintended message that threatening or obstructive behaviour toward municipal staff carries little consequence. It also places supervisors and by-law officers in situations that may exceed their authority or capacity to manage safely.

We believe a proactive and coordinated response is needed. Municipal workers and their subcontractors should not have to choose between their personal safety and providing critical services during storms and emergencies.

We respectfully ask that the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police take a clear and strong stance that interference, threats, and harassment directed at municipal public works staff will not be tolerated. Specifically, we would welcome:

- Clear direction and guidance to police services, including the OPP, that threats, intimidation, and obstruction of municipal workers performing essential duties warrant timely enforcement and support.
- Recognition that interference with winter maintenance and emergency public works operations presents a broader public safety risk, not merely a municipal operational issue.
- Enhanced coordination between municipalities and local police services during significant weather events and emergency responses to ensure worker safety and continuity of service.
- Consideration of legislative or policy tools that provide stronger deterrence and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal staff and contractors.

Municipal public works professionals are essential workers. They keep roads open for ambulances, fire trucks, school buses, and the travelling public. Their safety should be treated with the same seriousness as that of other frontline responders.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns and explore practical steps to ensure consistent enforcement support and stronger protections for municipal workers across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued leadership in public safety.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)
Premier Doug Ford



TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY
Resolution of Council
Council Meeting

Resolution Number

Title: For Info. 5/2026 - Municipality of Wawa re: School Bus Safety and Stop Arm – Councillor Sebben

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Moved by: Lori Sebben

Seconded by: Shelley Wagner

Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Wellesley hereby supports the Municipality of Wawa's resolution regarding enhanced school bus safety and the implementation of stop arm camera systems, and further

That the resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Education, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario for their information and consideration.

CARRIED

Municipal Clerk, Amy Harron

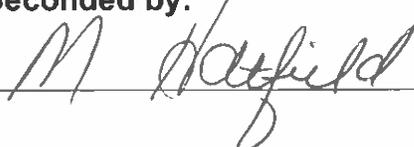


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 17th, 2026

Resolution # RC26028	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a serious and widespread issue throughout the Province of Ontario, occurring an estimated 30,000 times per day; and

WHEREAS these violations place children at unacceptable risk and continue to result in preventable injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS municipalities require effective, modern enforcement tools to address this dangerous and unlawful behaviour; and

WHEREAS Part XIV.3 (School Bus Camera Systems) of the *Highway Traffic Act* authorizes the use of school bus stop-arm camera systems as an enforcement mechanism; and

WHEREAS such systems have demonstrated success in deterring illegal passing, improving driver compliance, and strengthening accountability; and

WHEREAS provincial funding and implementation support would help ensure municipalities of all sizes are able to equitably deploy this technology; and

WHEREAS the "Let's Remember Adam – Stop for the School Bus" campaign, launched in memory of Adam Ranger, a five-year-old child who tragically lost his life when a driver failed to stop for a school bus displaying its flashing lights and stop arm, underscores the urgent need for continued public education, enforcement, and technological solutions to better protect children travelling to and from school;



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa hereby expresses its support for increased provincial investment in and expansion of school bus stop-arm camera systems under Part XIV.3 of the Highway Traffic Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to provide municipalities with the necessary funding tools, legislative support, and implementation guidance to advance school bus stop-arm camera systems and complementary child-safety initiatives across Ontario; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT protecting children on Ontario's roads is a shared responsibility, and that through strong provincial leadership and municipal partnership, meaningful progress can be made to prevent further tragedies and enhance road safety for families across the province; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Education, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

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

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	DEPUTY CLERK - HEATHER RAINVILLE

Renfrew County Neurodiversity Resource Fair



Local Programs & Services for Neurodivergent Children, Youth, and Families

Presented by:



Dragonfly

Family and Learning Services



**SATURDAY APRIL
25TH 2026**

@ the Horton Community Centre

Get Involved!

Become a Vendor

*Share your services and connect
with local families.*



Vendor Registration Form

- Submit your interest in attending
- Share information about your services
- Indicate any table or setup needs
- Vendor fee: \$25

Become a Sponsor

*Support local families and help keep
this event free for the community.*



Sponsorship Package

Sponsorship Form

- Choose from our sponsorship tiers
- Support children's activities, refreshments, or event costs
- Recognition on signage and social media



ENTERPRISE RENFREW COUNTY
ENTREPRISE COMTÉ DE RENFREW

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP INTAKE NOW OPEN

Summer Company 2026

DEADLINE TO APPLY : MAY 15

**For more information, visit:
EnterpriseRenfrewCounty.com/summer-company**

**This program is delivered locally by Enterprise Renfrew County
and funded in partnership with the Government of Ontario.**

Ontario 

PARTNERING WITH YOUR CREDIT UNION

Banking
Solutions for
Small Business

With



ENTERPRISE RENFREW COUNTY
ENTREPRISE COMTÉ DE RENFREW



NORTHERN
CREDIT UNION



**FREE
WEBINAR**

Small Business
Banking has been
reimagined!
Learn how Northern
Credit Union helps you
leverage tools, advice,
and services to grow
with confidence!



April 14th, 2026 | 10:00 - 11:00AM



To Register Visit:
www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/workshops-events

This webinar is delivered locally by Enterprise Renfrew County and funded in partnership with the Government of Ontario.





ENTERPRISE RENFREW COUNTY
ENTREPRISE COMTÉ DE RENFREW

LEGAL BOOTCAMP

with  **ownr**

Are you starting a business?

Make informed decisions by understanding legal business structures in Canada. Explore how the right business structure supports your vision, growth, and future.



Eloise Flesh
Growth Manager at Ownr

**free*

April 28 | 10:00 to 11:00AM

To Register Visit:

www.enterpriserenfrewcounty.com/workshop-events

This webinar is delivered locally by Enterprise Renfrew County and funded in partnership with the Government of Ontario.

Ontario 

Free Business Training



INFORMATION SESSIONS 2026



April 7

11AM to 12PM

**STARTER
COMPANY
PLUS**

virtual



April 9

1PM to 2PM

For more information, visit:
[www.EnterpriseRenfrewCounty.com
/starter-company-plus](http://www.EnterpriseRenfrewCounty.com/starter-company-plus)

This program is delivered locally by Enterprise Renfrew County
and funded in partnership with the Government of Ontario.

Ontario 

EORN Cell Gap Project Monthly Update

February 2026

Regional view

	Planned	Completed	New this month
Upgrades to existing towers	311	311	n/a
New towers in service	257	174	7
New co-locations	89	78	0
Land use authority	257	256	0
Please note that this information is collected monthly and is subject to change as the project moves forward.			

Renfrew County

	Planned	Completed	New this month
Upgrades to existing towers	25	25	n/a
New towers in service	47	41	3
New co-locations	11	10	0
Land use authority	47	46	0
Please note that this information is collected monthly and is subject to change as the project moves forward.			

Note: data is updated by Rogers on the 15th of each month. Data provided for this update was received on February 15, 2026.

Renfrew County Uplifts Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C0367	Chalk River	Town of Laurentian Hills	In-service
C1911	Deep River	Town of Laurentian Hills	In-service
C1948	Petawawa	Town of Petawawa	In-service
C4723	Petawawa Blvd. and Festubert Blvd.	Town of Petawawa	In-service
C4724	Petawawa Blvd and Sharon St.	Town of Petawawa	In-service
C4820	Petawawa and Civic Centre	Town of Petawawa	In-service
C3434	Douglas	Township of Adamston-Bromley	In-service
C3425	Eganville	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C3439	Constant Lake	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C3049	Calabogie	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C1910	Mackey	Township of Head, Clara and Maria	In-service
C1912	Bisset Creek	Township of Head, Clara and Maria	In-service
C2382	Renfrew Town	Township of Horton	In-service
C3437	Killaloe	Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	In-service

Renfrew County Uplifts Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C0377	Cobden	Township of Laurentian Valley	In-service
C0414	Pembroke	Township of Laurentian Valley	In-service
C2706	Barry's Bay	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C2914	Combermere	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C3438	Wilno	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C4077	Barry's Bay Town	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C0410	Renfrew	Township of McNab-Braeside	In-service
C7844	Braeside	Township of McNab-Braeside	In-service
C3436	Golden Lake	Township of North Algona Wilberforce	In-service
C2569	Highway 17 and Haley Station	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C4088	Highway 17 and Cobden	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service

Renfrew County Co-location Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C4084	Chalk River at Ottawa River	Town of Deep River	2026
C4087	Deep River Town	Town of Laurentian Hills	In-service
C6629	Meilleurs Bay	Town of Laurentian Hills	In-service
C8544	Janet Road at Granzies Lake	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C6623	Black Donald Lake	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8470	Highway 41 and Highway 71	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8478	Trans Canada Highway and Brent Road	Township of Head, Clara and Maria	In-service
C8487	ON-60 and Cardinal Road	Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	In-service
C6619	Halfway Lake	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C8265	Highway 41 and Greenlake Road	Township of North Algona Wilberforce	In-service
C6754	RioCan Renfrew Centre	Town of Renfrew	In-service

Renfrew County New Tower Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C8474	Trans Canada Highway at Orange Road	Town of Petawawa	2026
C8265	Colton Road and Quilty Road	Township of Adamston-Bromely	In-service
C8465	ON-60 and Haley Road	Township of Admaston-Bromley	In-service
C8625	Dunmore Road and Barr Line	Township of Admaston-Bromley	In-service
C8623	Opeongo Road West and Klondike Road	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C8704	O'Connor Road and Wolfe Road	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C8705	Boldt Road and Donegal Road	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C8511	Perrault	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C8622	Corrigan Road and Silver Lake	Township of Bonnechere Valley	In-service
C8497	Hardwood Lake	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	In-service

Renfrew County New Tower Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C8533	Highway 28 and Little Ireland Road	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	In-service
C8620	Letterkenny Road and Lost Nation Road	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	In-service
C8621	Heins Road and Quadeville Road	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	2026
C8702	Schutt Road and Wingle	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	2026
C8706	Quadeville Road and Murk Lake	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	2026
C8618	Oscar Boehme Road and River Bend Drive	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	2026
C8619	Rochefort	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Ragland	In-service
C8703	Gorman Lake	Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Ragland	In-service
C8713	Long Point Way and Inglis Road	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8498	Highway 41 and Doorley Creek Road	Township of Greater Madawaska	2026

Renfrew County New Tower Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C8668	Denzil Lane and Upper Spruce Hedge Road	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8532	ON-41 and Dunagans Road	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8711	Glenfield Road and Matawatchan Road	Township of Greater Madawaska	In-service
C8712	Holywell Road and Mt. St. Patrick Road	Township of Grater Madawaska	2026
C8501	Trans Canada Highway and Bissett Creek Road	Township of Head, Clara, Maria	In-service
C8531	Trans Canada Highway 17 at Stonecliffe	Township of Head, Clara Maria	In-service
C8637	Jim Barr Road and Mullins Road	Township of Horton	In-service
C8627	Gunns Road and Round Lake Road	Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	In-service
C8696	Simpson Pit Road and Round Lake Road	Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	In-service
C6620	Doran and Round Lake Road	Township of Laurentian Valley	In-service
C8473	Forest Lea Road at Pembroke	Township of Laurentian Valley	In-service
C8628	Doran Road and Witt Road	Township of Laurentian Valley	In-service
C8616	Dafoe Road and Micks Road	Township of Madawaska Valley	2026

Renfrew County New Tower Build Schedule

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
C8626	Etmanski Road and Paugh Lake Road	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C8707	Stanley Olsheski Road and Hasanville Lane	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C8615	Kubesheski Road and Siberia Road	Township of Madawaska Valley	In-service
C4086	Highway 17 and Glasgow Station	Township of McNab-Braeside	In-service
C8515	White Lake Road and Mountain View Road	Township of McNab-Braeside	In-service
C8636	River Road and Lochwinnoch Road	Township of McNab-Braeside	In-service
C8512	Deacon	Township of North Algona Wilberforce	In-service
C8624	Connaught Road and Bulger Road	Township of North Algona Wilberforce	In-service
C8635	Kerr Line and Magnesium Road	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C8630	Branch Trail and Nangor Trail	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C8631	Westmeath Road at Westmeath Provincial Park	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C8632	La Passe Road and Hawthorne Road	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C8633	Zion Line and Pappin Road	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service
C8634	Grants Settlement Road at Grants Settlement	Township of Whitewater Region	In-service



SOUTH OTTAWA VALLEY OPP DETACHMENT BOARD
CONSEIL DU DÉTACHEMENT DE SOUTH OTTAWA VALLEY
DE LA POLICE PROVINCIALE

RENFREW OPP DETACHMENT
DÉTACHEMENT DE RENFREW DE LA POLICE PROVINCIALE

410 O'Brien Rd, Renfrew, ON K7V 3Z2

Minutes

South Ottawa Valley Detachment Board

Meeting February 4th, 2026

Attendance: John, Jason, Jill, Rob, Steve, Angela, Glenn, Mary Ann, Lisa, Connie

Call to Order 4:30

John declared a slight pecuniary interest, as he joined another provincial board.

Rob and Glenn approved the minutes from November and December 2025

We were introduced to OPP cadets Jacob and Jackson. This is a program created by the OPP that has been reinstated to encourage new recruits to join the OPP. Cadets are paid for their time with OPP, as opposed to AUX members who volunteer, and they spend time working with the force for a year contract then they can be recommended to do the OPP training and become a constable. It's a good recruiting program that allows cadets to get a true feel for the job while also having an income.

The OAPSB AGM is May 31-June 2 in Niagara Falls.

Chair's Report: Thank you Rob for your term as chair and your contributions. John is getting used to the position. Moving forward we should be looking at what the municipalities decide for their pay structure. Remuneration is still a question. Do we actually need to provide it? What does the actual policy say?

Commander's report: RIDE grant is now set up for 4 years. Municipalities no longer have to apply individually. MSERT officer Cassidy is retiring in May. Impaired driving is still an issue, there were 3 in 1 night in January. Commercial vehicles are also an issue, and officers are going for training with MTO to work together. Hwy 17 and Storyland Rd has become a major issue with multiple fatalities and severe injuries in the past year. OPP has discussed with the MTO about the severity of the issue, and hope to have improvements to promote safety at that intersection.

The Renfrew detachment would like to put a survey/question out to municipalities about what community engagement looks like in each one. What educational pieces would you like to see focused on in schools? Is there a specific community group OPP needs to engage with ?

Finance: Discussion around budget and surplus. How do we allocate a surplus? Invoices to municipalities will have a discounted amount shown as payable.

Lisa moved to accept the budget, Jill seconded

Board Action Items:

Hiring our executive admin is priority. Advertise/Interview/Hire in the first ¼ of 2026. Approx 20hrs per week at \$30/hr

John will email the mayors re:surplus

We need to take steps to guide OPP to work for the municipal betterment

We will look into the overall health of the detachment; are they serving the community as best they can?

Correspondence:

There was correspondence regarding the AGM in the spring

2026 Meeting schedule:

Second Wednesday of the month, Mar, Apr, May June, July(if needed?), Sept, Oct

Jason moved to adjourn, Steve seconded.6:15

JOIN THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY

Volunteer to help fund innovative breast cancer research
and support programs in your community



Find volunteer opportunities in your area



Canadian
Cancer
Society



**CIBC RUN
FOR THE CURE**

Get involved now

volunteercancer.ca | 1-888-939-3333

IT TAKES A SOCIETY





Memo

To: Members of Arnprior Council

From: Fire Chief

Date: Mar 16, 2026

Regarding: Donation of Technological Equipment to the F.D.

It is with great appreciation that I inform the members of Council of a recent donation to the fire department that will greatly support firefighter training.

Nu-Tech Precision Metals of Arnprior recently donated a classroom sized Smartboard for installation and use in the Fire Stations Training Room.

This new technological device will aid in bringing the delivery of fire department training to a new level, with better access to current training content, the ability to use interactive training programs, as well as pre-planning exercises and post-incident reviews.

In 2018 Nu-Tech Precision Metals donated a fire extinguisher training prop that has been used to train firefighters, industrial and care facility workers, as well as members of the public on the proper techniques of operating a fire extinguisher.

I ask members of Council to please join me as Fire Chief, the members of the Arnprior Fire Department, and the entire community in thanking Nu-Tech for their continued support and contributions towards the training of our firefighters and public safety initiatives to protect our community, it is greatly appreciated.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Desarmia".

Fire Chief Rick Desarmia