



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, October 13, 2023

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

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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.

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

Written information (either paper or electronic) that you send to Durham Regional Council or Committees, including home address, phone numbers and email addresses, will become part of the public record. If you have any questions about the collection of information, please contact the Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services.



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2023-INFO-88
Date: October 13, 2023

Subject:

Economic Update – Inflation Proves Difficult to Tame, Increased Interest Rates Moderate Growth and Housing Demand Falls without Material Impacts to Housing Affordability.

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 This report updates Regional Council on the economic environment, as monitored by the Finance Department, including key economic indicators and their impacts on the local economy and Durham Region programs.

1.2 Economic highlights include:

- On September 6, 2023, the Bank of Canada (BoC) paused the interest rate hiking cycle and left the overnight rate unchanged at 5.0 per cent, which was in line with market expectations.
- Real GDP in Canada remained largely unchanged in the second quarter of 2023 compared to the first quarter.
- The Labour Force Survey (September data) by Statistics Canada released on October 6, 2023, showed Canada's unemployment rate was unchanged in September and stood at 5.5 per cent for the third consecutive month.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) reported new home construction increased slightly by one per cent in the first half of 2023, due to a surge of new apartment builds in Toronto and Vancouver, while most other types of homes across the country contracted.
- CMHC also maintained a 2022 projection that Canada needs about 3.5 million new homes built by 2030 to meet current demand, noting that the current pace of construction is nowhere near that pace.
- According to the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's market watch report for

September, GTA home sales declined 12.3 per cent month-over-month from August 2023 to 4,642. GTA municipalities saw year-over-year price gains in resale homes, except for Durham Region, which saw a slight price decrease of 0.84 per cent (September average resale home price of \$907,359).

- Inflation, as measured by the 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), increased to 4.0 per cent in August, after being recorded at 3.3 per cent in July.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 This report updates the August 11, 2023, Report #2023-INFO-68 “Increased Interest Rates Taking Effect, although Climate and Conflict continue to Impact Global Food Prices and Housing Prices Rise Again in Durham Region.”

3. Bank of Canada Interest Rate Increase

- 3.1 On September 6, 2023, the BoC left the overnight rate unchanged at 5 per cent, in line with market expectations.
- 3.2 The BoC remains highly data-dependent and has reiterated that it will not hesitate to push interest rates higher if necessary to return inflation to the two per cent target rate. Although inflation has slowed substantially from its peak, the central bank's preferred 'core' measures are still persistently above the two per cent target and wage growth is also elevated. Near-term CPI growth rates have also risen with oil prices higher in the last few weeks of summer.
- 3.3 However, interest rates are already at levels that the central bank views as 'restrictive' enough to put additional downward pressure on economic growth and inflation over time. The BoC's decision followed a slew of softer economic data releases that suggested the lagged growth headwinds from the cumulative rate hikes since March 2022 are building.
- 3.4 Inflation in advanced economies has continued to come down, but with measures of core inflation still elevated, major central banks across the globe remain focused on restoring price stability. Global growth slowed in the second quarter of 2023, largely reflecting a significant deceleration in China. With ongoing weakness in the property sector undermining confidence, growth prospects in China have diminished. In the United States, growth was stronger than expected, led by robust consumer spending. In Europe, strength in the service sector supported growth, offsetting an ongoing contraction in manufacturing. Global bond yields have risen, reflecting higher real interest rates, and international oil prices are higher than was assumed in the BoC's July *Monetary Policy Report* (MPR).
- 3.5 The Canadian economy has entered a period of weaker growth, which is needed to relieve price pressures. This reflected a marked weakening in consumption growth and a decline in housing activity, as well as the impact of wildfires in many regions of the country. Household credit growth slowed as the impact of higher rates restrained spending among a wider range of borrowers. Final domestic demand grew by one per cent in the second quarter, supported by government

spending and a boost to business investment. The tightness in the labour market has continued to ease gradually. However, wage growth has remained between four per cent and five per cent.

4. Canadian Economic Growth Outlook

- 4.1 The impacts from high interest rates are continuing to weigh on economic growth. Industry GDP data indicates that the Canadian economy continues to slow. Following the decline in June, and second quarter results, the slowing economy is helping bring inflation closer to the two per cent BoC target.
- 4.2 After falling 0.2 per cent in June 2023, real GDP in Canada was estimated to have remained largely unchanged in July. This extends the softening momentum in activities into of the third quarter of 2023 and leaves overall output slightly below where it was in the second quarter (on average). The flat reading for July was a result of stronger activities in services sectors (+0.1 per cent) and was offset by lower output in goods sectors (-0.3 per cent). It was also despite a rebound among sectors that were impacted by wildfires in prior months, including mining and quarrying (+4.2 per cent) and accommodation and food services (+2.3 per cent). A 1.5 per cent decline in manufacturing represented the largest GDP growth decline in July. Production may have been disrupted by supply chain issues resulting from the port strike in British Columbia in July. However, early estimates suggest output from the manufacturing sector may have fallen again in August, with most of the increase in nominal sales reported to date (0.9 per cent) related to higher petroleum product prices.
- 4.3 Home resale activities remained sluggish as the BoC continued rate hikes in July to combat persistent inflation pressures. Momentum gained over the spring in real estate agent and broker activities have continued to wane – in July the sector posted its first decline in output (-1.3 per cent) since January 2023.
- 4.4 Statistics Canada’s preliminary projection showed a 0.1 per cent bounce back in GDP in August, a bit weaker than expected given a 0.5 per cent increase in hours worked and a larger 2.6 per cent month-over-month increase in wholesale ex-petroleum sales the same month. Statistics Canada pointed to softer retail and oil and gas extraction activity in August 2023.
- 4.5 GDP growth in Canada continues to soften, while inflation remains above the Bank of Canada’s two per cent target. With interest rates already at restrictive levels, further increases from the BoC and other central banks will remain data-dependent. Firmer-than-expected inflation readings in Canada have increased the odds of another interest rate hike in 2023. However, inflation lags the economic cycle and there are growing signs that the impact of earlier interest rate increases is cooling the economy.

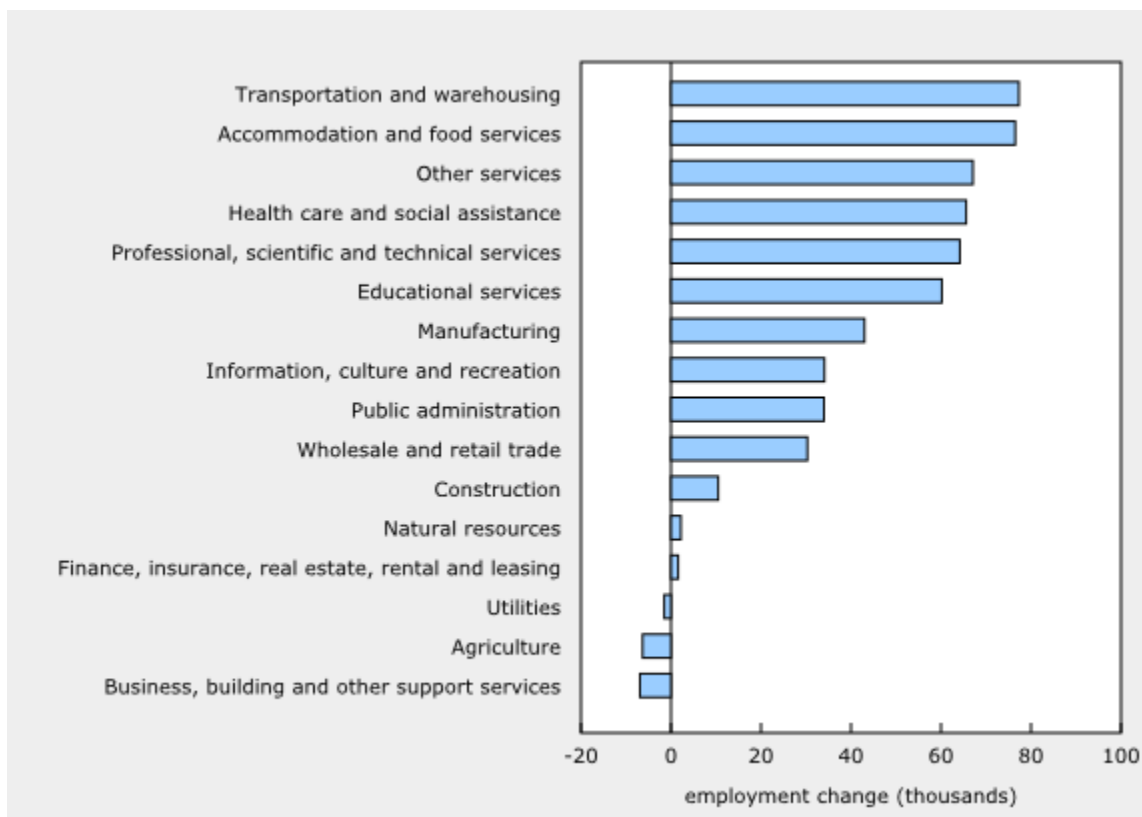
5. The Labour Market

- 5.1 According to Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey (September 2023 data), employment rose by 64,000 (+0.3 per cent) in September, following an increase

of 40,000 (+0.2 per cent) in August. The September job gain was substantially stronger than expected; however, details reveal a mixed picture. The employment increase was concentrated in educational services (66,000), with Statistics Canada reiterating that employment counts in that sector can be volatile around the start of the school year. Most job growth was also in part-time positions (+48,000) and actual hours worked declined by 0.2 per cent.

- 5.2 The September employment rate - the proportion of the population aged 15 and older who are employed - rose 0.1 percentage points to 62.0 per cent, offsetting a decline in the previous month. The upward trend in employment continues to occur in the context of the highest rate of population growth since 1957. In September, the population aged 15 and older, as included in the Labour Force Survey, increased by 82,000 (+0.3 per cent).
- 5.3 At the national level, the unemployment rate was unchanged in September and has remained 5.5 per cent for the third consecutive month. Employment increased among core-aged (aged 25 to 54 years) women (+37,000; +0.6 per cent) and men (+32,000; +0.5 per cent) and was little changed for youth aged 15 to 24 or people aged 55 and older.
- 5.4 There were more people employed in educational services (+66,000; +4.5 per cent), offsetting a decrease of 44,000 (-2.9 per cent) in August. Employment in transportation and warehousing also increased (+19,000; +1.8 per cent), while there were fewer people employed in finance, insurance, real estate, rental, and leasing (-20,000; -1.4 per cent), construction (-18,000; -1.1 per cent) and information, culture, and recreation (-12,000; -1.4 per cent).
- 5.5 On a year-over year basis, Chart 1 shows that the service producing industries, including transportation and warehousing and accommodation and food services, lead employment growth.

Chart 1 – Employment Growth Year-over-Year in September
 Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey (September 2023)



Source: Statistics Canada. *The Daily: Labour Force Survey, September 2023*.

- 5.6 Employment increased in six provinces in September led by Quebec (+39,000; +0.9 per cent) and British Columbia (+26,000; +0.9 per cent). Employment declined in Alberta (-38,000; -1.5 per cent) and New Brunswick (-2,700; -0.7 per cent).
- 5.7 Wage growth continues to rise strongly, pointing to a still firm underlying balance between labour demand and supply. Canadian average hourly wages were up 5.0 per cent compared to September 2022, and little changed from the 4.9 per cent and 5.0 per cent readings in August and July respectively.
- 5.8 Details of the September labour market data are mixed. There are still signs that hiring demand continues to soften under the surface, relative to surging labour supply, with broader unemployment measures pointing to more softening than the official unemployment rate itself implies. It will be difficult for the BoC to look through very strong top-line employment growth, and wages are showing few signs of decelerating, despite signs that labour supply is beginning to catch up to hiring demand. The BoC has been clear that it won't hesitate to respond with more interest rate hikes if necessary to cool labour markets and to bring inflation down to target.

6. Housing and Household Affordability

- 6.1 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) reported new home construction increased slightly (one per cent) in the first half of 2023, prominently due to a surge of new apartment builds in the Cities of Toronto and Vancouver. Most other types of homes across the country contracted.
- 6.2 Of the six cities examined, CMHC indicated that Vancouver and Toronto were the only cities that saw housing starts increase over the same period last year, recording 49 per cent and 32 per cent gains respectively, and surpassing levels seen over the past five years.
- 6.3 In Montreal, there were 58 per cent fewer housing starts compared with the first half of 2022, while Edmonton and Ottawa saw decreases of 29 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. Calgary's housing starts were flat.
- 6.4 According to CMHC, the booming construction underway in Toronto and Vancouver is attributed to projects that started during the pandemic before interest rates rose substantially.
- 6.5 On September 14, 2023, the Federal government announced that it will eliminate the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on the construction of new rental apartments to incentivize construction of rental homes. The removal of GST will apply to new purpose-built rental housing, such as apartment buildings, student housing, and senior residences built specifically for long-term rental accommodation.
- 6.6 This enhancement increases the GST Rental Rebate from 36 per cent to 100 per cent and removes the existing GST Rental Rebate phase-out thresholds for purpose-built rental housing projects. The enhanced GST Rental Rebate will apply to projects that begin construction on or after September 14, 2023, and on or before December 31, 2030, and complete construction by December 31, 2035.
- 6.7 According to RBC Economics, although the removal of GST on rental construction projects will improve their financial viability and spur more development, it is not likely to lower rents in the short term. More policy action from all levels of government will be required to increase rental supply and lower rents. This includes modernizing zoning by-laws to accommodate high density developments, streamlining permitting prices for new construction, and ensuring other fees, taxes, and policies are in line with the broader goal of expanding the rental housing stock in Canada.
- 6.8 The federal government also recently raised the cap on a mortgage bond program from \$40 billion to \$60 billion to encourage construction of new apartment builds by making financing for those complicated projects easier. Mortgage bonds are sold by CMHC. The proceeds are then used to offer mortgage loan insurance to financial institutions, which can in turn pass on lower interest rates to developers.
- 6.9 CMHC forecasts strong rental demand for the second half of the year, reflecting

higher barriers to home ownership caused by high prices and interest rates. In addition, CMHC indicates that the overall level of new construction activity remains too low to address Canada's affordability and housing supply crisis over the longer term, and "significant increases" in the construction industry's productivity will be needed.

- 6.10 Last month, CMHC reported that Canada will still need about 3.5 million new homes to be built between now and 2030 to meet demand, noting that the current pace of construction is nowhere near that pace.
- 6.11 Higher interest rates continue to cool down Canada's housing market following a seasonal rebound in the spring. In addition, the impact of high inflation, uncertainty surrounding future BoC interest rate decisions and slower economic growth weighs on Greater Toronto Area (GTA) home sales.
- 6.12 However, despite the market being better-supplied with listings, the average selling price was up year-over-year. The average home price in the GTA reached \$1,119,428, representing an increase of 3.4 per cent from August and a three per cent increase from last September. New listings increased 44.1 per cent to 16,258 in September compared with extremely low levels in September 2022, when there were just under 5,000 listings. The number of listings also trended upward on a month-over-month basis.

Table 1 - Toronto Regional Real Estate Board:
Summary of Select Existing Home Transactions
(All Home Types – Average Price)

| | Year-over-Year | | Durham Peak | Monthly Changes | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Sep-22 | Sep-23 | Jan-22 | Jul-23 | Aug-23 | Sep-23 |
| Durham | 915,027 | 907,359 | 1,175,010 | 961,852 | 930,852 | 907,359 |
| York | 1,246,490 | 1,330,636 | 1,519,583 | 1,356,977 | 1,339,742 | 1,330,636 |
| Peel | 1,044,385 | 1,049,968 | 1,291,955 | 1,079,553 | 1,050,925 | 1,049,968 |
| Halton | 1,231,803 | 1,245,146 | 1,484,265 | 1,255,713 | 1,230,389 | 1,245,146 |
| Toronto | 1,061,876 | 1,119,452 | 1,073,111 | 1,066,184 | 1,005,945 | 1,119,452 |

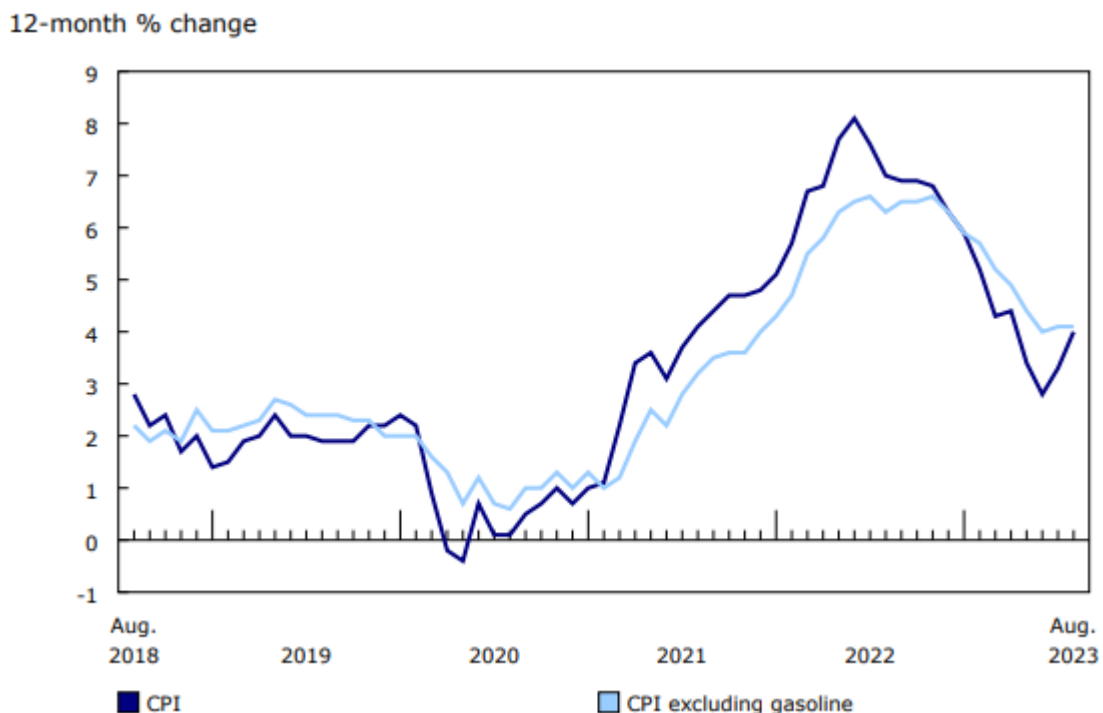
- 6.13 Table 1 shows GTA municipalities' year-over-year price changes for resale homes. Durham was the only GTA Region to see a price decrease, albeit it was slight at 0.84 per cent, with the average resale home price of \$907,359. On a September-over-August basis, all GTA municipalities saw prices pull back, except Halton and Toronto.
- 6.14 According to TRREB, the market was more balanced in the summer and early fall, with listings increasing noticeably relative to sales. Elevated borrowing costs are expected until mid-2024, after which they will start to trend lower, suggesting there may be an uptick in demand for home ownership in the second half of next year. Indeed, high interest rates and homeownership costs are expected to continue to impact the budgets for many potential buyers, and a looming economic downturn

is poised to undermine the confidence of market participants. According to RBC Economics, a more balanced housing market will keep the pace of future price gains muted and slight declines cannot be ruled out.

7. Consumer Price Index (CPI): Canadian Headline Inflation

- 7.1 Recent CPI data indicated that inflationary pressures remain broad-based. According to the Consumer Price Inflation report by Statistics Canada (August 2023 data), after rising to 3.3 per cent in July, CPI inflation moved up to 4.0 per cent in August. The longer high inflation persists, the greater the risk that elevated inflation becomes entrenched, making it more difficult to restore price stability and household affordability.

Chart 2 – Year-over-Year Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and CPI excluding Gasoline (August 2023)



Source: Statistics Canada. *The Daily: Labour Force Survey*, September 2023.

- 7.2 Gasoline prices rose 0.8 per cent year-over-year in August, the first yearly increase since January 2023, after falling 12.9 per cent in July. The year-over-year gain in the gasoline index was partly driven by a base-year effect, as prices fell 9.6 per cent month-over-month in August 2022, resulting from higher global oil production and lower refining margins.
- 7.3 On a monthly basis, gasoline prices rose 4.6 per cent, also contributing to the year-over-year increase in August 2023. The month-over-month gain was mainly the result of higher prices for crude oil following production cuts from major oil-

producing countries.

- 7.4 Shelter prices were up 6.0 per cent on a year-over-year basis in August, after increasing 5.1 per cent in July. Faster growth in shelter prices was led by the rent index, which rose 6.5 per cent year-over-year nationally, after a 5.5 per cent gain in July. Among other factors, a higher interest rate environment, which may create barriers to homeownership, put upward pressure on the index. According to Statistics Canada, rent prices accelerated in eight provinces, with the fastest price growth in Newfoundland and Labrador (+8.4 per cent), Alberta (+6.5 per cent), Nova Scotia (+9.5 per cent) and Manitoba (+6.1 per cent). In addition, the mortgage interest cost index also contributed to the acceleration in shelter prices, rising at a slightly faster pace in August (+30.9 per cent) compared with July (+30.6 per cent).
- 7.5 Although year-over-year price growth for groceries slowed in August, price levels remained elevated. On a year-over-year basis, prices for food purchased from stores rose 6.9 per cent in August compared with an 8.5 per cent increase in July. On a monthly basis, prices for groceries were down 0.4 per cent in August. Prices for fresh fruit (+0.2 per cent), cereal products (+9.8 per cent), and fresh or frozen chicken (+8.9 per cent) increased at a slower year-over-year pace in August compared with July, contributing to the deceleration in grocery prices. Conversely, consumers paid more for fresh or frozen beef (+11.9 per cent), coffee and tea (+9.0 per cent), as well as for sugar and confectionery (+10.9 per cent).
- 7.6 With recent evidence that excess demand in the economy is easing, and given the lagged effects of monetary policy, the Bank held the policy interest rate at 5.0 per cent in September 2023. However, the Governing Council remains concerned about persistent underlying inflationary pressures and is prepared to increase the policy interest rate if needed. In addition to assessing the outlook for core and CPI inflation, the BoC will evaluate whether the evolution of excess demand, wage growth and corporate pricing behaviour is consistent with achieving the two per cent inflation target. There is another CPI report before the next BoC decision on October 25, 2023.

8. Ontario Public Accounts (2022-23)

- 8.1 According to The Treasury Board Secretariat, as of the 2023–24 First Quarter Finances, the province's 2023–24 deficit is projected to be \$1.3 billion, unchanged from the outlook published in the 2023 Ontario Budget. Revenues in 2023–24 were projected to be \$204.4 billion, largely unchanged compared to the forecast in the 2023 Ontario Budget. Overall program expense in 2023–24 is projected to be \$190.6 billion, also largely unchanged from the outlook presented in the 2023 Ontario Budget.
- 8.2 New commitments announced since the release of the 2023 Ontario Budget are primarily offset by the Contingency Fund within the Ontario fiscal plan, as follows:

- \$357.8 million to develop industrial land for large-scale manufacturing investments.
- \$75.0 million to support front-line operations of the OPP.
- \$50.0 million to support the delivery of Transit-Oriented Communities.
- \$49.7 million to help police identify and dismantle organized auto theft crime, strengthen the province's bail system.
- \$26.6 million for the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program.
- \$25.0 million for the provincial share of cost increases for Waterfront Toronto's Port Lands Flood Protection Project.
- \$24.2 million to support affordable and supportive housing units in Ottawa.
- \$10.0 million for a new Winery Agri-Tourism Economic Relief Grant program, to provide continued support to eligible wineries and cideries with on-site stores.
- \$1.9 million to enhance the Northern Fire Protection Program.
- \$146.5 million for all other changes, including funding for existing collective agreements with Ontario Public Service employees.

8.3 The Ontario Government also reported that following the 2023 Ontario Budget, Standard & Poor's, Moody's and DBRS Morningstar all placed Ontario's credit ratings on positive outlook, while Fitch confirmed the rating with a stable outlook.

9. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

- Economic Prosperity: To build a strong and resilient economy that maximizes opportunities for business and employment growth, innovation, and partnership.

10. Conclusions

10.1 While the slowing economy is anticipated to eventually bring the inflation rate, as measured by CPI, closer to the two per cent BoC target, the CPI report for August showed inflation remains difficult to tame and rose to 4.0 per cent. This puts the Bank in a difficult situation for its October Monetary Policy decision. Statistics Canada will be releasing its CPI report scheduled for October 17th (September data), prior to the upcoming interest rate decision by the BoC on October 25, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: October 13, 2023
To: Health & Social Services Committee
From: Dr. Robert Kyle
Subject: Health Information Update – October 9, 2023

Health
Department

Please find attached the latest links to health information from the Health Department and other key sources that you may find of interest. Links may need to be copied and pasted directly in your web browser to open, including the link below.

You may also wish to browse the online Health Department Reference Manual available at [Board of Health Manual](#), which is continually updated.

Boards of health are required to “superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board” (section 4, clause a, HPPA). In addition, medical officers of health are required to “[report] directly to the board of health on issues relating to public health concerns and to public health programs and services under this or any other Act” (sub-section 67.(1), HPPA).

Accordingly, the Health Information Update is a component of the Health Department’s ‘Accountability Framework’, which also may include program and other reports, Health Plans, Quality Enhancement Plans, Durham Health Check-Ups, business plans and budgets; provincial performance indicators and targets, monitoring, compliance audits and assessments; RDPS certification; and accreditation by Accreditation Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

*“Service Excellence
for our Communities*

UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 9, 2023

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/4bp83a6e

- Sports Related Concussions: Impact for Health Care Providers (Sep 25)

tinyurl.com/s78pt83s

- School-Based Vaccine Orders (Sep 26)

tinyurl.com/35apd6nv

- Health Department launches campaign to raise awareness about safer cannabis consumption (Oct 3)

tinyurl.com/244b9hbu

- Influenza Vaccine Available for High-Risk Groups Only (Oct 3)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Canadian Food Inspection Agency

tinyurl.com/3k2up2uz

- Statement from Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer on World Rabies Day 2023 (Sep 28)

Environment and Climate Change Canada

tinyurl.com/3rftcaz9

- Government of Canada makes transformative investments to clean up and protect the Bay of Quinte and other areas of the Great Lakes (Sep 28)

tinyurl.com/mumdmaye

- The Government of Canada launches research fund to help prevent and divert food waste from Canadian landfills (Sep 29)

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/6wy3de9p

- Government of Canada strengthens access to sexual and reproductive services for people living with Endometriosis (Sep 26)

tinyurl.com/yrbfxwer

- Health Canada authorizes Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine targeting the Omicron XBB.1.5 subvariant (Sep 28)

tinyurl.com/2s4d3p4v

- Health Canada Launches National Call for Proposals for the Substance Use and Addictions Program (Sep 29)

tinyurl.com/33njhevu

- Health Canada working with online marketplaces to protect the health and safety of Canadian consumers (Sep 29)

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

tinyurl.com/yxr4nycf

- Government of Canada invests in open science drug discovery network (Oct 5)

Natural Resources Canada

tinyurl.com/4kdks3t2

- Minister Wilkinson Releases Canada's Carbon Management Strategy (Sep 27)

tinyurl.com/ycxthtku

- Ministerial Statement Regarding NWMO Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste (Oct 5)

Prime Minister's Office

tinyurl.com/mparnrby

- Statement by the Prime Minister on International Safe Abortion Day (Sep 28)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/y23re64a

- Message from the Minister of Health and the Minister of Sports and Physical Activity during Concussion Awareness Week (Sep 25)

tinyurl.com/9ems3tey

- Government of Canada Announces more than \$2.1 Million To Improve Home-Based Palliative Care (Sep 27)

tinyurl.com/3fj53w77

- Government of Canada helping to close knowledge gap on breast cancer screening (Sep 27)

tinyurl.com/ycx9psbx

- Joint Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses – Latest National Data on Substance-Related Harms (Sep 28)

tinyurl.com/y3965pcy

- Statement from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on the Overdose Crisis (Sep 28)

tinyurl.com/85mjc2x3

- Message from the Minister of Health – National Seniors Day (Oct 1)

tinyurl.com/2zearbrx

- Statement from the Minister of Health and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on Human Papillomavirus Prevention Week (Oct 3)

tinyurl.com/2s3rppttr

- Message from the Minister of Health and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – Mental Health Awareness Week (Oct 3)

tinyurl.com/y85sd72a

- Message from the Minister of Health on Autism Awareness Week (Oct 4)

tinyurl.com/5dp8v69v

- Statement from the Minister of Health and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on Breast Cancer Awareness Month (Oct 6)

Public Safety Canada

tinyurl.com/3kfsx8bp

- Statement by Minister Sajjan on Fire Prevention Week (Oct 7)

Transport Canada

tinyurl.com/2sxewmmx

- Minister of Transport announces new penalties for companies or individuals who violate the Motor Vehicle Safety Act (Oct 6)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

tinyurl.com/zvjd85xu

- Ontario Helping More Children and Youth Access Healthy Food (Oct 5)

Ministry of Health

tinyurl.com/37jnz6hu

- Even More Convenient Care Close to Home Coming to Communities Across Ontario (Oct 1)

tinyurl.com/yptd5bsy

- Ontario Making It Easier and More Convenient to Connect to Home Care (Oct 4)

Ministry of the Solicitor General

tinyurl.com/544e9e89

- Ontario Gets Saved by the Beep on “Test Your Smoke Alarm Day” (Sep 28)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Healthier Communities

tinyurl.com/y33p99p5

- Evidence shows that Community Health Centres (CHCs) keep people healthier, out of the emergency department, and help save the system money (Sep 25)

Canadian Climate Institute

tinyurl.com/uk7hmdk4

- Emissions from oil and gas, buildings undercut Canada’s climate progress, estimate finds (Sep 28)

Federation of Medical Women of Canada

tinyurl.com/4sy5e3xk

- FMWC Task Force Issues New White Paper to Address Ongoing HPV Vaccination Crisis in Ontario (Oct 1)

Financial Accountability Office of Ontario

tinyurl.com/yrrpdz4zn

- FAO releases Expenditure Monitor 2023-24: Q1 (Oct 4)

Food Banks Canada

tinyurl.com/5ybbtea6

- Food Banks Canada's landmark Canada-wide Poverty Report Cards highlight deepening food insecurity and failures from all levels of government (Sep 26)

Heart and Stroke Foundation

tinyurl.com/bdz4xndp

- Women's heart and brain health advancing thanks to \$10M research funding (Oct 4)

IC/ES

tinyurl.com/yngaav5

- Emergency department visits for substance use linked to higher risk of developing schizophrenia (Sep 27)

tinyurl.com/be5aa9u3

- New research calls for improved mental healthcare after police shootings (Sep 28)

Lakeridge Health

tinyurl.com/325yv33j

- Lakeridge Gardens opens new Behavioural Support Transition Unit to support people living with dementia, mental health, and other neurological illnesses (Sep 27)

Ombudsman Ontario

tinyurl.com/5n7x67wn

- Ombudsman Underlines Value of Independent Oversight (Oct 5)

Ontario Medical Association

tinyurl.com/yweup23f

- Ontario Medical Association names Kimberly Moran as new CEO (Oct 5)

Public Policy Forum

tinyurl.com/4xm9jw5

- Preparing for the next one: New report calls for major bolstering of health security in Canada (Sep 26)

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

tinyurl.com/4xeb8vv9

- Time to deliver on national pharmacare, RAO urges Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (Oct 6)

World Health Organization

tinyurl.com/36revana

- WHO-OCHCHR launch new guidance to improve laws addressing human rights abuses in mental health care (Oct 9)

The World Heart Federation

tinyurl.com/2u8sfjky


- #UseHeart movement rallies for change as heart disease continues to claim most lives (Sep 29)

Sent by Email

October 4, 2023

Andrea Horwath
Mayor
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5
mayor@hamilton.ca

Subject: Re: City of Hamilton - Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development
Corr. 29-23
File: A-1400

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | October 06, 2023 9:49 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on September 25, 2023 and adopted the following resolution:

That Corr. 29-23, from Andrea Horwath, Mayor, City of Hamilton, dated September 11, 2023, regarding City of Hamilton – Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development, be received and endorsed.

A copy of the original correspondence is attached for your reference.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Encl.

Copy: The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Janet Pilon, Acting City Clerk, City of Hamilton
All Ontario Municipalities



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

VIA: Mail

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

September 11, 2023

Dear Minister Calandra:

On August 18, 2023, Hamilton City Council approved Item 7.5 which reads as follows:

7.5 City of Hamilton – Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is committed to reducing the cost of housing and has pledged to facilitate the construction of 47,000 housing units by 2031;

WHEREAS, City of Hamilton staff have concluded that residential housing development within the former Greenbelt lands is unnecessary to facilitate construction of the pledged housing units;

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2023, Hamilton City Council declared “The Minister’s decision to remove 795 hectares of land from the Greenbelt Plan is unnecessary and is not supported by the City of Hamilton”;

WHEREAS, the Auditor General for the Province of Ontario has confirmed Hamilton’s conclusion that “Greenbelt land was not needed to meet the current housing targets assigned to them by the Housing Ministry”;

WHEREAS, development of the Greenbelt would be a significant financial liability to Hamilton taxpayers;

WHEREAS, the Auditor General for the Province of Ontario stated: “Land sites removed from the Greenbelt in December 2022 were largely not serviced, were not in their servicing plans, and that many of the sites would be challenging to prioritize and service in the near future...” and “Some of these sites would require considerable infrastructure to prepare them for housing development”; and

WHEREAS, the Greenbelt should be protected as a vital element of Hamilton's environmental and agricultural resources.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the City of Hamilton requests the Province of Ontario abandon its plan to develop the Greenbelt and that all lands within the City of Hamilton removed from the Greenbelt be reinstated; and

(b) That this resolution be circulated to all Ontario municipalities where Greenbelt lands were slated for development for support and a similar declaration to the Province of Ontario.

Your consideration of Council's request is appreciated. We would ask that you reference File #C23-015 when responding to this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Mayor Andrea Horwath

File #C23-015

c.c. Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
All Ontario Municipalities (by email)



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| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | October 06, 2023 9:41 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

The Township of Alnwick/Haldimand

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Council Meeting Date: **September 19, 2023**
 Council Resolution Number: _____
 Agenda Item Number: 10.1
 Agenda Item Title: Communications "Establishing a Guaranteed Livable Income"

"Whereas the Council of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand reviewed the resolution supported by the Town of Grimsby re: 'establishing a guaranteed livable income';

Therefore be it resolved that Council directs staff to review the current salary grids for Township jobs and make recommendations during the 2024 Budget Process as to how an Eastern Ontario living wage could be established for any jobs that are below the living wage hourly salary, and the financial impact that would result; and

Further be it resolved that Council directs staff to circulate this resolution to: MPP David Piccini, MP Philip Lawrence, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario."


- Carried
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Recorded Vote

Mayor John Logel

Oct 5, 2023

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Ave #801
Toronto, ON
M5H 3C6

Dear AMO Members:

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | October 10, 2023 8:53 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Challenges Faced by Smaller Developers in Ontario Communities

This is to confirm that at the Sept 25, 2023 Council Meeting the following resolution was adopted with respect to the above noted matter:

That, a letter be drafted for signature by the Mayor and that the letter be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal of Affairs, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and its member municipalities, outlining the issues and constraints brought to the Township Council’s attention with respect to holding back development applications of new homes within the community.

The Township of West Lincoln is writing to bring to your attention a significant matter that has recently come to our attention at the Township of West Lincoln. This issue pertains to the challenges faced by small developers in communities like ours, across the province of Ontario. These challenges are currently making it difficult for communities like West Lincoln to meet the housing goals of the province.

We recently received a request from a developer regarding their development project in Smithville, Ontario which was first draft approved approximately in 2015. The developer has presented a compelling case for an extension to the draft plan of condo approval, citing several noteworthy factors that have emerged since their initial application and which are delaying the start of development. Initially Council wanted to refuse extension approval to force the development but it was clear that would not be possible. The challenges are a symptom of broader issues felt by the Municipality on numerous planning issues, and some of these challenges as outlined to us by the developer, are noted below.

A significant challenge is the current state of the market, characterized by severe material supply chain constraints. These constraints have made it exceedingly difficult for the developer to secure pricing for essential construction materials, introducing financial uncertainty. An extension is deemed necessary to ensure the viability of the project, which aligns with our community’s need for diverse housing options.

Furthermore, the recent and unexpected increase in interest rates by the Bank of

Canada has created volatility in the marketplace for pre-sale condo townhomes. These rate hikes have affected both the developer's financing costs and potential buyer's ability to secure financing. An extension would provide the developer with the opportunity to adapt their financial strategies in response to this rapidly changing environment.

Additionally, the challenging market conditions in the Niagara Region, as indicated by the Niagara Association of Realtors, have led to declining home values and shifting market dynamics. These changes necessitate a reassessment of the project timelines, for dwelling types and sizes, to ensure its long-term viability and success. Granting an extension will allow the developer to adapt to these current market dynamics and make informed decisions.

Importantly, extending the draft plan of condo approval would help conserve our Township's valuable resources. Re-submitting the entire approval package and undergoing the approval process again would be resource-intensive for both the developer and our local government. We believe that an extension at this time is a pragmatic solution that aligns with efficient resource utilization.

In light of these challenges, our commitment to supporting responsible and sustainable development in our community, and a desire to help address the identified housing shortfall, we kindly request that AMO and the Provincial government consider the current issues faced by developers in communities across Ontario. The challenges outlined by this developer reflect a broader trend that warrants attention and will severely hamper the ability to achieve increased housing starts if not addressed.

We recommend that the decision-making process for future planning applications be allowed to be guided by a balanced approach that takes into account market conditions, historical precedence, and resource conservation. This approach should ultimately contribute to provide much-needed housing supply to communities like West Lincoln, albeit at slower rates than first contemplated.


We appreciate your attention to this matter and believe that addressing these challenges will help promote equitable development opportunities across the province. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any additional information or clarification on this issue.

We look forward to collaborating with AMO and the Provincial government to find solutions that support the growth and vitality of our community and others like it.

Sincerely,



Mayor Cheryl Ganann
cc.. Minister Paul Calandra
All AMO member municipalities

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | October 06, 2023 10:03 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



Via email: premier@ontario.ca
David.Piccini@pc.ola.org

September 29, 2023.

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 Honourable David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

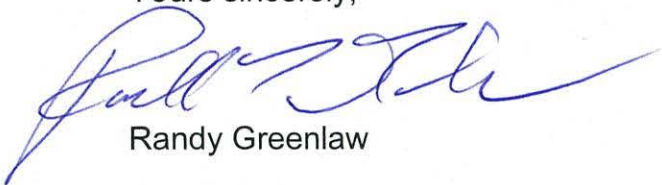
Dear Premier Ford and Minister Piccini:

Re: Correspondence from Lake Simcoe Watch and the Town of Georgina Re: Request for Resolution of Support, Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Reduction Strategy

Correspondence (attached) with respect to the above-noted matter, was received and supported by the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte at the September 27, 2023, Council meeting.

Staff Recommendation: Receive, Support, Letter under Mayor's Signature to Premier Ford, Honourable David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; All Lake Simcoe watershed MPPs; The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) and all Lake Simcoe watershed municipalities.

Yours sincerely,



Randy Greenlaw

Mayor
 /vc

Cc: Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs
 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
 Lake Simcoe Watershed Municipalities
 Oro-Medonte Council
 Jack Gibbons, Lake Simcoe Watch

From: aware.simcoe@gmail.com

Date: September 7, 2023 at 1:53:45 PM EDT

To:

Subject: Bradford West Gwillimbury and Georgina call for real action on phosphorous

Ontario needs a plan and a budget for
phosphorous reduction

No images? [Click here](#)



Sept. 7, 2023

Bradford West Gwillimbury and Georgina call for real action on phosphorous

Earlier this week, the Bradford West Gwillimbury Town Council unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Province of Ontario to **develop a plan and a budget to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution by 55% by 2030**. The resolution also noted that phosphorous reaching the lake should be capped at no more than 44 tonnes per year.

A similar resolution was unanimously approved by the Georgina Town Council on August 2nd.



In 2009, the Government of Ontario released its [Lake Simcoe Protection Plan](#), which called for Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution to be **reduced to 44 tonnes per year** to protect our cold-water fishery (e.g., lake trout and white fish) and prevent excessive weed growth and algae blooms.

Unfortunately, the province has still not developed a plan or a budget to achieve the 44 tonne per year goal. As a result, [Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution has risen by 26%](#) between 2015 and 2020 relative to its 2009 level. We are going in the wrong direction!

To read our plan to clean-up Lake Simcoe please click [here](#).

What you can do

Please contact your Mayor and Councillor and ask them to also pass a resolution requesting Premier Ford to develop a plan and budget to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution to 44 tonnes per year by 2030.

[Please pass on this message to your friends and neighbours.](#)

Thank you.

Jack Gibbons



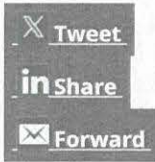
[Follow us on Facebook](#)

Jack Gibbons
Chair, Lake Simcoe Watch

416-260-2080 ext. 2
jack@lakesimcoewatch.ca

www.LakeSimcoeWatch.ca

[Forward this message.](#)



Lake Simcoe Watch

Lake Simcoe Watch is a joint initiative of AWARE Simcoe, the Innisfil District Association, the Lake Simcoe Association, the North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance, the South Lake Simcoe Naturalists, the STORM Coalition and the West Oro Ratepayers' Association.

From: Carolyn Lance <clance@georgina.ca>

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 3:01 PM

To:

Subject: Updated Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Reduction Strategy resolution

This email originated from **outside of Oro-Medonte's email system**. Please use proper judgment and caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Honourable Minister Piccini;

Mr. Baldwin, Lake Simcoe Watershed MPP's and Municipalities;

Please be advised that Georgina Town Council considered and unanimously adopted the following motion during its August 2nd meeting requesting the Province of Ontario to revise the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy to achieve the 55% phosphorus pollution reduction to no more than 44 tonnes per year by 2030. Respectfully, said resolution has been provided below for your consideration;

RESOLUTION NO. C-2023-0265

Moved By Councillor Neeson

Seconded By Councillor Dale

WHEREAS on February 24th, 2021, the Council of the Town of Georgina passed Resolution No. C-2021-0051 in conjunction with staff report DS-2021-0022;

WHEREAS the above referenced Resolution No. C-2021-0051 in conjunction with staff report DS-2021-0022 was passed by the members of council unanimously;

WHEREAS as a part of staff report DS-2021-022, recommendation number 5 contained the following in regards to the current and on-going review of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (Act):

"5. That the Council for the Town of Georgina requests that the Province of Ontario revise the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy to create a time bound plan and the associated budgets to achieve the 55% phosphorus pollution reduction to no more than 44 tonnes per year as soon as possible"

AND WHEREAS the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (Act) received unanimous all-party support in the Ontario Legislature in 2008;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Georgina re-affirms its resolution as stated of February 24th, 2021 with the following amendments:

1. That the Council for the Town of Georgina requests that the Province of Ontario revise the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy to create a time bound plan and the associated budgets to achieve

the 55% phosphorus pollution reduction to no more than 44 tonnes per year with a target date of 2030.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; all Lake Simcoe watershed MPPs; The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) and all Lake Simcoe watershed municipalities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Lance

Council Services Coordinator

Clerk's Division | Town of Georgina

26557 Civic Centre Road, Keswick, ON | L4P 3G1

905-476-4301 Ext. 2219 | georgina.ca

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), like us on [Facebook](#)

***Please note;** My work hours and your work hours may differ; please do not feel you need to reply outside your own normal work hours



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

| | |
|--|--|
| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | October 11, 2023 10:33 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Resolution

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building,
Queen's Park, Toronto,
ON M7A 1A1
VIA EMAIL:
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca

October 11, 2023

RE: Correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding Illegal Land Use Enforcement

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on October 2, 2023, passed the following resolution:

Moved by Councillor Miriam Mutton
Seconded by Councillor Brian Darling

Resolution No: 314-2023
October 2, 2023

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding Illegal Land Use Enforcement for information purposes; and

FURTHER THAT Council endorse and support the resolution from the Township of Puslinch and Council direct staff to send a duplicate resolution to associated ministries and Ontario Municipalities.

The resolution reads as follows:

That the Illegal Land Use Enforcement Taskforce's mandate be expanded to include other types of illegal land uses and not solely on illegal trucking land uses; and

That the Province be requested to strengthen municipal enforcement powers by:

- Amending the Municipal Act to enable municipalities to physically bar entry to properties where illegal land uses that have significant detrimental impacts on adjacent residential properties, the environment or create unsafe situations;
- Increasing the maximum penalty amounts in the Planning Act to \$50,000 for an individual upon conviction and on a subsequent conviction, not more than \$25,000 for each day in which the contravention has continued after the day in which the person was initially convicted; and



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

- Including provisions to ensure a corporation is liable to fines of not more than \$100,000 upon first conviction and not more than \$50,000 for each day in which the contravention has continued after the day in which the corporation was initially convicted.

That a copy of this report be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin-Caledon; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; and

That a copy of this report be provided to the municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe area seeking support in the request for strengthened enforcement powers to combat significant illegal land uses negatively impacting communities across Ontario and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA).

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Cc: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
Ontario Municipalities

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 21, 2023

A regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 21, 2023 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:03 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
B. Baszyk, Brock
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
J. Cuthbertson, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
K. Lui, Member at Large
K. Murray, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:08 PM
M. Nasir, Ajax
L. Nguyen, Youth Member
Councillor Shahid attended the meeting at 8:23 PM
D. Stathopoulos, Oshawa
B. Widner, Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: P. Cohen, Post-Secondary Student

Staff

Present: A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
S. Logan, Policy Advisor, Climate Change
A. Luqman, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability
***all staff members participated electronically**

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by B. Baszyk, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That the agenda for the September 21, 2023 Durham Environment and
Climate Advisory Committee (DECAC) meeting, be approved.
CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Nasir,
That the minutes of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory
Committee meeting held on Thursday, June 15, 2023, be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Presentation

A) No Mow May, Draft Delegation to the Regional Planning and Economic
Development Committee, Geoff Carpentier and Jay Cuthbertson

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee (DECAC) and J. Cuthbertson, First Vice-Chair, DECAC, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding their draft delegation to the Planning & Economic Development Committee with respect to rethinking how roadside and public spaces are maintained.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Why We Need to Look at Changing
- Municipal Considerations
- From Nature's Perspective
- Benefits to Region
- What We are Asking

Discussion ensued regarding whether local businesses can be involved in the pilot, and how the Committee could educate local businesses on how to start pollinator gardens. J. Cuthbertson advised that he could create a tip sheet that could be circulated with instructions on how to start a pollinator garden. I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, advised that through the Region's LEAF Program, homeowners can purchase native garden kits, as well as butterfly, songbird, native bee, and shade thriving kits.

Further discussion ensued regarding the importance of educating residents about how roadside and public spaces should be maintained and how moving towards a more naturalized approach would increase safe habitats for birds, pollinators, and other animals, while also providing additional benefits to the Region, which could include the reduction of flooding.

I. McVey advised that the Town of Ajax recently passed a motion in support of "No Mow May", as local municipalities may have more naturalized space to utilize as opposed to residents.

6. Items for Action/Discussion

A) Introduction of New Sustainability Team Member

I. McVey advised that Shannon Logan has joined the Region as the Policy Advisor, Climate Change, and comes from the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). S. Logan expressed her interest in the Committee and looks forward to connecting with the committee members.

B) Sustainability Project Update (Ian McVey)

I. McVey provided updates on the following sustainability projects throughout the Region:

- Durham Greener Homes
- Durham Greener Buildings Program
 - What is the Program Aiming to Do?
- ClimateWise Business Network – Member Journey
- E-bike Incentive Program Design
- Courtice District Energy System Feasibility Study
- Durham Green Development Program

Discussion ensued regarding concerns with respect to the safety of e-bikes; the short life span of e-bikes; ensuring the proper disposal of the lithium batteries from e-bikes; and ensuring the batteries have been Underwriters Laboratories (UL) certified.

C) Environmental Achievement Awards Update

A. Luqman advised that the nomination deadline for the 2023 Environmental Achievement Awards has been extended until Wednesday, October 4, 2023. She advised that DECAC will partner with Ontario Tech University for the event which will be held November 14, 2023, at the Ontario Tech University campus which can hold up to 75 people. She further advised that volunteers will be needed for various event tasks and encouraged all committee members to attend.

A. Luqman advised that staff are reaching out to different organizations who might be interested in sponsoring the event. She advised that CLOCA has committed to donate 1 or 2 litre trees to give to award recipients in exchange for a sponsor booth at the event.

A. Luqman advised that she will send out a calendar invitation to committee members.

D) Uxbridge Provincial Park Open House (Ian McVey)

I. McVey advised that the province recently announced that an urban provincial park will be created in the Township of Uxbridge. He also advised that a public

information open house has been scheduled for October 23, 2023, from 4:00 -7:30 PM at the Uxbridge Secondary School, and that a formal invitation will be sent out to Committee members.

7. For Information

A) Ontario Provincial Climate Change Impact Assessment Report

A copy of the Ontario Provincial Climate Change Impact Assessment Report was received.

I. McVey advised that staff will be reviewing the Ontario Provincial Climate Change Impact Assessment Report and providing a summary report to Regional Council.

B) Proposal to Return Lands to the Greenbelt in Ajax (Amendment to Greenbelt Plan) ERO #019-7561

A copy of the proposal to return lands to the Greenbelt in the Town of Ajax (Amendment to the Greenbelt Plan) ERO #019-7561 was received.

C) Proposal to Return Lands to the Greenbelt (Amendment to Greenbelt Boundary Regulation O. Reg. 59/05) ERO #019-7562

A copy of the proposal to return lands to the Greenbelt (Amendment to the Greenbelt Boundary Regulation O. Reg. 59/05) ERO #019-7562 was received.

D) Commissioner's Report #2023-P-22: Bill 23 Update: Delegation of Durham Region Land Division Responsibilities

A copy of Report #2023-P-23 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

E) Government of Canada Rouge National Urban Park Study Website and Terms of Reference

A link to the Government of Canada Rouge National Urban Park Study website and Terms of Reference was received.

F) Information Report #2023-INFO-75: Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee Pollinator Distribution Project

A copy of Report #2023-INFO-75 of the of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

- G) Information Report #2023-INFO-72: Quarterly Report – Commissioner’s Delegated Planning Approval Authority, and Summary of Planning Activity in the Second Quarter of 2023

A copy of Report #2023-INFO-72 of the of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

- H) Information Report #2023-INFO-71: Durham Meadoway Visioning Study: Phase 2 Community Engagement

A copy of Report #2023-INFO-71 of the of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

- I) Information Report #2023-INFO-64: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement Update, ERO Postings #019-6821, #019-6822, and #019-6813

A copy of Report #2023-INFO-64 of the of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

- J) PDS 2023-21: Town of Ajax Comments on the Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

A copy of PDS 2023-21: Town of Ajax Comments on the Proposed Provincial Planning Statement was received.

- K) Commissioner’s Report #2023-COW-27: Durham Climate Roundtable – Amended Collaboration Agreement with Ontario Tech University

A copy of Report #2023-COW-27 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received.

- L) Friends of Second Marsh July/August Newsletter

A copy of the Friends of Second Marsh July/August Newsletter was received.

A. Luqman advised that the Friends of Second Marsh would like to delegate to the Committee.

M. Nasir advised that the Friends of Second Marsh are launching a fundraising campaign on October 3, 2023, for the McLaughlin Wildlife Reserve’s 5-Year Initiative. He also advised that the Friends of Second Marsh are looking at other ways they can bring more attention to the value and contributions of the Second Marsh.

I. McVey advised that there is a funding opportunity through the Wetland Conservation Partner Program and the deadline to apply is October 12, 2023. He stated he could help facilitate an application if the group was interested.

A question was raised by the Committee regarding the removal of the viewing tower by the City of Oshawa that was located along the northeast shore of the

Second Marsh, and whether it will be replaced. It was noted that it was a vital part of the public access to the marsh and allowed the public to see more of the marsh. M. Nasir advised that he will bring that concern to the next Friends of Second Marsh meeting.

M) Commissioner's Report #2023-COW-24: Durham Greener Homes Program 2023 Update

A copy of Report #2023-COW-24 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received.

N) Summary of the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Amendments – Public Consultation

A copy of the summary of the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Amendments – Public Consultation was received.

O) Memorandum from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development, re: Envision Durham, New Regional Official Plan

A copy of the memorandum from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development, re: Envision Durham, New Regional Official Plan was received.

P) Minutes of the June 27th, 2023 Durham Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

A copy of the minutes of the June 27th, 2023 Durham Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting was received.

Q) Minutes of the June 12th, 2023 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Meeting

A copy of the minutes of the June 12th, 2023 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) meeting was received.

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by K. Murray,
That Information Items 7. A) to Q) inclusive, be received for information.
CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) Update from the Joint Trail Sustainability Advisory Committee

G. Carpentier advised that the Joint Trail Sustainability Advisory Committee has raised \$134,000 and are looking at how to best spend the money. He advised that the trail sustainability project has been extended another year, and that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be amended to reflect this.

B) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Farm Tour

G. Carpentier advised that himself, O. Chaudhry, and B. Baszyk attended the 2023 DAAC Farm Tour held at Carncroft Farms and Swain Beef in Blackstock and encouraged all members to attend next year's farm tour.

C) Phragmites Pilot Program Using Integrated Pest Management

In response to a question from the Committee regarding a potential phragmites pilot program that would use an integrated pest management system, A. Luqman advised that she would follow-up with I. McVey, M. Kawalec, and S. Logan to see what information is available regarding the program.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2023, starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by K. Murray,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham Environment
and Climate Advisory Committee

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk

DURHAM NUCLEAR HEALTH COMMITTEE (DNHC) MINUTES

Location

Virtual

Date & Time

September 22, 2023 at 1:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Durham Nuclear Health Committee was held on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 1:00 PM via Microsoft Teams. This meeting was also livestreamed on eventstream.ca/events/durham-region.

Attendance

Members

Lisa Fortuna, Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) (Alternate Chair)
Phil Dunn, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
Raphael McCalla, Ontario Power Generation (OPG)
Dr. Kirk Atkinson, Ontario Tech University (OTU)
Veena Lalman, Public Member
Susan Ebata, Public Member
Deborah Kryhul, Public Member
Alan Shaddick, Alternate Public Member

Presenters & Assistants

Dianne San Juan, DRHD (Secretary)
Sendi Struna, DRHD
Nella Correia, DRHD
Helen Tanevski, DRHD
Leah Wood, DRHD
Caitlin Rochon, Region of Durham
Ali Esmaily, OPG
Margo Curtis, OPG
Cammie Cheng, OPG
Analiese St. Aubin, OPG
Lindsay Parks, OPG
Kevin Lam, OPG
Ajit Ghuman, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)
Caitlyn Paget, DRHD
Anjali Pandya, DRHD
Mike Barta, Region of Durham, CS-IT

Regrets

Dr. Robert Kyle, DRHD (Chair)
Janice Dusek, Public Member

Hardev Bains, Public Member
Jane Snyder, Public Member
Dr. Lubna Nazneen, Alternate Public Member
Loc Nguyen, OPG

Lisa Fortuna opened the virtual meeting and welcomed everyone.

Land Acknowledgement by Lisa.

Lisa mentioned that observers who have questions concerning presentations should email or discuss their requests with Dianne San Juan, DNHC Secretary, at dnhc@durham.ca.

Dianne will follow-up with each of the presenters after the meeting with the observers' questions off-line to prevent any duplication of emails and responses. Dianne will report back to Dr. Kyle the outcomes of the questions received.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as written.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the June 16, 2023 meeting were adopted as written.

3. Correspondence

3.1 Update on the Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP)

Received July 7, 2023 from OPG. Provincial Energy Minister Todd Smith announced the government will work with OPG to commence planning and licensing for three additional small modular reactors (SMRs), for a total of four at the Darlington New Nuclear site.

Should OPG be successful in obtaining regulatory approval to build three additional units, the total output of the DNNP would be 1,200 megawatts.

3.2 OPG 2022 Results of Environmental Monitoring Programs for Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Report

Received July 7, 2023 from OPG, a letter of notification that the OPG 2022 Results of Environmental Monitoring Programs for Darlington and Pickering Nuclear report is now available online at opg.com.

3.3 Annual Report – Empowering the Community: Durham’s Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032

Received from Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, Region of Durham, July 10, 2023. Full report can be accessed at: [2023-INFO-59 \(esolutionsgroup.ca\)](#).

4. Presentations

All meeting presentations will be made available on the [Council and Committee Meetings Calendar](#). PDF files for each presentation can be accessed using the agenda HTML link and a video recording of the meeting can be viewed using the webstreaming link provided approximately two weeks after each meeting.

4.1 Progress Report by OPG concerning the Results of the 2022 Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP) for Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating Stations (NGSs)

Presented by Margo Curtis, Environmental Advisor, OPG

Highlights of the presentation included:

- EMP Key Objectives
 - EMP Sampling Locations
 - 2022 EMP Program Summary
 - 2022 Public Dose
 - Radiological and Non-Radiological Emissions
 - 2022 EMP Results
 - Other Monitoring Programs
 - Environmental Risk Assessments
 - Audits & Inspections
 - Looking Ahead
-
- Annual public doses resulting from Pickering (PN) and Darlington (DN) operations were 1.9 μSv and 0.6 μSv respectively; 0.2% of the annual regulatory limit for PN and < 0.1% of the annual regulatory limit for DN
 - Station radiological emissions remained at very small fractions of their respective Derived Release Limits (DRLs)
 - Dose calculations and annual report were reviewed and verified by an independent third party
 - 2022 EMP report was submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on April 19, 2023 and is available at [opg.com](#)

There were no questions received during the meeting.

4.2 Progress Report by OPG concerning the Results of the 2022 Groundwater Monitoring Program (GWMP) at Darlington and Pickering NGSs

Presented by Ali Esmaily, Section Manager Environment, OPG

Highlights of the presentation included:

Annual Program Objectives

For the Pickering Station:

- Program overview
- Groundwater flow direction
- Groundwater quality
- Site boundary groundwater quality

For the Darlington Station:

- Program overview
- Groundwater flow direction
- Groundwater quality
- Site boundary groundwater quality

2022 Summary

- For both Pickering Nuclear and Darlington NGSs, the groundwater flow patterns remain consistent with original interpretations
- Groundwater data collected from the key areas remained stable, which indicates consistent environmental performance
- There were no indications of off-site impacts from PN and DN groundwater
- Groundwater Report and GIS Maps are available at opg.com

There were no questions received during the meeting.

4.3 Progress Report by the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) concerning the Port Granby Project

Presented by Ajit Ghuman, Manager, Port Hope Long-Term Waste Management Facility (LTWMF)

Highlights of the presentation included:

- History and timeline of the Port Granby Project, a community-requested project
- Eldorado processing chronology and waste placement at Port Granby
- Overview of Port Hope Area Initiative – implemented by CNL

- Community Engagement activities, including Indigenous relations and public information program
- Port Granby project – engineered storage mound complete
- Site restoration – tree planting complete
- Site in Phase 3 – fully transitioned to long-term monitoring and maintenance activities such as tree maintenance, grass cutting, general site inspections
- Port Granby Nature Reserve Proposal - discussions continue with Indigenous communities and organizations, stakeholders
- More information available at phai.ca

There were no questions received during the meeting.

4.4 Progress Report by the Office of the Regional Chair and Chief Administrative Officer concerning the development of the Durham Nuclear Sector Strategy

Presented by Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, Region of Durham

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Purpose and goals of the strategy
- Pillars of the strategy discussed:
 - Grow understanding
 - Maximize prosperity
 - Sustain and protect the community
 - Lead and develop partnerships
- Upcoming CNSC hearings in January 2024 and summer 2024
 - First of two CNSC hearings to consider the application from OPG for a licence to construct for its Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP) - January 22, 2024
 - CNSC hearing in summer 2024 to consider OPG's application to extend the operation of Pickering NGS Units 5 to 8 until December 31, 2026; OPG is currently authorized to operate these until December 31, 2024

There were no questions received during the meeting.

4.5 Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP) Update

Presented by Cammie Cheng, Senior Manager, Environment, Health and Safety, OPG

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Darlington New Nuclear Project timeline discussed
- Public hearing activities discussed; CNSC issued Notice of Public Hearing to consider OPG's application for a License to Construct one 300 megawatt small modular reactor (SMR) at Darlington; hearing is scheduled for January 2024
- Online form to participate in public hearing (request to intervene), available at nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/intervention
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) refresher: What is an Environmental Impact Statement and Plant Parameter Envelope?
- EIS Review and summary of results discussed; conclusions of the 2009 EIS remain valid for the BWRX-300 (selected technology for DNNP site)
- With the implementation of mitigation measures, the DNNP is not likely to cause significant residual adverse environmental effects
- Community events – visit opg.com/newnuclear for more information

There were no questions received during the meeting.

5. Communications

5.1 Community Issues at Pickering Nuclear and Darlington Nuclear

Analièse St. Aubin, Manager, Corporate Relations, Pickering Nuclear provided an update on Community Issues at Pickering and Darlington:

- Updates are available online at opg.com
- Funding opportunities
- Pickering and Darlington refurbishment
- Nuclear emergency exercise; update to be provided at future meeting
- Community activities

There were no questions received during the meeting.

6. Other Business

Lisa discussed the following Committee updates:

- 1) A recruitment campaign was conducted over the summer months for new DNHC committee members:
 - Information about the volunteer recruitment process was provided on www.durham.ca/dnhc from July 5 to 26. Additionally, volunteer members were sought through posts and advertisements on Durham Region Health Department social media platforms throughout July as well as published advertisements in the Orono Weekly Times on July 5 and Metroland (Clarington This Week and Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser) on July 6.
 - Interested applicants were interviewed in August 2023 by Dr. Robert Kyle, Chair, DNHC and Dianne San Juan, Secretary, DNHC. Applicants were selected based on their interest in nuclear energy and human health.
 - Two of the recommended public members are youth that have expressed a keen interest in the scope and mandate of DNHC. They have the knowledge and ability to function as public members of DNHC and will have the same responsibilities as all other public members. DNHC will benefit from having the youth perspective as part of discussions.
 - These new appointments have been approved by Council; these individuals have been invited to attend this meeting as Observers.
- 2) New staff representative
 - Caitlyn Paget, Manager, Health Analytics and Research, at the DRHD will be joining the DNHC. She is replacing Mary-Anne Pietrusiak, who announced her retirement at the June meeting.
- 3) Other updates
 - Going forward, all meeting presentations will be made available on the Regional Council and Committee Meetings Calendar. This can be navigated to via the “DNHC meetings, agendas, presentations and minutes” tab on our webpage at www.durham.ca/dnhc. A video recording of meetings can be viewed using the webstreaming link provided approximately two weeks after each meeting.

7. Next Meeting

November 17, 2023 at 1:00 PM
Virtual

8. Adjournment

3:00 PM