



Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

September 22, 2023

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

	Pages
1. Information Reports	
1.1 2023-INFO-78 Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development	4
• 2021 and 2022 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity	
1.2 2023-INFO-79 Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development	17
• Rouge National Urban Park Study: Introduction and Status Update	
1.3 2023-INFO-80 Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development	23
• Final Reporting under the Streamline Development Approval Fund	
2. Early Release Reports	
There are no Early Release Reports	
3. Confidential Reports Authorized for Release	
There are no Confidential Reports	
4. Staff Correspondence	
There is no Staff Correspondence	
5. Durham Municipalities Correspondence	
There are no Durham Municipalities Correspondence	
6. Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions	

6.1	Municipality of St. Charles	29
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on July 19, 2023, in support of the Municipality of Grey Highlands' resolution regarding Stop Arm Cameras 	
6.2	Township of Puslinch	31
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on August 16, 2023, in support of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's resolution regarding Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) 	
6.3	Township of Puslinch	37
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on August 16, 2023, in support of the Municipality of Grey Highlands' resolution regarding Municipal Codes of Conduct 	
6.4	Town of Bracebridge	41
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on September 13, 2023, regarding Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) 	

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence

8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

There are no Advisory/Other Committee Minutes

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised not later than noon the day prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2023-INFO-78
Date: September 22, 2023

Subject:

2021 and 2022 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of film and television production activity in Durham Region for the 2021 and 2022 calendar years.
- 1.2 The report also offers a review of the growth of this industry since 2012 which includes key local assets impacting the sector.

2. Background

- 2.1 Ontario, and specifically the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), is a center of Canadian film and television production. In Ontario, film and television has grown into a multi-billion-dollar industry. Film and television production is active throughout the province, creating jobs and economic impact for local suppliers, vendors, and talent.
- 2.2 The steady growth of this important sector is a testament to Ontario's robust health and safety protocols, suite of financial incentives, ongoing studio space expansion, diverse talent pool, and its unmatched range of film-friendly locations such as those found in Durham Region.

- 2.3 Due to its proximity within the GTHA, Durham Region plays a key role in all aspects of Ontario's film, television, and digital media industry. Durham's soundstages and film backlot, film industry workforce, supporting service providers, and availability of film location sites make Durham a welcome host for film and television production, as well as pre- and post-production activities.
- 2.4 In the past ten years, the film and television industry in Durham Region has experienced a 290 per cent increase in production value and a 167 per cent growth in production days. Please see Attachment 1 for a yearly breakdown by value, prep/shoot/wrap days, and projects.

3. Provincial Statistics 2021 and 2022

- 3.1 In 2021, Ontario's film and television industry contributed a total of \$2.88 billion to the provincial economy from 394 productions, creating 48,135 high value full-time equivalent direct and spin-off jobs. Filming in Ontario in 2021 demonstrated a strong recovery from 2020 when the industry was impacted by COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.
- 3.2 In 2022, Ontario's film and television industry contributed \$3.15 billion to Ontario's economy from 419 productions, creating 45,891 high-value full-time equivalent direct and spin-off jobs.
- 3.3 In Ontario, there is currently 3.7 million square feet of stage space with an additional 2.6 million square feet scheduled to be completed over the next few years in Toronto and the surrounding areas. This increase of stage space will facilitate the further growth of this industry.

4. Durham Region Statistics 2021

- 4.1 In 2021, the estimated value of film production activity in Durham Region was \$61.3 million generated from 54 projects and 389 days of shooting on location.
- 4.2 Since Durham experiences mostly on-location filming, the pandemic response restrictions from January through May 31, 2021, inhibited film and television activity. 72 per cent of the production occurred between June and November after restrictions were lifted. Please see Attachment 2 for a breakdown by municipality, production value, days, projects, and type.

- 4.3 In 2021, television series, documentaries and commercials accounted for 83.5 per cent of the total number of productions in Durham Region. Additional types of production included are feature films, television movies, short films, and a music video.
- 4.4 Notable productions that were filmed in Durham in 2021 include:
- a. Feature films/Television Movies: Chroma, Luckiest Girl Alive, Midnight at the Paradise, Un-Happy Christmas Wish, and Women Talking.
 - b. Television series: 12 After Midnight, Before Grace, Coroner, Culprits, Dan Brown's The Lost Symbol, Jack Reacher, Locke & Key, Murdoch Mysteries, Pretty Hard Cases, See, Star Trek: Strange New Worlds, Station 11, The Boys, The Marsh King's Daughter, Umbrella Academy, VICAP, What We Do In The Shadows, and Y: The Last Man.
 - c. Commercials: CAA, Chevrolet, Credit Karma, Downy, Esso, Go Daddy, Hyundai, JELD-WEN, KIA, Kyleena, Made Good, Sway Vodka, and Toyota.
- 4.5 Major domestic and foreign production studios and distribution companies that brought these projects to Durham are Amazon, Apple TV, Blue Ant, CBC, CBS, Disney, Netflix, Paramount, Shaftesbury, Sinking Ship and Spy Films.

5. Durham Region Statistics 2022

- 5.1 In 2022, the estimated value of film production activity in Durham Region was \$77 million generated from 74 projects and 598 days of shooting on location. Please see Attachment 3 for a breakdown by municipality, production value, days, projects, and type.
- 5.2 In 2022, feature films, television movies, television series, and commercials accounted for 83 per cent of the total number of productions in Durham Region. Additional types of production included are documentaries, feature films, short films, and a music video.
- 5.3 Notable productions that were filmed in Durham in 2022 include:
- a. Feature films/Television Movies: The Art of Christmas, Domino, Flint Strong, Project Blue, Queen of Bones, Sappy Holiday and The Dead Don't Hurt.
 - b. Television series: Accused, Cowboy Wars, Fubar, Gut Job, Gray, Hoarders House Flippers, In The Dark, Indeed, Jack Reacher, PB Squad, Repossessed, Robyn Hood, Sort Of, The Boys, The Handmaid's Tale, The Way Home, and Titans.

- c. Commercials: Canadian Tire, CIBC, Domino's Pizza, General Motors, HSBC, Hyundai, Kia, Miller Lite, ReMax, Rogers, Sobeys, Subaru, and Tide.
- 5.4 Major domestic and foreign production studios and distribution companies that brought these projects to Durham are A&E, Amazon, American Analog, CBC, CBS, Corus, Fox Searchlight, Gilead 5 Productions, Good Soldier Films, Hallmark Channel, HBO Max, HGTV, Hulu, MGM, Netflix, Screen Gems Canada, The CW, The History Channel, Vice TV, and Warner Bros.

6. Factors Impacting Continued Film and Television Industry Growth in Durham

- 6.1 In 2022, a notable change was made to the Ontario Production Services Tax Credit (OPSTC) where location expenditures are now eligible for OPSTC, up to 5% of the production's qualifying expenditures. Since most of the production activity in Durham is on location filming, this is a further incentive for producers to film in the region.
- 6.2 Demand for studio space is high in the GTHA. Recent industry investments in Durham Region, such as the William F White Backlot and TriBro Sandy Beach Studios will enhance the attractiveness of Durham Region as a desired filming location, furthering the growth and prosperity of the industry and increasing the overall economic contribution of the industry to the region.

7. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 7.1 This report aligns with/addresses Goal 3, Economic Prosperity in the Durham Region Strategic Plan: To build a strong and resilient economy that maximizes opportunities for business and employment growth, innovation, and partnership.
- a. Priority 3.1 - Position Durham Region as the location of choice for business
 - b. Priority 3.2 - Leverage Durham's prime geography, social infrastructure, and strong partnerships to foster economic growth

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 Durham's filming locations, talented workforce, and industry support services continues to create strong demand from the film and television industry. As a result, it is expected that Durham's film and television industry will continue to grow significantly alongside overall growth in the Province of Ontario.

8.2 Economic Development and Tourism Division staff will continue to undertake various initiatives to support the growth of the film and television industry in Durham Region.

9. Attachments

Attachment #1: 2012-2022 Durham Region Film and Television Sector Growth

Attachment #2: 2021 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity

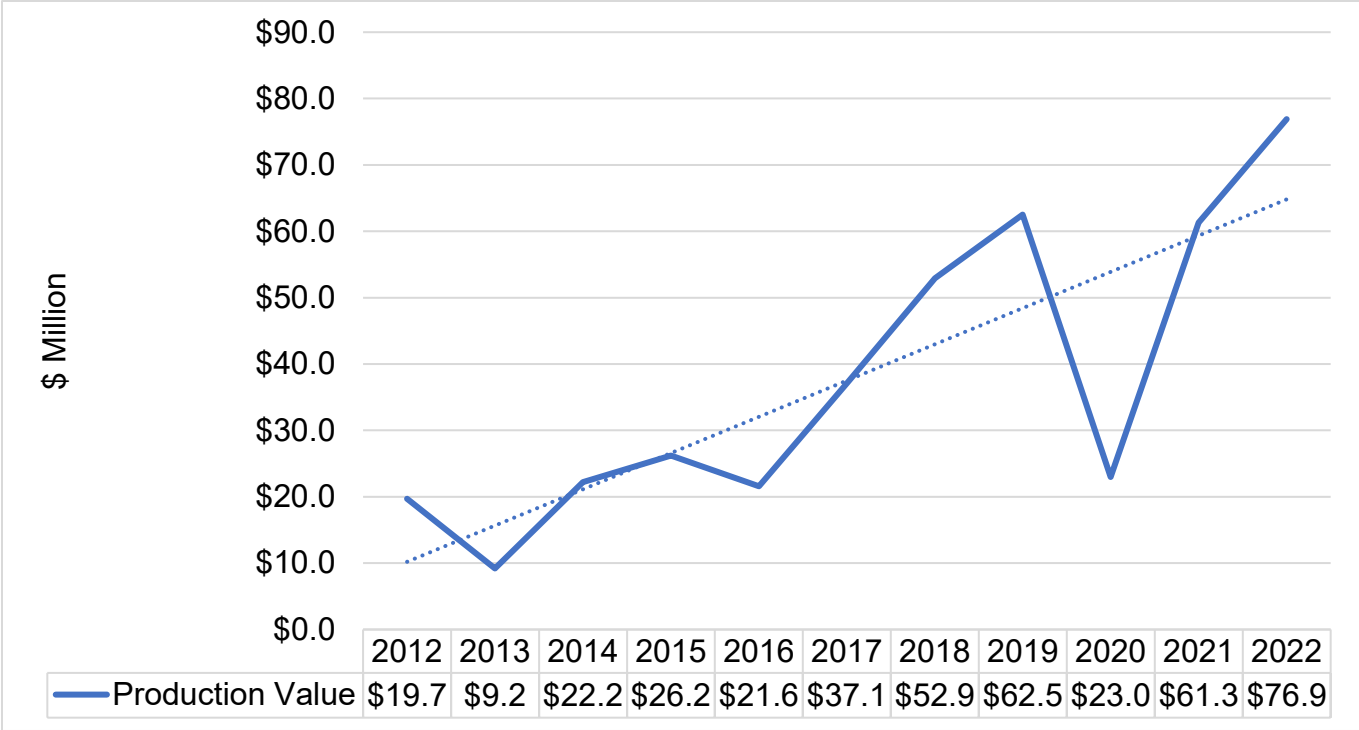
Attachment #3: 2022 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

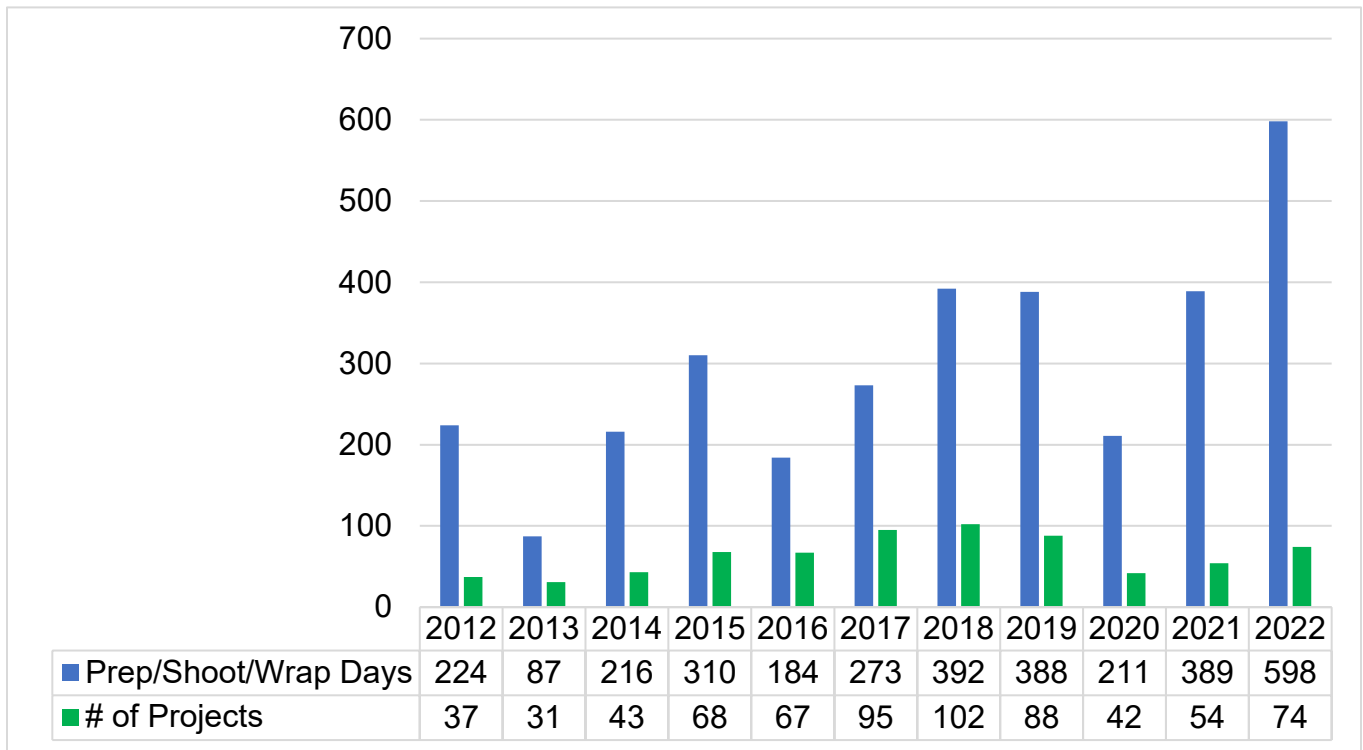
Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

2012 – 2022 Durham Region Film and Television Sector Growth Film and Television Production Activity Value by Year 2012 to 2022



Source: Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI) Tracking Production Revenue: Direct Spending for On-location Production chart.

Film and Television Production Days and Projects by Year 2012 to 2022



Source: Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI) Tracking Production Revenue: Direct Spending for On-location Production chart.

2021 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity

Production Activity by Municipality

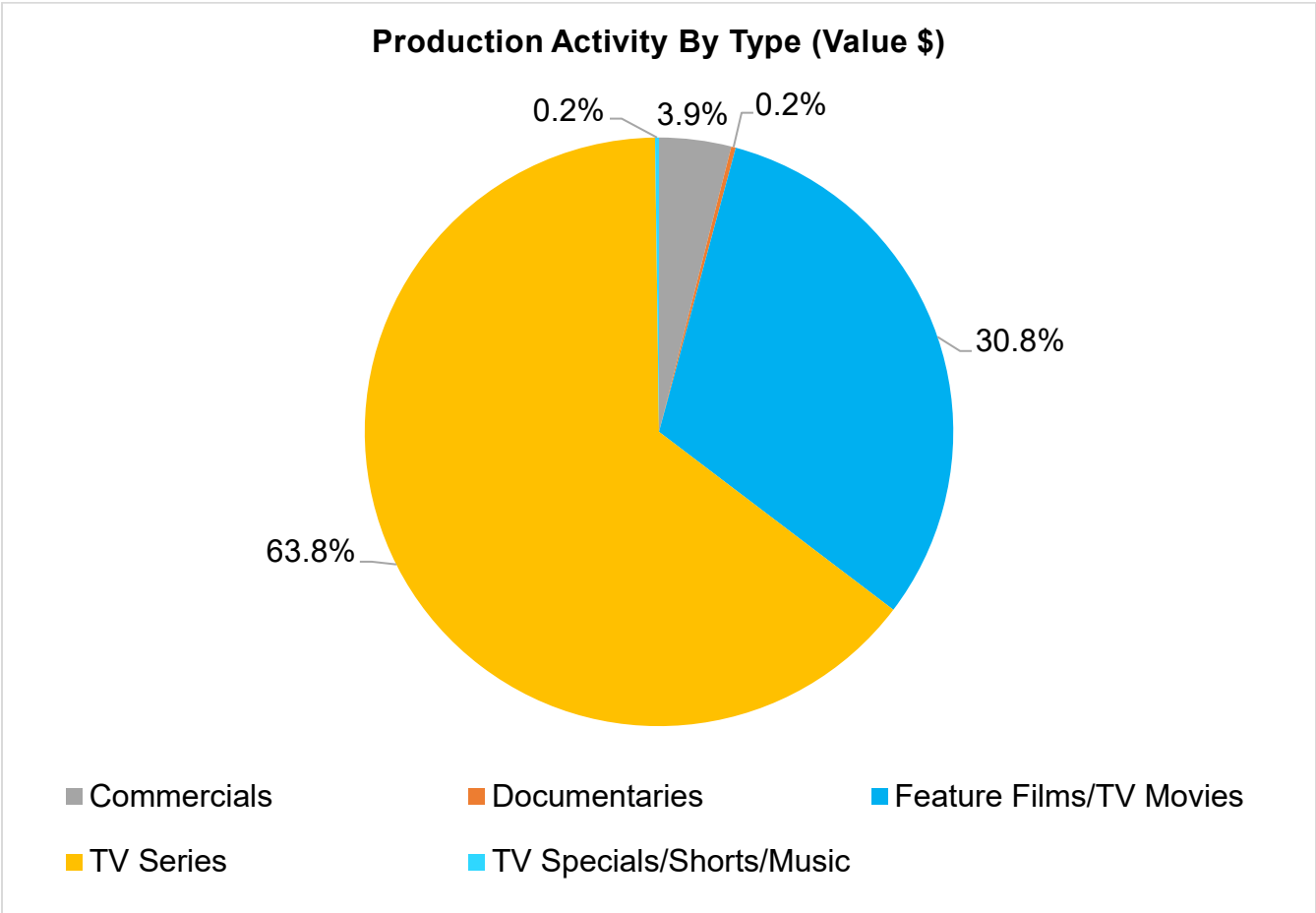
By Permit	Production Value \$	Prep/Shoot/ Wrap Days	# Of Projects
Ajax	1,834,384	15	5
Brock	0	0	0
Clarington	821,500	6	3
Oshawa	8,571,278	62	13
Pickering	31,974,752	177	24
Scugog	6,250,237	46	4
Uxbridge	6,995,750	52	11
Whitby	3,190,000	17	6
Durham Region	1,710,000	14*	14
Total	61,347,902	389	54**

Source: Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI) Tracking Production Revenue: Direct Spending for On-location Production chart.

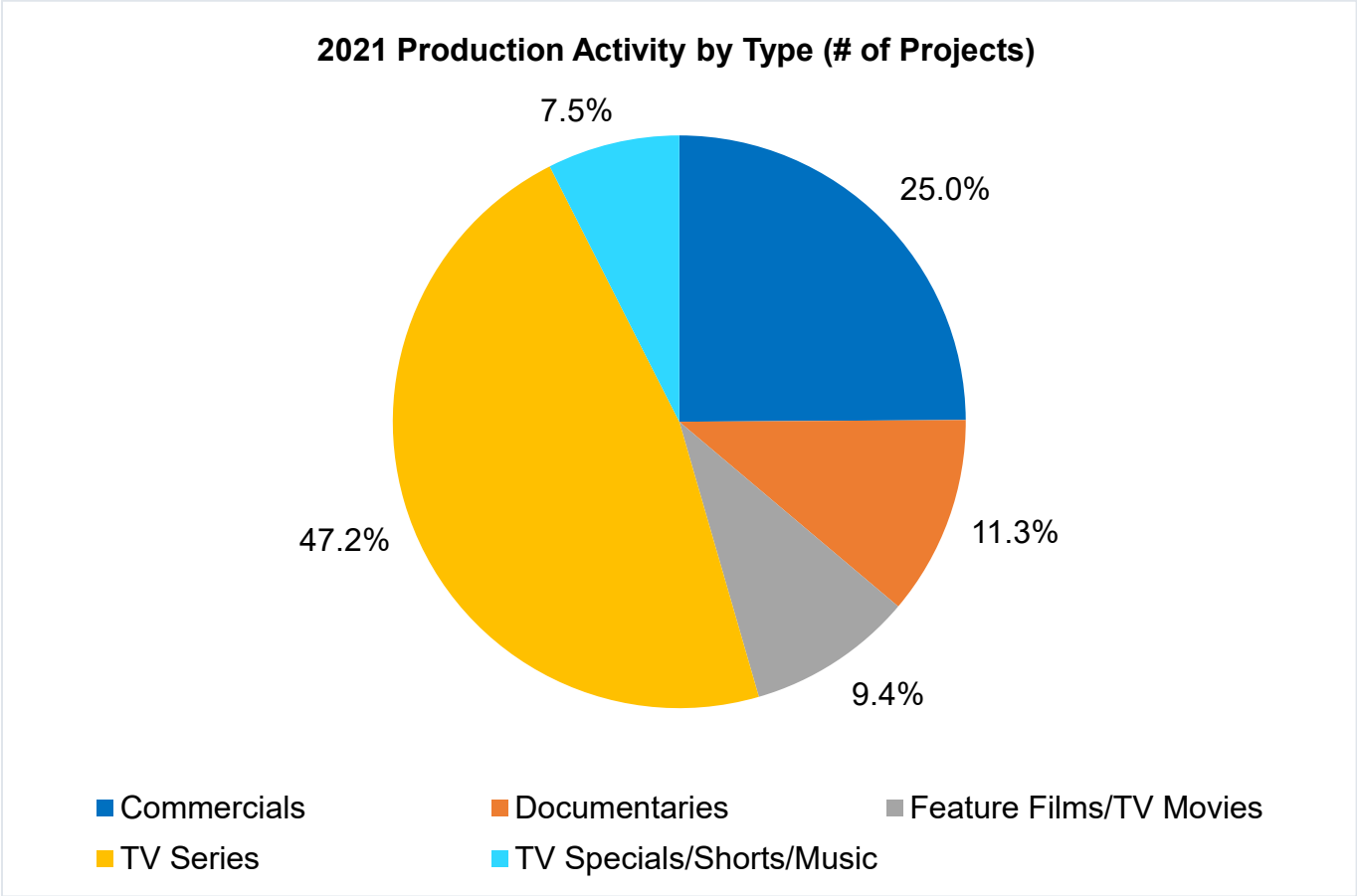
* Film permits issued on regional roads

** Total is not sum of above as projects sometimes are shot in several municipalities and regional roads

2021 Production Activity by Type (Value \$)



2021 Production Activity by Type (Number of Projects)



2022 Durham Region Film and Television Production Activity

Production Activity by Municipality

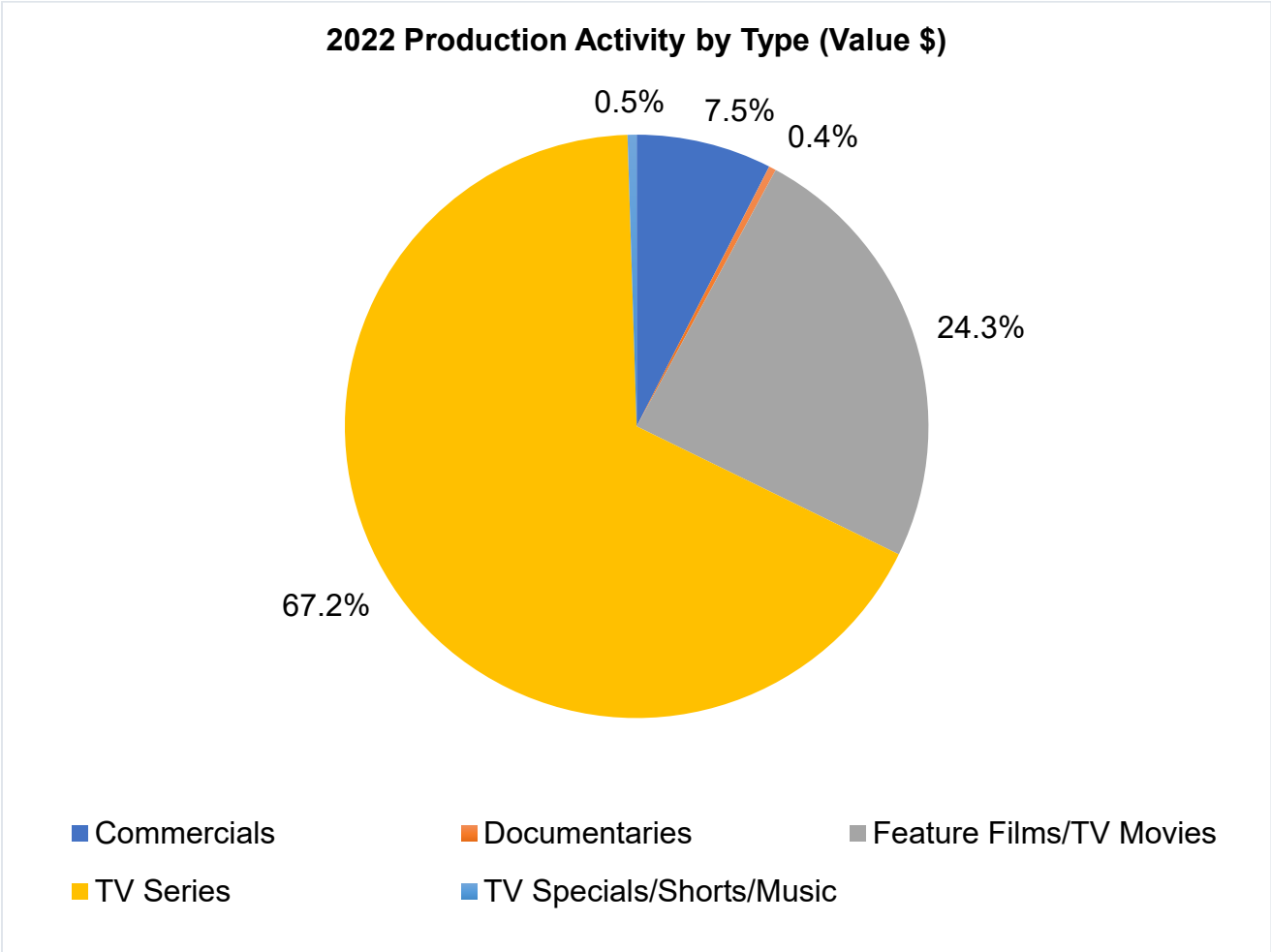
By Permit	Production Value \$	Prep/Shoot/ Wrap Days	# Of Projects
Ajax	\$2,933,730	14	4
Brock	0	0	0
Clarington	\$420,000	3	1
Oshawa	\$20,456,510	114	19
Pickering	\$41,243,481	390	41
Scugog	\$5,887,889	30	8
Uxbridge	3,617,063	25	7
Whitby	\$1,760,343	17	5
Durham Region	\$615,600	5*	6
Total	76,934,615	598	74**

Source: Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI) Tracking Production Revenue: Direct Spending for On-location Production chart.

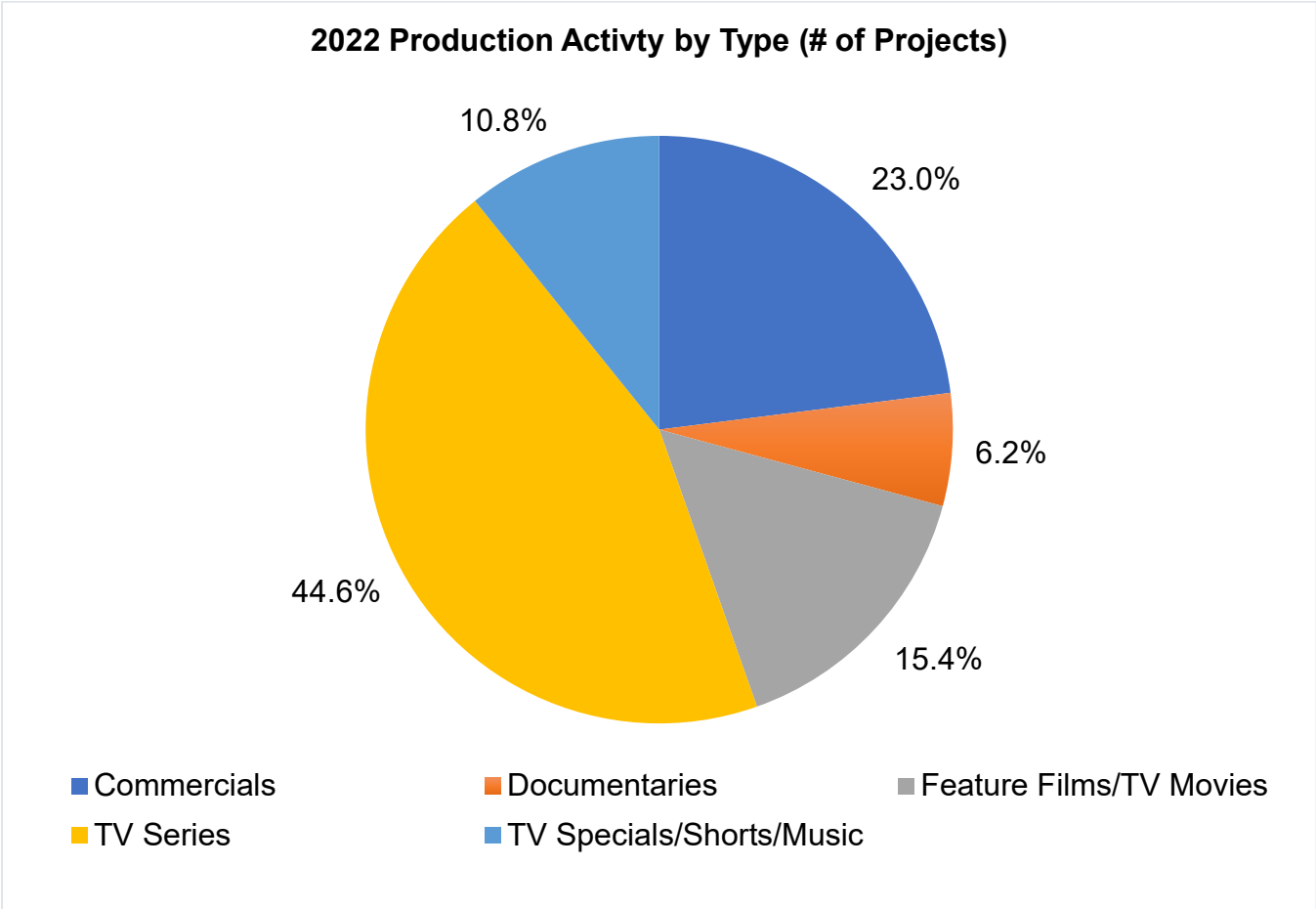
* Film permits issued on regional roads

** Total is not sum of above as projects sometimes are shot in several municipalities and regional roads

2022 Production Activity by Type (Value \$)



2022 Production Activity by Type (Number of Projects)



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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2023-INFO-79
Date: September 22, 2023

Subject:

Rouge National Urban Park Study: Introduction and Status Update

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Regional Council on the release of the Terms of Reference that will guide the conduct of the Rouge National Urban Park Study being undertaken by the federal government.

2. Background

2.1 On March 21, 2023, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change requested the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to conduct a study of the Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP) and adjacent lands to understand the potential and cumulative effects of past, ongoing, and future nearby development projects on the integrity of the RNUP.

2.2 The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada released a report on May 30, 2023 on the [Comments to Date on the Rouge National Urban Park Study](#); and on August 15, 2023, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change released the [Terms of Reference](#) to guide the RNUP Study.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

3.1 There have been no previous reports or decisions on this topic.

4. Study Objectives and Scope

4.1 The Terms of Reference include objectives and scope of the study, and identify parameters around the establishment, purpose and composition of the committee conducting the RNUP Study, including the committee's activities and requirements, the development and role of its Secretariat, and the participation of Indigenous communities.

4.2 The RNUP study will focus on:

- a. Future potential development activities in lands adjacent to the RNUP (the park), notably in the area formerly known as the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve (DRAP), and its potential impacts;
- b. The ecological integrity of the park and the ability to meet its management objectives as described in the Park Management Plan, including:
 - Protecting biodiversity, natural resources, and natural process;
 - Enhancing ecological connectivity throughout the park;
 - Maintaining beneficial working relationships with Indigenous communities; and
 - Supporting a vibrant park farming community;
- c. Any other potential and cumulative effects, on areas of federal jurisdiction (e.g., species at risk, federal lands); and
- d. Consideration of how laws and regulations, including Indigenous laws, would apply to future potential development activities in lands adjacent to the park.

4.3 Attachment 1 includes a map of the Rouge National Urban Park Study Area, which comprises the urban park itself, the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve, and the federal Pickering Airport lands.

4.4 The Terms of Reference indicate the committee carrying out the study will consist of three members appointed by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. A Secretariat will also be established for administrative and technical support, and funding will be made available by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to facilitate the involvement of Indigenous communities and organizations, non-government organizations, and individuals in the study¹

5. Indigenous Communities and Participation

5.1 As a guiding principle, the committee is required to ensure that Indigenous engagement is maintained throughout the course of the study, including members of the Rouge National Urban Park First Nations Advisory Circle, as well as the Métis Nation of Ontario.

5.2 The members of the RNUP First Nations Advisory Circle include:

a. The seven signatories of the Williams Treaties Settlement:

- Alderville First Nation,
- Beausoleil First Nation,
- Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation,
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation,
- Curve Lake First Nation,
- Hiawatha First Nation,
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation;

b. Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, who have submitted an Aboriginal Title claim to lands in the Rouge River Valley Tract;

c. Huron-Wendat Nation; and

d. Six Nations of the Grand River.

6. Committee Activities and Required Action Items

6.1 The Terms of Reference identify required action items to ensure Indigenous and public participation. They also set a standard to guide the use of information and procedures for analyses to support the study.

¹ Public Notice, August 15, 2023, Rouge National Urban Park Study – Participant Funding Available, <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/152760?culture=en-CA>

Indigenous and Public Participation

6.2 The committee is required to develop an approach to Indigenous participation in collaboration with Indigenous communities, and ensure opportunities are available for meaningful participation by members of the public, industry, environmental and community organizations, and other interested persons or groups.

Information and Analyses

6.3 Using publicly available information, the committee must:

- a. Identify, compile, review and present information on existing environmental, health, social, and economic conditions within the Study Area, including a brief overview on the need for, and alternatives to development activities in the DRAP;
- b. Describe potential development activities that may occur in the Study Area, including a range of plausible development scenarios under existing laws and regulations, including a scenario with no further development in the DRAP;
- c. Identify information, knowledge gaps, and uncertainties;
- d. Analyze potential effects, including an assessment of all physical activities that are certain and reasonably foreseeable as described in: Official Plans of the municipalities adjacent to the park, described in the Park Management Plan, planned on Seaton lands, enabled by Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZOs) by the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and those that are likely to be induced by development in the DRAP;
- e. Identify conclusions on:
 - The magnitude of potential and cumulative effects of development activities on the ecological integrity of the park;
 - Key avoidance, mitigation, compensation, monitoring, or follow-up measures to address potential impacts of development; and
 - Whether action items should be applied under federal legislation to future proposed development activities; and
- f. Undertake administrative and reporting activities, including ensuring information and materials are publicly available through the Registry website and completing a workplan.

7. Relationship to Strategic Plan

7.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability – to protect the environment for the future by demonstrating leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

Goal 2: Community Vitality – to foster an exceptional quality of life with services that contribute to strong neighbourhoods, vibrant and diverse communities, and influence our safety and well-being.

8. Conclusion

8.1 At nearly 80 square kilometres in size, the Rouge National Urban Park is the largest urban park in Canada. Parks Canada has an interest in ensuring the ecological integrity of the park in light of potential development activity which may occur within the former Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve.

8.2 The committee is expected to complete the RNUP Study and report to the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change within 18 months of the public announcement of the appointment of its members.

8.3 Regional staff will keep Council apprised of the progress of the RNUP Study.

8.4 Participant funding is currently available by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to support public and Indigenous Peoples participation in the RNUP Study². The deadline to apply is October 16, 2023.

9. Attachments

Attachment #1: Rouge National Urban Park Study Area Map

Respectfully submitted,

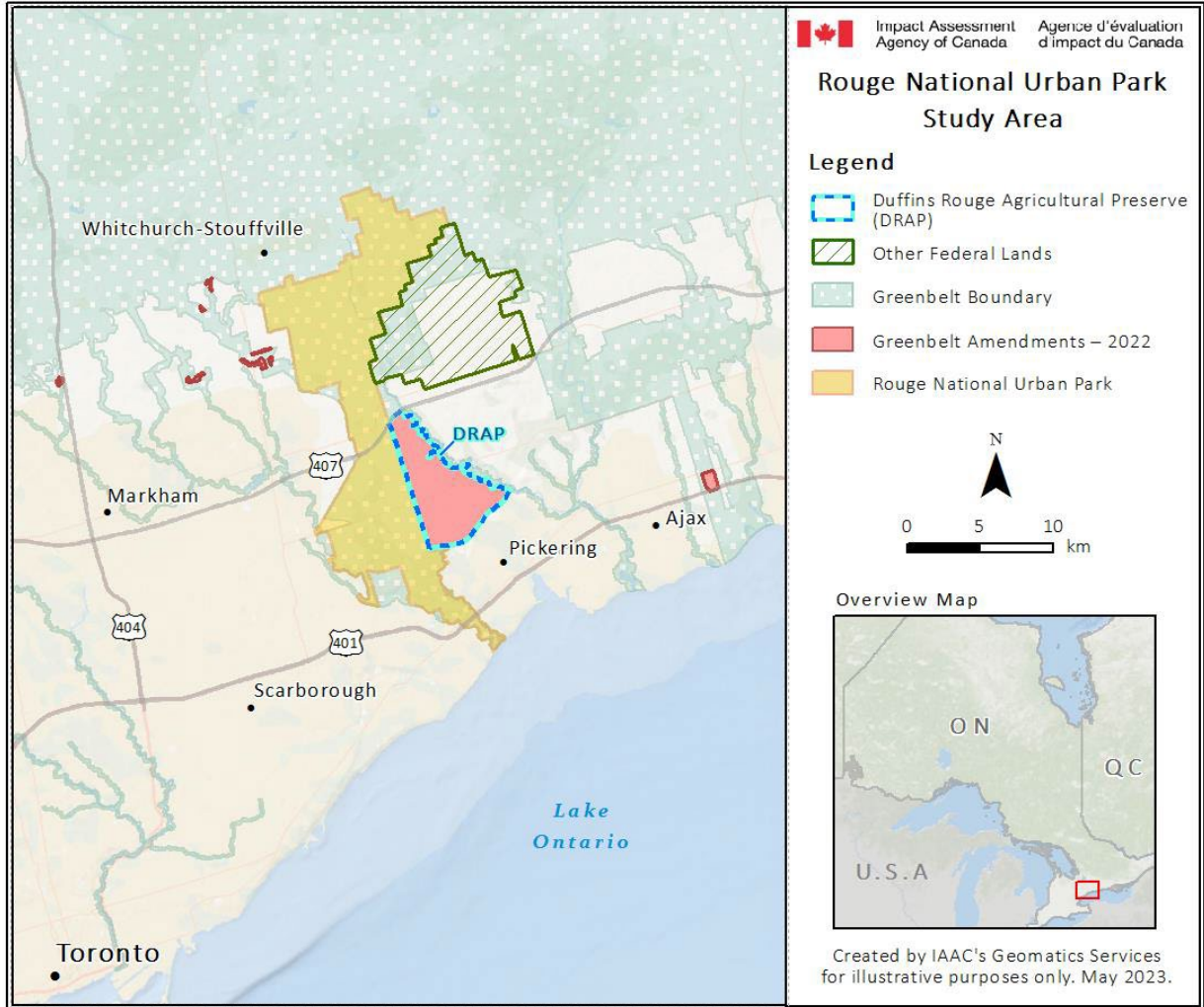
Original signed by

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² Public Notice, August 15, 2023, Rouge National Urban Park Study – Participant Funding Available, <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/152760?culture=en-CA>

Attachment 1

Study Area (Ontario), Rouge National Urban Park Study



If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2023-INFO-80
Date: September 22, 2023

Subject:

Final Reporting under the Streamline Development Approval Fund

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Background and Purpose

- 1.1 On January 19, 2022, the Province of Ontario announced the launch of the Streamline Development Approval Fund (SDAF) to implement streamlining development approval initiatives aimed at unlocking housing supply. The fund provides over \$45 million in funding to help Ontario's 39 largest municipalities accelerate the development of new housing by streamlining, digitizing, and modernizing their approach to managing and approving applications for residential developments. The Region was notified of its eligibility to receive up to \$500,000 under the SDAF Program subject to the execution of a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA).
- 1.2 On February 23, 2022, Regional Council authorized the execution of the TPA and soon after, the Region received 50% of the eligible funding (\$250,000).
- 1.3 To be eligible for the final payment, a Final Report is required which: i) summarizes the project; ii) identifies how the funds were spent; and iii) outlines the measures or actions expected to be achieved. The Final Report is to be posted on the Recipient's publicly available website. Eligible funds are to be spent prior to the November 1, 2023 deadline.

-
- 1.4 Staff can confirm that all eligible funds have been spent; hence, the purpose of this report is to satisfy the Final Report requirements under the TPA.

2. Project Description

- 2.1 In July of 2021, the Region introduced a new development tracking software known as “PLANit”. This development tracking software replaces the previous software known as “Land Development Office” (LDO), and is comprised of two interfaces: an internal staff portal; and an external public portal.
- 2.2 The staff portal is for day-to-day data input, internal and external file circulation, data analysis, and outgoing public communications.
- 2.3 The public portal is for members of the public to electronically submit development applications to the Region and provide electronic payment. The public can view all other active development applications with Regional circulation. Components of the public portal include:
- Applying for applications;
 - A details page including description, parcel attachment, owner information, location, and project details;
 - Document uploading, which identifies the types of documents related to application;
 - Application submission and payment; and
 - Upload of building permit information from Area Municipalities.
- 2.4 PLANit has greatly modernized the Region’s development application review and approval process, with benefits including:
- a. Streamlining the application process, improving efficiency for Regional staff, applicants, agencies, and planners with use of electronic file reception, storage, and circulation;
 - b. Significantly reducing the Region’s reliance on print material;
 - c. Improving ease and simplicity through a browser-based interface;
 - d. Improving access to development application information via the online Public Portal; and
 - e. Tracking development applications through their entire life cycle creating a rich dataset that can be easily accessed, queried, and reported on.
- 2.5 The SDAF presented an opportunity to implement PLANit enhancements originally earmarked for subsequent years.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 Report [#2022-F-7](#) provides authorization to enter into the TPA, and provides background information on the SDAF, eligibility requirements and financial implications.

4. Work Completed Through the SDAF

- 4.1 To complete the SDAF work, staff re-engaged Computronix, PLANit's original vendor. Table 1 shows how the funds were spent by outlining the various PLANit enhancements that have been completed together with a description of the benefits to be achieved.

Table 1: Listing of Enhancements to PLANit through the SDAF

Enhancement	Description and Benefit
Creating an online application submission function for six application types	Allows for applicants to submit and manage development applications online. This is advantageous for users, allowing for an organized "one-stop shop" experience. For Durham Region, it integrates workflows in a unified manner, thereby minimizing errors, improving communication, and simplifying the overall process. Members of the public can use the online capability to search existing applications and use the Region's public map of application locations. The online process is AODA compliant.
Introducing the online payment portal integration	Applicants can submit fees associated with their development applications online instantly, saving time and costs associated with issuing, collating, receipting, and the courier of traditional payment methods.
Implementing an incomplete application workflow feature, allowing applicants to create and save their application submissions and return to finish later if they choose	Applicants can start the application process, save what progress has been made, and finish it at a later time. This enhancement allows users flexibility to start and submit the application at their convenience.

Enhancement	Description and Benefit
Ability to generate five new reports, including: Application Fees Revenue Report, Circulation Lists, Land Use Summaries, Consent Activity, and Application Processing Times	New reports were created which aggregate and summarize indicators related to development applications. The metrics generated are useful in Regional and provincial-level reporting.
Conducting analysis for area municipalities to use online submission tools and to upload building permit information online rather than via submitted spreadsheets	High-level requirements for system access by area municipalities for area municipal submissions/applications and application search and display, to allow for more efficient data transfer.
Adding circulation (eReferral) functionality to relevant parties on Pre-Consultations	Relevant commenting agencies are circulated on application and related documents. This reduces delays in the review process and provides all parties with documents in a “one-window” format.
Applying map display functionality for internal Staff Portal as well as the external Public Portal	Location of parcel(s) are shown on a map, to provide context to users. This feature provides the benefit of visualizing the location of the application and understanding the surrounding geography.
Displaying “ARN” labels which are more meaningful in development applications	Within a workflow map, a parcel’s “Assessment Roll Number” (ARN) is displayed to ensure the correct property is being viewed and used, reducing potential for error.
Creating multi-document upload to eReferral workflows	Users can upload multiple documents in a single transaction (in parallel) which shortens and streamlines the review and communication process. Workflows are improved as there is less chance for missing pertinent documents.
Ability to copy “conditions” from parent Subdivision or Condo phases to subsequent approvals	The copying of conditions from “parent” to “child” applications ensures consistency between development phases, where applicable.

Enhancement	Description and Benefit
Tracking of surplus farm dwellings in Regional Official Plan Amendments (ROPA)	Where ROPA application includes surplus farm dwelling(s), the system calculates land coming out of the agricultural base, tracks lots, and additional units.
Ensuring maximum file sizes are clearly listed in Public Portal	Development applications documents can be large. Listing a maximum file size for attachments helps ensures the document upload process is as seamless as possible.
Update the Open Data Protocol (OData) Feed and data model to include new fields introduced through SDAF enhancements	New fields introduced into PLANit database have been added to the OData Feed. An OData Feed reduces delays in accessing and collating data from PLANit, including information related to development applications.
Ability to Merge Contacts (Applicants)	Where legacy data contains multiple entries for the same applicant, the system can now merge historic records and related contact information so that up-to-date contact information, and good data hygiene practices are maintained.
Auto-populating application forms associated with online applications	Where applicants enter information online that is also required on a formal application form, the information entered online will auto-populate the formal (PDF) application form. This enhancement reduces clerical time to fill-out the application, as well as eliminating manual data-entry errors.
Upgrading the platform from v7.3 to v7.4.2	PLANit has been upgraded to the POSSE 7.4.2 platform. In addition to delivering the most secure version to date, the latest version of the POSSE platform brings enhancements, including enhanced GIS functionality such as displaying a map and parcel selection on the public site. Within the internal site, standardized Esri mapping buttons and tools are now available to assist in viewing and managing applications.

4.2 All the listed enhancements in Table 1 are now live. The Region has conducted a soft launch of these enhancements to ensure technological issues are resolved in advance of a roll-out to all users.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

Service Excellence – To provide exceptional value to Durham taxpayers through responsive, effective, and fiscally sustainable service delivery.

- 5.1 Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.
- 5.2 Collaborate for a seamless service experience.
- 5.3 Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.
- 5.4 Drive organizational success through innovation, a skilled workforce, and modernized services.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The considerable number of enhancements to PLANit created through the SDAF support consistency and streamlining of the Region's development application review process, thus meeting the intent of the funding program.

6.2 The improvements made to PLANit will assist in accelerating the processes for reviewing, managing, and approving development applications.

6.3 All funds have been distributed to the vendor as per the grant terms and conditions.

6.4 A copy of this report will be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to enable the remaining funds (\$250,000) to be paid to the Region.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development



Date & Time Received:	September 18, 2023 8:42 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.2.
Resolution Number 2023-173
Title: Resolution Stemming from July 19, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #4
Date: August 9, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Laframboise
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Municipality of Grey Highlands on June 21, 2023 requiring all stop arm cameras on to be installed and paid for by the Province on all school buses for the start of the 2023-2024 school year;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford; Attorney General Doug Downey; the Ministry of Education; the local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

June 21, 2023

Office of the Premier of Ontario

Sent via email

To Hon. Doug Ford:

Re: Resolution # 2023-475

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the June 21, 2023 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

That the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands urges the Provincial Government to:

1. Require all school buses to have stop arm cameras installed and paid for by the Province for the start of the 2023-2024 school year; and

2. Underwrite the costs for the implementation and on-going annual costs for Administrative Monetary Penalties in small and rural municipalities;

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Provincial opposition parties, Rick Byers MPP, AMO, Bluewater District School Board, Grey County Warden and all municipalities in Ontario.


If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy-Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Attorney General Doug Downey,
Minister of Education Stephen Lecce,
Provincial opposition parties,
Rick Byers MPP,
AMO,
Bluewater District School Board,
Grey County Warden
and all municipalities in Ontario.



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 18, 2023 8:49 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Municipality of
Chatham-Kent
315 King St W, P.O. Box
640, Chatham
ON, N7M 5K8
VIA EMAIL:
CKclerk@chatham-kent.ca

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

September 15, 2023

RE 6.12 & 6.13 Municipality of Chatham-Kent Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on August 16, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-249:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda item 6.12 & 6.13 listed for AUGUST 16, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding the need for changes and updating to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

Therefore, the Township of Puslinch, passes this resolution regarding the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act,

WHEREAS the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 (MFIPPA) dates back 30 years;



AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;

AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the Municipal Clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Act fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;



AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services be requested to review the MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or designate to be the Head under the Act;
2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed, and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in Occupational Health and Safety Act;
6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;
7. That administrative practices implied or required under the Act, including those of the IPC, be reviewed and modernized;
8. That the integrity of the Act be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments.

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Courtenay Hoytfox
Municipal Clerk

July 5, 2023

Via Email: Kaleed.Rasheed@ontario.ca

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery (MPBSD)

Honourable Rasheed:

**Re: Time for Change
Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent at its regular meeting held on June 26, 2023 passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 (MFIPPA) dates back 30 years;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;

AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the Municipal Clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Act fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;

AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services be requested to review the MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or designate to be the Head under the Act;
2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed, and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in Occupational Health and Safety Act;
6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;
7. That administrative practices implied or required under the Act, including those of the IPC, be reviewed and modernized;
8. That the integrity of the Act be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Smith at ckclerk@chatham-ketn.ca

Sincerely,


Judy Smith

Digitally signed by
Judy Smith
Date: 2023.07.05
10:48:27 -04'00'

Judy Smith, CMO
Director Municipal Governance
Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

c.

Lianne Rood, MP
Dave Epp MP
Trevor Jones, MPP
Monte McNaughton, MPP
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
AMCTO Legislative and Policy Advisory Committee
Ontario municipalities

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 18, 2023 8:51 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



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

September 15, 2023

RE 6.19 Municipality of Grey Highlands – Municipal Codes of Conduct

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on August 16, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-247:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

That the Consent Agenda item 6.19 listed for AUGUST 16, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution from the Municipality of Grey Highlands regarding legislation to strengthen Municipal Code of Conducts to account for workplace safety and harassment; and

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly to AMO.

Therefore, the Township of Puslinch, passes this resolution regarding the Municipal Code of Conduct

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace; and
Whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse; and



Whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils; and
Whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments; and
Whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour; Whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;
Now, therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Grey Highlands supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;
Also be it resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Courtenay Hoytfox
Municipal Clerk

June 21, 2023

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Sent via email

To whom it may concern:

Re: 2023-496

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the June 21, 2023 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2023-496

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace; and

Whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse; and

Whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils; and

Whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments; and

Whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour; Whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Grey Highlands supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;

Also be it resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- **Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment**
- **Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario**
 - **Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province**

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
519-986-2811 Toll-Free 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca

- **Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner**
 - **Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.**
- CARRIED.**

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy-Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Office of the Premier of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 18, 2023 8:45 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge

September 15, 2023

Re: Item for Discussion - Item for Discussion – Time for Change - Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)

At its meeting of September 13, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion 23-GC-184, regarding the Item for Discussion – Time for Change - Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), as follows:

“WHEREAS the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990 (MFIPPA) came into force and effect on January 1, 1991;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Town of Bracebridge, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;

AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the Clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the MFIPPA fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number, or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information to launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262
public works fax: (705) 645-7525
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;

AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery be requested to review MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or their designate to be the Head under the Act;
2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed, and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in the Occupational Health and Safety Act;
6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;
7. That administrative practices implied or required under MFIPPA, including those of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC), be reviewed and modernized;
8. That the integrity of MFIPPA be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments; and
9. And that this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery; and Member of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka; Muskoka and Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk