



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, February 9, 2024

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.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3111



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2024-INFO-06
Date: February 9, 2024

Subject:

Medetomidine/Dexmedetomidine: “New” Veterinary Tranquilizer Circulating in Toronto’s Unregulated Fentanyl Supply

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on Medetomidine/dexmedetomidine, which has been identified in Toronto’s unregulated drug supply.

2. Background

2.1 Canada is in the midst of one of the most serious public health crises in the country’s history - the toxic and illegal drug and overdose crisis. No community has been left untouched.

2.2 Drug checking services provide critical information on the composition of the unregulated drug supply in real time, informing and educating people who use drugs, people who care for people who use drugs, advocacy, policy, and research. Incredibly sophisticated and sensitive technologies are required to effectively check highly contaminated opioids that are most likely to contribute to overdose.

2.3 Without technologies like gas and liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry, paper spray-mass spectrometry, and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, it is very likely that drugs like medetomidine/dexmedetomidine would go undetected.

2.4 [Toronto’s Drug Checking Service](#) (TDCS) is a service that aims to reduce the harms associated with substance use and, specifically, to prevent overdose by offering people who use drugs timely and detailed information on the contents of their drugs.

- 2.5 Beyond educating individual service users, results for all samples are combined, analyzed, and publicly disseminated every other week to communicate drug market trends and inform care for people who use drugs, advocacy, policy, and research.
- 2.6 For the first time, TDCS has identified medetomidine/dexmedetomidine in Toronto's unregulated drug supply.
- 2.7 Dexmedetomidine is approved for use on humans, as well as animals, for sedation and pain relief. Medetomidine is a tranquilizer approved only for use on animals.
- 2.8 Medetomidine and dexmedetomidine have a very similar chemical structure and it is not currently possible for TDCS to differentiate between them. For this reason, these substances are reported together.
- 2.9 These anaesthetic drugs are considered to be more potent (i.e., longer acting and produce greater sedation) than xylazine, which is also a tranquilizer approved only for use on animals.
- 2.10 Drug checking services operating out of Victoria, British Columbia ([Substance Drug Checking](#)), have identified medetomidine/dexmedetomidine, as has [Health Canada's Drug Analysis Service](#) in controlled substances seized by Canadian law enforcement agencies and samples submitted by public health partners. [Drug checking services in the United States](#) have also reported the presence of medetomidine/dexmedetomidine in their unregulated opioid supply.

3. Current Status

- 3.1 Medetomidine/dexmedetomidine was first identified by TDCS on December 29, 2023, by an analysis site member at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (Clinical Laboratory and Diagnostic Services) using liquid chromatography-Orbitrap high resolution mass spectrometry.
- 3.2 Between December 29, 2023, and January 23, 2024, medetomidine/dexmedetomidine was found in 11% of the expected fentanyl samples checked by TDCS (15 of 140 samples). Additionally, the TDCS is working with [St. Michael's Hospital \(Department of Laboratory Medicine\)](#) to ensure medetomidine/dexmedetomidine is identified using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry.
- 3.3 Medetomidine/dexmedetomidine was found in samples expected to be (i.e., got or bought as) fentanyl, alongside high-potency opioids, like fentanyl, fluorofentanyl, and/or a methylfentanyl-related drug, as well as other central nervous system depressants, like benzodiazepine-related drugs and/or xylazine. The presence of medetomidine/dexmedetomidine was not reported as being expected by those who submitted these samples to be checked.
- 3.4 These samples were collected in Toronto's west end and downtown core. The colour of these samples varied, and included blue, green, grey, orange, purple, and

white. About half of these samples were reported as being strong and/or associated with drowsiness and sedation and/or dizziness/nausea/vomiting.

- 3.5 Much like xylazine and benzodiazepine-related drugs, it is suspected that medetomidine/dexmedetomidine is being added to unregulated fentanyl to mimic or enhance the sedative and euphoric effects of the opioid a person is choosing to use.
- 3.6 Medetomidine/dexmedetomidine may put those who use it in a deep state of unconsciousness, much like xylazine and benzodiazepine-related drugs. The risk of extreme drowsiness and sedation is increased when medetomidine/dexmedetomidine is used in combination with high-potency opioids, benzodiazepine-related drugs, and xylazine. This is noteworthy because 100% of the samples checked by TDCS that contained medetomidine/dexmedetomidine contained at least one high-potency opioid. Many of these samples also contained a benzodiazepine-related drug or xylazine.
- 3.7 Medetomidine/dexmedetomidine may produce other harmful and unexpected effects, such as [cardiac and circulatory system depression](#) (e.g., decrease in blood pressure and heart rate) and [respiratory depression](#) (i.e., slowing down of breathing).

4. Previous Reports

- 4.1 Report [2023-INFO-26](#) provided information on the appearance of benzodiazepines and xylazine in the unregulated drug supply.
- 4.2 Report [2023-INFO-33](#) provided an update on local trends and strategies to address mental health and opioids in Durham Region.
- 4.3 Report [2023-INFO-46](#) provided an update on the Durham Region Opioid Response Plan.
- 4.4 Report [2023-INFO-47](#) provided information on the application process for Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) in Ontario.
- 4.5 Report [2023-INFO-60](#) provided an update on the report: [Opioid Toxicity and Access to Treatment among Adolescents and Young Adults in Ontario](#), released by ODPRN, PHO and the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario/Ontario Forensic Pathology Service on June 27, 2023.
- 4.6 Report [2023-INFO-74](#) provided information on DRHD's school-based health promotion services, including mental health promotion and substance use prevention.
- 4.7 Report [2023-INFO-77](#) provided an update on the report published by the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA), entitled [Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms](#) (CSUCH), released in March 2023 and revised in July 2023.

- 4.8 Report [2023-INFO-83](#) provided an update on the report entitled: [Characteristics of Substance-Related Toxicity Deaths in Ontario: Stimulant, Opioid, Benzodiazepine, and Alcohol-Related Deaths](#), by Public Health Ontario (PHO) and The Ontario Drug Policy Research Network (ODPRN), released on September 14, 2023.
- 4.9 Report [2023-INFO-92](#) provide an update on the renewed [Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy](#) (CDSS).

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goal and priority in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 2: Community Vitality: 2.2 Enhance community safety and well-being.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 In Durham Region, test strips for fentanyl and xylazine are available through the Needle Syringe Program. Locally, drug checking services that utilize mass spectrometry are not available. Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) receives [Health Canada Drug Testing](#) results for samples seized and submitted to Health Canada.
- 6.2 DRPS is a member of the Opioid Task Force and advises the Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) regarding Health Canada drug testing findings that are noteworthy and/or indicate a new drug is present within the region. As per the nature of [Health Canada's Drug Testing](#) methodology, such results from toxicology are several months behind real-time data.
- 6.3 DRHD, in partnership with the Opioid Task Force members will continue to monitor information related to the presence of new toxic drugs within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) to inform the [Durham Region Opioid Response Plan](#).

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: February 9, 2024

To: Health & Social Services Committee

From: Dr. Robert Kyle

Subject: Health Information Update – February 4, 2024

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
February 4, 2024

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/mrxyr5hk

- Health Department celebrates National Non-Smoking Week, January 21 to 27 (Jan 19)

tinyurl.com/4kwukhvv

- Start 2024 with a resolution for better health during National Non-Smoking Week (Jan 22)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Employment and Social Development Canada

tinyurl.com/ycxr3774

- More than 400,000 Canadian seniors have been approved for dental care under the Canadian Dental Care Plan (Jan 31)

Environment and Climate Change Canada

tinyurl.com/bdfc9hmz

- Government of Canada launches public engagement on the 2025 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target (Feb 2)

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/4pz29cz7

- Government of Canada funding research on the health risks of microplastics (Jan 22)

tinyurl.com/mtz9y4x6

- Statement from the Ministers of Health and Mental Health & Addictions on National Non-Smoking Week (Jan 22)

tinyurl.com/55xpba4t

- Message from the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – Black History Month (Feb 1)

tinyurl.com/mtnacejp

- The Government of Canada introduces legislation to delay Medical Assistance in Dying expansion by 3 years (Feb 1)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/2kmr3cea

- Government of Canada supports community-based projects addressing HIV, Hepatitis C, and other sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (Jan 23)

tinyurl.com/2s3s83ek

- Message from the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – Bell Let's Talk Day (Jan 24)

tinyurl.com/msasythb

- Government of Canada invests in projects to reduce risks of dementia and to support people living with dementia and caregivers (Jan 25)

tinyurl.com/2hr9bcyr

- Message from the Minister of Health and Minister of Sport and Physical Activity – Heart Month, February 2024 (Feb 1)

tinyurl.com/bddp8cn7

- Messenger from the Minister of Health – World Cancer Day (Feb 4)

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada

tinyurl.com/4kh6nr44

- Government of Canada launches targeted engagement on advancing a civilian response capacity in Canada (Feb 1)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Ministry of Energy

tinyurl.com/4z8uam2u

- Ontario Supporting Plan to Refurbish Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (Jan 30)

Ministry of Health

tinyurl.com/bder6pwy

- Ontario Connecting Children and Youth to Mental Health Care Close to Home (Jan 24)

tinyurl.com/mr2xh65j

- Ontario Health Teams Now Providing Care In Every Corner of the Province (Jan 26)

tinyurl.com/k8ryumns

- Ontario Connecting Over 300,000 People to Primary Care Teams (Feb 1)

tinyurl.com/4a4ar447

- Dr. Catherine Zahn is Being Appointed the New Chair of Ontario Health (Feb 1)

Ministry of Long-Term Care

tinyurl.com/48hjvwce

- Ontario Creating Three New Specialized Units for People with Dementia and Other Complex Needs (Jan 29)

tinyurl.com/3vcsb3y3

- Ontario Training Thousands of New Long-Term Care Staff (Jan 31)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Arthritis Research Canada

tinyurl.com/jm4jnbxb

- New Study Finds People With Inflammatory Arthritis Are More Likely To Seek Mental Health Care (Jan 24)

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

tinyurl.com/56zr2ncu

- A new provincial-municipal partnership is needed in every part of Ontario (Jan 26)

Bell Canada

tinyurl.com/yc6hswfb

- It's Bell's Let's Talk Day! Bell Let's Talk highlights Canadian mental health organizations and encourages everyone to take meaningful action to create real change for mental health (Jan 24)

Canadian Cancer Society

tinyurl.com/y73z44dy

- New Canadian Cancer Society survey reveals the financial cost of cancer is one many in Canada cannot afford (Feb 4)

Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health

tinyurl.com/23sfjzep

- First Clinical Guidelines to Address Anxiety in Older Adults Developed by the Canadian Coalition for Senior's Mental Health (Jan 25)

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

tinyurl.com/44s3k43z

- 13 research teams receive \$8.7M from the Government of Canada and partners to study age-related cognitive impairment (Jan 29)

tinyurl.com/4zf4w8pf

- Government of Canada announces appointments to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Governing Council (Jan 31)

Canadian Partnership Against Cancer

tinyurl.com/3vhdknj4

- Partnership-funded initiative has increased access to smoking cessation support for people with cancer (Jan 24)

tinyurl.com/35s56txa

- World Cancer Day 2024: A message from CEO Dr. Craig Earle (Feb 2)

CANImmunize

tinyurl.com/4cp833sv

- CANImmunize Partners With Medimap to Improve Healthcare Access for Canadians (Jan 31)

Mental Health Commission of Canada

tinyurl.com/mvkmv37x

- The Mental Health Commission of Canada and Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences launch a national demonstration project to advance schizophrenia treatment and care delivery in Canada (Jan 23)

Public Health Ontario

tinyurl.com/2fc3da82

- PHO Connections (Jan 23)

Public Policy Forum

tinyurl.com/382y4ysc

- From fax machines to smartwatches: New report calls for urgent modernization of Canada's antiquated health care data infrastructure (Jan 30)

Rural Ontario Municipal Association

tinyurl.com/yjwhdkyr

- ROMA report urges provincial action to bring rural health care services closer to home (Jan 23)

World Health Organization

tinyurl.com/ysc2w82j

- WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the 154th session of the Executive Board (Jan 22)

tinyurl.com/39b7974w

- Global cancer burden growing, amidst mounting need for services (Feb 1)



File: 03-05


February 1, 2024

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

(clerks@durham.ca)

Region of Durham

Re: Municipal Comprehensive Review of the Oshawa Official Plan

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 01, 2024 3:50 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

At its meeting of January 29, 2024, Oshawa City Council adopted the following resolution:

1. That pursuant to Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024, Economic and Development Services staff be authorized to initiate the Municipal Comprehensive Review process to update the Oshawa Official Plan, generally in accordance with Section 5.3 of said Report; and,
2. That, pursuant to Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024, a Special Meeting of Council be held in the first or second quarter of 2024 as required under the Planning Act to initiate the Municipal Comprehensive Review process to update the Oshawa Official Plan; and,
3. That Statutory Notice be provided in accordance with the City's Public Notice Policy GOV-23-02 and the statutory timelines set out in the Planning Act to hear from the public on this matter; and,
4. That staff be authorized to forward a copy of Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024 and the related Council resolution to the Region of Durham.

Please find attached a copy of Report CNCL-24-05 for your information.

If you need further assistance concerning the above matter, please contact Anthony Ambra, Commissioner, Economic and Development Services Department at the address listed below or by telephone at 905-436-3311.



Mary Medeiros
Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk

/fb

c: Economic and Development Services Department

To: Council in Committee of the Whole

From: Anthony Ambra, P.Eng., Commissioner,
Economic and Development Services Department

Report Number: CNCL-24-05

Date of Report: January 24, 2024

Date of Meeting: January 29, 2024

Subject: Municipal Comprehensive Review of the Oshawa Official Plan

Ward: All Wards

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Report is to:

1. Provide an introduction to the Municipal Comprehensive Review process to update the Oshawa Official Plan (the “Official Plan Review”); and,
2. Obtain Council’s authorization to initiate the Municipal Comprehensive Review process under the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13 (the “Planning Act”) to update the City of Oshawa’s Official Plan through an Official Plan Review, including the scheduling of a Special Meeting of Council.

Attachment 1 is a copy of the current Oshawa Official Plan (the “O.O.P.”). Owing to the size of the document, the O.O.P can be viewed at the following link:
<https://www.oshawa.ca/en/business-development/resources/Documents/Official-Plan.pdf>.

Attachment 2 is a copy of Envision Durham, the recently adopted Durham Regional Official Plan (the “D.R.O.P”). Owing to the size of the document, it is not attached to this Report but can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.durham.ca/en/doing-business/resources/Documents/PlanningandDevelopment/Envision-Durham/Adopted-Durham-ROP.pdf>.

2.0 Recommendation

It is recommended to City Council:

1. That, pursuant to Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024, Economic and Development Services staff be authorized to initiate the Municipal Comprehensive

Review process to update the Oshawa Official Plan, generally in accordance with Section 5.3 of said Report.

2. That, pursuant to Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024, a Special Meeting of Council be held in the first or second quarter of 2024 as required under the Planning Act to initiate the Municipal Comprehensive Review process to update the Oshawa Official Plan.
3. That Statutory Notice be provided in accordance with the City's Public Notice Policy GOV-23-02 and the statutory timelines set out in the Planning Act to hear from the public on this matter.
4. That staff be authorized to forward a copy of Report CNCL-24-05 dated January 24, 2024 and the related Council resolution to the Region of Durham.

3.0 Executive Summary

The Oshawa Official Plan is a document that sets out a unified set of policies and land use designations to guide long-term growth and development in the City of Oshawa. The Oshawa Official Plan was last updated in 2016. Now that Envision Durham, the Region's Municipal Comprehensive Review of the Durham Regional Official Plan, has been adopted by Regional Council, it is appropriate to initiate a new City-initiated Municipal Comprehensive Review of the Oshawa Official Plan as required under the Planning Act in order to:

- Conform to the newly adopted Durham Regional Official Plan; and,
- Conform to updated Provincial legislation, policies and plans.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this Report:

- Chief Administrative Officer
- Commissioner, Corporate and Finance Services
- City Solicitor
- Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk

5.0 Analysis

5.1 Background

The O.O.P. is a document that sets out a unified set of policies and land use designations to guide long-term growth and development in the City. The O.O.P. is the highest order land use planning document for the City and it gives direction to zoning by-laws and all other statements of local planning policy. It is the primary tool available by which to manage and guide the physical form and growth of the City and in terms of scope, applies to the entirety of the City.

The most recent City-initiated comprehensive review of the O.O.P. was completed in 2016, through Official Plan Amendment 179 (“O.P.A. 179”). O.P.A. 179 was undertaken to implement a wide variety of policy changes and updates to ensure conformity with the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (“Growth Plan”), the Provincial Greenbelt Plan (“Greenbelt Plan”), the D.R.O.P., and environmental policies based on the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority’s Natural Heritage System mapping and watershed plans. O.P.A. 179 was adopted by City Council on February 1, 2016 and approved by the Region of Durham on December 15, 2016, subject to a number of modifications and deferrals.

The current O.O.P. contains population, housing, and employment forecasts that are used to plan and manage growth and guide land use decision-making to 2031. However, an updated planning horizon is necessary owing to the City of Oshawa’s growing population. It is estimated that Oshawa’s current population as of 2022 is approximately 185,000, and the City is anticipated to experience significant growth over the next thirty years, as further discussed in Section 5.2.1 (specifically in Table 1) of this Report.

5.2 Rationale for Updating the Oshawa Official Plan

The following sections outline the rationale for updating the O.O.P. and initiating the O.O.P. review process at this time.

5.2.1 Envision Durham

Section 27 of the Planning Act requires that a lower-tier municipality amend its official plan to conform to upper-tier official plans within one year of the upper-tier official plan coming into effect.

The D.R.O.P. guides decisions on long-term growth and development in Durham Region, providing policies to ensure an improved quality of life and securing the health, safety, convenience and well-being of present and future residents of the Region.

In 2019, the Region of Durham launched Envision Durham – the Municipal Comprehensive Review of the D.R.O.P. On May 17, 2023, Durham Regional Council adopted the new D.R.O.P. (see Attachment 2) which includes, among other matters, updated population and job growth projections, density targets and the comprehensive delineation of Regional Corridors. The D.R.O.P. is currently under review by the Province and it is anticipated that approval of the new D.R.O.P. by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is imminent.

As part of Envision Durham, the Region of Durham has estimated that Oshawa’s population will increase to 298,540 persons by 2051. The newly adopted D.R.O.P. allocates the following population, employment, and household growth targets for the City of Oshawa to 2051:

Table 1: City of Oshawa’s Population, Employment and Household Forecasts

Oshawa	2026	2031	2036	2041	2046	2051
Urban	199,230	218,930	238,320	256,880	276,800	297,450

Oshawa	2026	2031	2036	2041	2046	2051
Rural	1,050	1,060	1,070	1,070	1,080	1,090
Total Population	200,280	219,991	239,390	257,950	277,880	298,540
Households	73,800	81,450	89,060	96,680	104,710	112,970
Employment	70,600	78,070	85,250	92,110	99,670	107,280

The O.O.P. must be updated to ensure conformity with the newly adopted D.R.O.P.

5.2.2 Updates to Provincial Legislation, Policies and Plans

In addition to conforming to the D.R.O.P., the O.O.P. must conform to Provincial legislation, policies and plans, including the Provincial Policy Statement (the “P.P.S.”), the Growth Plan, and the Greenbelt Plan. Staff note that the Province is proposing to combine and replace the existing P.P.S. and Growth Plan with a new Provincial policy document identified as the “Provincial Planning Statement.” Should the Province adopt a new Provincial Planning Statement, the O.O.P. will have to conform to it.

There have been many significant changes to Provincial legislation, policies and plans since O.P.A. 179 was adopted in 2016, including updates to the P.P.S. in 2020 and updates to the Growth Plan in 2017 and 2020. In addition, new legislation has been introduced by the Province in recent years that has significant impacts to land use planning across Ontario. These changes to legislation must be reflected in the O.O.P. and are further described below.

In 2022, the Province announced More Homes Built Faster: Ontario’s Housing Supply Action Plan 2022-23 (the “Action Plan”). This Action Plan includes a suite of legislative and non-legislative changes introduced by the Provincial government intended to help unlock more housing, streamline development approvals, remove barriers, accelerate planning and further protect homebuyers and owners. As part of the Action Plan, the Province identified a goal of building 1.5 million homes across Ontario by 2032. To achieve the goal of building 1.5 million homes, large and fast-growing municipalities across Ontario, including Oshawa, have been assigned a Municipal Housing Target. The City of Oshawa has been assigned a target of constructing 23,000 new homes by 2032.

To support the Action Plan, the Provincial government passed Bill 23, “More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022” (“Bill 23”) on November 28, 2022. Bill 23 was implemented to assist the Province in achieving its goal of constructing 1.5 million homes by 2032 and aims to ensure that cities, towns, and rural communities grow with a mix of ownership and rental housing types that meet the needs of all Ontarians. Bill 23 made fundamental changes to the land use planning system in Ontario through amendments to the Planning Act, Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, Development Charges Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 27, Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 and other statutes. Some of the legislative changes

made under Bill 23 that will have to be considered as part of updating the O.O.P. include, but are not limited to:

- Updating land use permissions to permit increased residential densities, including encouraging the development of the “missing middle” (e.g. townhouses, stacked townhouses, triplexes, fourplexes, etc.) and supporting higher density development around transit stations;
- Updating parkland requirements; and,
- Updating the role of Conservation Authorities.

Staff note that some of the considerations listed above have already been implemented, in part, through recent City-initiated amendments to the O.O.P. Nonetheless, they will need to be assessed comprehensively on a City-wide basis as part of the Official Plan Review process.

The Provincial government also passed Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022 (“Bill 109”) on April 14, 2022. Bill 109 implemented amendments to various Provincial statutes, including the Planning Act, to address housing, development and certain other matters, all of which were intended to streamline and speed up the approval process for the delivery of new housing. While many of the legislative changes made under Bill 109 have already been implemented through City-initiated amendments to the O.O.P. (including expanding the list of holding symbol conditions and adding pre-consultation policies), these amendments will need to be carried forward in the Official Plan Review process.

More recently, on August 21, 2023, the Province announced the Building Faster Fund (“Fund”), a new three-year, \$1.2 billion program intended to provide funding to municipalities that meet or exceed their annual housing targets. As one of the identified fastest-growing municipalities in Ontario, the City of Oshawa was assigned specific targets for the first three years of the Fund (see Table 2 below). Oshawa’s target for 2026-2032 will be even greater than 2,300 units for the remaining years. However, a specific number has not yet been provided to the City.

Table 2: City of Oshawa’s Housing Targets under the Building Faster Fund

Year	2023	2024	2025
Oshawa’s Target (number of units)	1,687* *The 2023 actual number of units achieved is 1,204.	1,917	2,300

Owing to the above-noted updates to Provincial legislation, policies and plans, as well as the various housing and population targets that the City has been assigned, it is appropriate to initiate the City’s Official Plan Review in order to address all of these changes and plan for the future growth of the City accordingly.

5.3 The Official Plan Review Process

5.3.1 Planning Act Requirements

In order to initiate the Official Plan Review process, Section 26(3) of the Planning Act directs any Council to consult with the approval authority (in this case, the Region of Durham) and other prescribed public bodies, as well as hold a Special Meeting of Council open to the public to generally discuss the revisions that may be required as part of the Official Plan Review.

It is recommended that the Special Meeting of Council required under the Planning Act be held in the first or second quarter of 2024 and be held in the evening (vs. during the day). The meeting will be open to the public. As per Section 26(4) of the Planning Act, notification of the Special Meeting of Council must be advertised at least once a week in each of two separate weeks, and the last of the minimum required notifications shall take place at least 30 days before the date of the meeting. The Special Meeting of Council will be advertised generally six weeks in advance of the meeting by posting on the City's website, e-newsletters and through the City's social media accounts, pursuant to the City of Oshawa's Public Notice Policy GOV-23-02.

Staff will be preparing a discussion paper that provides background information on the O.O.P., details of the Official Plan Review process, and key themes to explore that will assist with updating the O.O.P. The discussion paper will be released in advance of the Special Meeting of Council.

5.3.2 Scope of Work

The Official Plan Review will be generally advanced as follows:

- Phase 1: Visioning/Background Research and Review
 - This phase includes a review of relevant policies, legislation and various “themes” (such as parks and open space, heritage, housing, the environment, etc.). This phase will also include public engagement.
- Phase 2: Initial Findings/Policy Development
 - This phase includes O.O.P. policy development, public engagement and preliminary drafting of the Official Plan Amendment.
- Phase 3: Statutory Phase
 - This phase includes the introduction of the draft Official Plan Amendment, as well as the statutory open house and public meeting(s) required under the Planning Act.
- Phase 4: Adoption
 - This phase includes Council adoption of the Official Plan Amendment.

Staff note that the above-noted scope of work is subject to change. A more detailed work program will be prepared following the Special Meeting of Council.

5.3.3 Consultation and Engagement

An important part of the Official Plan Review process will be extensive consultation and engagement with residents, community members, Indigenous Communities, and all stakeholders, in order to ensure that the future O.O.P. meets the needs of the entire Oshawa community.

The Special Meeting of Council will be the first of many opportunities for community engagement. The Planning Act requires at least one statutory public open house and separately, one statutory public meeting. However, staff will be offering additional engagement opportunities beyond the legislative minimum requirements, including, but not limited to, public information centres, feedback forms and more.

A more detailed consultation and engagement plan will be prepared following the Special Meeting of Council.

6.0 Financial Implications

The majority of the work to undertake the Official Plan Review will be completed in-house. However, certain components of the Official Plan Review may require further analysis and/or studies to be undertaken that will require consulting services. It is anticipated that consulting services, should they be needed, would not be required until 2025, in which case funding generally in the amount of \$300,000 to cover the cost of future consulting services or any other unforeseen costs will be proposed in the 2025 Mayor's budget, which would typically get approved by the end of 2024. The costs to cover the future consulting services may in part or be fully funded through Development Charges or the Community Benefit Charge.

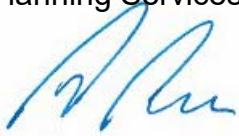
Additional financial implications may include communication costs, which can be funded from the appropriate Departmental budget. Staff note that any expenses associated with the public consultation and engagement portion of the Official Plan Review, as described in Section 5.3 of this Report, can also be accommodated through the appropriate Departmental budget.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

The Recommendation advances the Accountable Leadership, Economic Prosperity and Financial Stewardship, Cultural Vitality, Environmental Responsibility and Social Equity goals of the Oshawa Strategic Plan.



Tom Goodeve, M.SC.Pl., MCIP, RPP, Director,
Planning Services



Anthony Ambra, P.Eng., Commissioner,
Economic and Development Services Department


February 1, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 01, 2024 3:48 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Hanover adopted the following resolution at their meeting of January 15, 2024 regarding the above noted matter;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully,

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

Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk


/tp

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 01, 2024 3:56 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: "But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity.” He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, “We’re really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet.”

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, “It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector.”

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



February 2, 2024

Larry Brock, MP Brant
108 St. George Street, Suite #3
Brantford, ON N3R 1V6

Sent via email: larry.brock@parl.gc.ca

Will Bouma, MPP
96 Nelson Street
Suite 101
Brantford, ON N3T 2X1

Sent via email: will.bouma@pc.ola.org

To whom it may concern:

Please be advised that Brantford City Council at its meeting held January 30, 2024 adopted the following:

12.1.10 Reliable and Accessible Public Rail Transit - CN Rail

WHEREAS Canadians deserve access to reliable and efficient passenger rail service; and

WHEREAS in 2021 the Canadian Minister of Transportation announced that the federal government would be pursuing opportunities to enhance passenger rail services in southwestern Ontario; and


WHEREAS passengers continue to experience long delays and disruptions to service, related to interruptions caused by CN Rail's freight systems and refusal to give priority to passenger rail service; and

WHEREAS Metrolinx and VIA, in extending or improving commuter train service from Aldershot through to Brantford, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London, is reliant on access to CN rail lines; and

WHEREAS CN Rail views increased passenger rail service on its lines as being incompatible with its primary business of moving freight and is unlikely to cooperate in extending commuter rail service on its lines in southwestern Ontario without direction from the federal government; and

WHEREAS CN Rail has shown a disregard for Municipal property maintenance standards in respect to the maintenance of their rail lines and blocks municipalities attempts to enforce municipal property standards upon their rail lines; and

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE City Hall, 58 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, ON N3T 2J2 P.O Box 818, Brantford, ON N3T 5R7
Phone: (519) 759-4150 Fax: (519) 759-7840 www.brantford.ca

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 02, 2024 2:55 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

WHEREAS CN Rail's consistent failure to provide a timely response to development applications adjacent to rail right of ways imposes inordinate delays and expense for builders and municipalities, further jeopardizing the ability of municipalities to address the housing crisis; and

WHEREAS there is a complete lack of federal regulations providing VIA and Metrolinx with any degree of priority or guaranteed access to rail rights of way or directing CN Rail to work cooperatively with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS The City of Brantford CALLS UPON the Federal Government to assist other levels of government as they take steps address the need for reliable and accessible public rail transit, timely processing of housing developments and the prompt and equitable enforcement of municipal property standards;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRANTFORD requests that the Federal Government enact the necessary legislative and regulatory provisions:

- i. providing VIA and Metrolinx with priority right of way over freight rail lines, and further;
- ii. directing CN Rail to work positively and cooperatively with municipal and provincial governments in the processing of land development applications, and the prompt and timely enforcement of municipal property standards;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario Municipalities; and to the Member of Provincial Parliament Will Bouma, Member of Parliament Larry Brock, Federal Minister of Transport Pablo Rodriguez, Provincial Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, President and CEO at Metrolinx, President and Chief Executive Officer of VIA Rail Canada Inc and President and Chief Executive Officer of CN.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier
City Clerk, cgauthier@brantford.ca

cc Ontario Municipalities
Federal Minister of Transport, Pablo Rodriguez
Provincial Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
President & CEO, Metrolinx

President & CEO, VIA Rail Canada Inc
President & CEO, CN

From: Clerk General Line <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>

Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:47 AM

Subject: Regional Council Decision - Refugees and Asylum Seekers

On January 25, 2024 Regional Council made the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Federal government is responsible for planned immigration (economic and sponsored migrants, and refugees designated for resettlement in Canada); and,

WHEREAS since asylum seekers are not considered planned or permanent residents until they receive a positive decision on their refugee claim, settlement supports for this group fall to the Provincial government; and,

WHEREAS the total number of Asylum Claimants processed by Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) in November 2023 is almost three times the number processed in January 2023 and high levels of asylum seekers are expected to continue for the foreseeable future; and,

WHEREAS there is no centralized, coordinated system to support asylum seekers at their point of entry to access interim accommodations and support as there was with Canada's response to the Ukraine refugees;

WHEREAS on September 28, 2023, Regional Council authorized funding of up to \$4.3 million within the approved Community and Health Services budget for the Region's assistance with one interim accommodation and wraparound supports for asylum seekers in York Region until March 31, 2024; and,

WHEREAS York Region incurred \$2.7 million in costs in 2023; and,

WHEREAS the estimated cost of continuing to provide interim accommodation and wraparound supports at current service levels until the end of 2024 is \$14.1 million, representing \$12.5 million more than what remains from the \$4.3 million Regional Council approved; and,

WHEREAS York Region's 2023-24 Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) allocation, including about \$2.4 million in additional funding allocated by the Province, has provided support to more than 500 households, including refugees and asylum seekers, by making their rent more affordable; and,

WHEREAS COHB has been a critical tool in helping residents, including asylum seekers and others, to move into permanent, stable housing; and,

WHEREAS without increased COHB funding, the Region's ability to assist these households will be limited, resulting in continued pressure on social services including emergency and transitional housing for people who are homeless and interim accommodation sites; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Federal Government to provide funding to cover the \$2.7 million in costs already incurred for the Region's asylum seeker response in 2023; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council request the Federal Government to provide funding to cover all costs the Region may incur in 2024 on the asylum seeker response if current services levels are extended to the end of 2024, estimated at \$14.1 million; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council request the Federal government to provide increased funding through the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit to the Region, at minimum to match the enhanced provincial allocation from fall 2023; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council request the Federal and Provincial governments to provide funding directly to community organizations and service providers (such as churches and faith organizations) that are providing interim housing and settlement supports to asylum seekers; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council request the Federal government to establish coordinated intake for asylum claimants into Canada along with increased housing support capacity to ensure equitable and coordinated access to supports; and further,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Regional Clerk be directed to circulate this motion to the Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, the Premier, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Associate Minister of Housing, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, as well as the Association of Municipalities Ontario, Ontario Big City Mayors, local area MPs and MPPs and other regional municipalities.

Regards,

Christopher Raynor (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300 | christopher.raynor@york.ca | york.ca

Our Mission: **Working together to serve our thriving communities – today and tomorrow**



February 6, 2024

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South
7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Cres.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7
Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Table with 2 columns: Field Name, Value. Includes Corporate Services Department, Legislative Services Division, Date & Time Received (February 07, 2024 8:18 am), Original To (CIP), Copies To, and Take Appropriate Action checkboxes.

Dear Honourable Minister Bethlenfalvy:

Re: Support for Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

At their meeting held on February 6, 2024, Council discussed the need for a stable and sustainable municipal financial position. Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario as they request that the Province undertake a comprehensive review of social and economic prosperity. The resolution adopted by Council is below.

R-43-2024

It was Moved by C. Hull, Seconded by T. Bell and Carried

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

And whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

And whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

And whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like delivering long term care services, homelessness and affordable housing options, addressing the mental health and addictions crises, and other social services;

And whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;



TOWN OF
SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

And whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And whereas the Province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the Provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that The Town of South Bruce Peninsula requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that this resolution be sent to The Premier of Ontario Doug Ford, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy – Ontario's Minister of Finance, Rick Byers – MPP Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all other Ontario municipalities.


We trust that you will consider our request and look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Yours very truly,

Angie Cathrae
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
519-534-1400 ext 122
Angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

cc: Premier Doug Ford, Rick Byers MPP Bruce/Grey/Owen Sound, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, All Ontario Municipalities



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 01, 2024 3:42 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

January 31, 2024

Via email @ jennifer.keyes@ontario.ca

Ms. Jennifer Keyes
Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Dear Ms. Keyes:

Re: Final Submissions Due at End of Transition Period

In accordance with Section 9 of O. Reg. 687/21 "Transition Plans and Agreements Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act", attached you will find the final version of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's (Conservation Authority) inventory. This final inventory has also been posted on the Governance webpage of the Conservation Authority's website and can be accessed through this link: [LSRCA-Programs-and-Services-Inventory-Final-December-31-2023](#).

This letter will also confirm that at this time the Conservation Authority has entered into four of its nine required cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities. As per the Minister's letter of December 13, 2023, the Conservation Authority has been granted an extension to March 31, 2024 to meet this transition requirement. The four signed agreements have been posted on the Governance webpage of the Conservation Authority's website and can be accessed through this link: <https://lsrca.on.ca/index.php/about-us/governance/>. Of the remaining five agreements, two have been signed by the Conservation Authority and are awaiting municipal execution, and three are scheduled for municipal Council approval imminently. Once executed, these agreements will also be posted on the Conservation Authority's Governance webpage, and notification will be provided on or before April 30, 2024.

Per the regulation, a copy of this letter, along with its attachments, is being sent to participating municipalities today.

Sincerely,

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment: Final Programs and Services Inventory - December 2023



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Programs and Services Inventory

Conservation Authorities Act

Ontario Regulation 686/21

Final December 31, 2023

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Programs and Services Inventory – Supporting Information

Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

The province has included activities under the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (Plan) delivered fully, in partnership with the province, in partnership with municipalities and/or in support of the Plan as Category 1 (Mandatory) Programs for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (Authority). Traditionally many of these activities are supported through transfer agreements with Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ministry) and through direct municipal funding for activities such as subwatershed planning and monitoring.

All applicable activities regarding the Plan have been included in a summary category providing the estimate of full Plan program delivery. Further review and refinement of Authority activities as they relate to Plan mandatory programs will continue as part of the transition process.

Applicable activities include core areas such as:

- Nearshore and lake monitoring and research
- Tributary biological and water quality and quantity monitoring
- Stormwater performance monitoring, research, and management options
- Climate change
- Subwatershed planning
- Contaminant reduction with focus on salt

Source Protection Program

The included budget information for the Source Protection Program only includes the direct budget/s expended by the Authority. The amount does not include the transfer of funds as the lead to our partner organizations of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and the Severn Sound Environmental Association. These funds are provided 100% by the province through transfer payment and agreement with Ministry. The Authority does not provide any services on behalf of our municipal partners, such as Risk Management Officer.

Assumptions used for Enabling Program Services

- a. Overhead costs have been removed from the direct program costs and left under the enabling services to ensure they are not double counted.
- b. All capital budget dollars have been removed this exercise as they would skew the 5-year average numbers with irregular expenditures.

- c. As this exercise used budget numbers, many projects have a budget that spans multiple years. If budgeted work was not completed in one year, it is added to the next year. Caution should be exercised before adding all the years together.
- d. Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation is a separate entity, and therefore the program was excluded from the Authority's list of programs and services.
- e. The 2022 Budget numbers were included to provide context into the most recent expenditure levels for each program and service.
- f. The best estimate of the funding percentage is based on the 2022 Budget, which is still be finalized.

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Programs and Services Inventory List – Updated March 2023

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Natural Hazard Management						
Section 28.1 Permit Administration	Reviewing and processing permit applications, associated technical reports, site inspections, communication with applicants, agents, and consultants.	Reg. 686/21 s.8	1, 2	Levy (16%) Fees (75%) Municipal support for enforcement (1%) Service level agreements with municipalities (8%)	\$1,338,000	\$1,591,000
Review under Other Legislation	Input to the review and approval processes under other applicable law, with comments principally related to natural hazards, wetlands, watercourses and Section 28 permit requirements.	Reg. 686/21 s.6	1	General Levy (100%)	\$56,000	\$66,000
Municipal Plan Input and Review	Technical information and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances). Input to municipal land-use planning documents (Official Plans, Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw, Secondary plans) related to natural	Reg. 686/21 s.7 CAA s.21.1.1 Reg.596/22	1, 2	Levy (2%) Fees (91%) Service level agreements with municipalities (7%)	\$1,703,000	\$2,025,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
	<p>hazards, on behalf of Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (delegated to conservation authorities in 1983)</p> <p>Recent approval of O.Reg.596/22 details prescribed acts under which the Authority may not make comment on. These changes only impact services supported through user fees.</p>					
Flood Forecasting and Warning (Includes low water response)	Daily data collection and monitoring of weather forecasts, provincial & local water level forecasts and watershed conditions. Flood event forecasting. Flood warning and communications. Maintenance of equipment.	Reg. 686/21 s.2 Reg. 686/21 s.3	1	Levy (16%) Provincial funding (5%) Special Capital (77%) Other (2%)	\$311,000	\$367,000
Natural Hazards Technical Studies, Communications, Outreach, Education and Information Management	Data collection and study of designs to mitigate natural hazards. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data. Promoting public awareness. Public events. Social media. Media relations.	Reg. 686/21 s.5(1)1 Reg. 686/21 s.9(1)2	1, 2	General Levy (3%) Provincial Funding (7%) Special Capital (81%) Fees (9%)	\$103,000	\$123,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Natural Heritage	Natural heritage monitoring, plans/strategies, and system design	Reg. 686/21 s.8 CAA s.21.1.1	1 2	General Levy (5%) Special Capital (93%) Provincial Funding (2%)	\$103,000	\$123,000
Stormwater Environmental Compliance Approval Review	The Authority can provide this service as outlined in O.Reg.596/22.	Reg.596/22			n/a	n/a
Conservation Authority Lands						
Strategies and Management Plans for conservation authority owned and/or managed lands	Development and implementation of land acquisition and disposition strategies. Acquisition of priority lands as per Authority Board approved Land Acquisition Strategy - focusing on lands for protection and restoration opportunities. Development and implementation of management plans that provide conservation area specific guiding principles, goals, and objectives. Development and implementation of conservation area visitor experience initiatives including signage strategy, parking and access enhancements, amenity upgrades, etc.	Reg. 686/21 s.9 CAA s.21.1.2	1, 2, 3	General Levy (51%) Special Capital (41%) Self-Generated Revenue (1%) Municipal Request/Support (7%) Corporate Grants (as occur) Foundation Support (as occur)	\$388,000	\$435,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Management, operation and maintenance of conservation authority owned and/or managed lands including Section 29 Minister's regulation for Conservation Areas	Day-to-day management, operation and maintenance of conservation authority owned lands - includes property maintenance and upkeep, conservation area enforcement/compliance, trail development and upkeep, hazard tree inspections and mitigation, seasonal park closures, stewardship and restoration, ecological monitoring, etc.	Reg. 686/21 s.9 CAA s.21.1.2	1, 2, 3	General Levy (23%) Special Capital (37%) Municipal Request/ Support (36%) Fees (4%)	\$542,000	\$537,000
Management, operation and maintenance of the Authority owned and/or managed facilities and assets	Day-to-day management, operations and maintenance of all the Authority owned and/or managed facilities and assets (vehicles, equipment, etc.). This includes facility renovations, vehicle/equipment acquisitions, health and safety enhancements, etc.	Reg. 686/21 s.9 CAA s.21.1.2	Enabling Service 1, 3	General Levy (36%) Special Capital (25%) Self-Generated Revenue (8%) Overhead (31%)	\$668,000	\$640,000
Afforestation	Planting of trees and shrubs across the watershed to increase forest and canopy cover to address flood protection, climate change and natural heritage objectives.	CAA s.21.1.1 CAA s.21.1.2	2, 3	Municipal Request/ Support (18%) Self-Generated Revenue (82%) Corporate Grants Private landowners	\$172,000	\$205,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Forest Management	Implementation of best forest management practices that contribute to watershed and community health and protect and enhance forest cover.	CAA s.21.1.1	2	Municipal Request/Support (100%)	\$140,000	\$128,000
Forest Research	In partnership with municipal and other partners, assessment of forest and canopy cover and development of plans and strategies to inform forest management activities	CAA s.21.1.1	2	Municipal Request/Support – typically one off projects	\$45,000	\$82,000
Lake Simcoe Protection Plan						
Lake Simcoe Protection Plan delivery and support where the Authority identified as lead, supporting and/or collaborating body.	Lead and support Plan policies directing science and research, ecosystem monitoring, watershed planning, climate change, land use mapping, improved management practices, including stormwater management and winter salt management and other required monitoring, management, and research activities.	Reg. 686/21 s.13	1,2	Levy (70%) Provincial funding (23%) Other funding (7%)	\$2,309,000	\$2,747,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring						
Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network	A long-standing (50+ year) conservation authority/Provincial Ministry partnership for stream water quality monitoring. conservation authority takes water samples; Ministry does lab analysis and data management.	Reg. 686/21 s.12	1	Municipal (levy) (100%) and Provincial in-kind	\$29,000	\$34,000
Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network	A long-standing (20+ year) conservation authority/Provincial Ministry partnership for groundwater level and quality monitoring. conservation authority maintains equipment, data transfer to the Ministry, water sampling; Ministry provides equipment, standards, data management.	Reg. 686/21 s.12	1	Municipal (levy) (100%) and Provincial in-kind	\$44,000	\$50,000
Municipal services - infrastructure protection, stormwater management performances, environmental monitoring	Assessing level of risk to York Region infrastructure due to stream erosion processes. Performance, inspection and prioritization, monitoring, maintenance and linear Environmental Compliance Approval support. Additional flow and receiver monitoring on behalf of municipalities.	CAA s.21.1.1	2	Municipal Memorandum of Understanding (85%), Special Capital (15%)	\$273,000	\$419,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy						
Strategy Development	Collate/compile existing resource management plans, watershed plans, studies and data. Strategy development, Implementation and annual reporting This specific activity begins as of 2023.	Reg. 686/21 s.12(4)	1	Draw from Reserve	N/A	\$50,000 - \$75,000 Note: Work scheduled to commence in 2023.
Watershed Stewardship and Restoration						
Watershed Stewardship and Restoration (Urban, rural & Agriculture)	Manage external funding, promote private land stewardship, outreach, provide advice and design assistance to property owners. Delivery of restoration, infrastructure protection and stormwater management projects, implement offsetting projects and other related restoration projects.	Reg. 686/21 s.8 CAA s.21.1.1 CAA s.21.1.1	1, 2, 3	Offsetting revenue (7%) Special Capital (62%) Foundation (31%) Provincial (as occurs) Federal (as occurs)	\$1,600,000	\$1,902,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Enabling Program Services						
Corporate Services includes Human Resources, Legal and Financial Services	Administrative, Human Resources, financial operating and capital costs which are not directly related to the delivery of any specific program or service but are the overhead and support costs of a conservation authority. Accounting and payroll	Enabling Service	1, 2, 3	General Levy (46%) Special Capital (7%) Self-Generated Revenue (11%) Overhead for staff in Fee-based programs (35%)	\$1,802,000	\$2,084,000
Communications and Marketing	Provides strategic corporate and program communications and marketing oversight, develops and implements a broad range of initiatives to inform, influence, and motivate partners and the public to support the work of the Authority, drives participation in programs and promotes products and services	Enabling Service CAA s.21.1.1 CAA s.21.1.2	1, 2, 3	General Levy (55%) Special Capital (18%) Overhead for staff in Fee-based programs (27%)	\$767,000	\$860,000
Governance	Supporting conservation authority Boards, Advisory Committees, Office of Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Management	Enabling Service	1	General Levy (78%) Special Capital (9%) Overhead for staff in Fee-based programs (13%)	\$381,000	\$388,000
Asset Management	Asset management planning, facilities & property management	Enabling Service	1	General Levy (100%)	\$265,000	\$500,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Information Technology Management and / GIS	Data management, records retention. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.	Enabling Service CAA s.21.1.1 CAA s.21.1.2	1, 2, 3	General Levy (42%) Special Capital (18%) Self-Generated Revenue (1%) Overhead for staff in Fee-based programs (39%)	\$1,240,000	\$1,332,000
Source Water Protection						
Administer South Georgian Bay/Lake Simcoe Source Water Protection program	Following activities identified in draft consultation document. 1) Administration of the prescribed composition of the source protection committee and administrative support to source protection committees; 2) Preparing amendments to assessment reports and source protection plans; 3) Implementing source protection plan policies 4) Tracking and reporting on the progress of source protection plan implementation 5) Maintaining and providing access to source protection data and information	Reg. 686/21 s.13	1	Provincial funding (100%)	\$322,000	\$492,000

Program/Service	Description	Legislated Relevance	Category (1,2,3)	Source of Funding	Average Budget (2018-2022)	2022 Budget
Education						
School and Community Programming	<p>Provincial curriculum-connected, experiential and engaging programs and services for students and teachers from kindergarten to grade 12.</p> <p>Programmed learning opportunities for children, youth and adults, enhancing participants' connections to the health of the Lake Simcoe watershed in areas where they live, learn, work and play.</p>	CAA s.21.1.2	3	General Levy (49%) Self-Generated Revenue - Contractual Obligations with School Boards (24%) Self-Generated - Overhead (9%) Foundation Support & Other External Grants (17%)	\$603,000	\$614,000

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

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 16, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: T. Barrie, Clarington
Z. Cohoon, Member at Large, Chair
R. Death, Whitby
N. Guthrie, Ajax
B. Hulshof, Uxbridge
J. McKay, Durham Farm Fresh
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair
H. Schillings, Member at Large
M. Shiers, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
M. Somerville*, Member at Large
D. Stevenson, Oshawa
N. Swain, Scugog
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock
W. Wotten*, Regional Councillor

*** denotes members of the Committee participating electronically**

Staff

Present: A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. De Vos, Program Specialist, Department of Planning and Economic Development
S. Jibb, Manager, Agricultural & Rural Economic Development, Department of Planning and Economic Development
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
L. Talling, Program Specialist, Tourism & Culture, Department of Planning and Economic Development
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Election of Officers for 2024

V. Walker called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by G. O'Connor,
That Zac Cohoon be nominated for the position of Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

V. Walker asked if Z. Cohoon wished to stand. Z. Cohoon indicated he would stand.

Moved by H. Schillings, Seconded by B. Hulshof,
That nominations be closed.
CARRIED

Z. Cohoon was acclaimed as the Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Z. Cohoon assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Z. Cohoon called for nominations for the position of First Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That Bryan Smith be nominated for the position of First Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Z. Cohoon asked if B. Smith wished to stand. B. Smith indicated he would stand.

Z. Cohoon called for nominations for the position of Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by H. Schillings, Seconded by B. Smith,
That Dave Risebrough be nominated for the position of Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Z. Cohoon asked if D. Risebrough wished to stand. D. Risebrough indicated he would stand.

Moved by N. Guthrie, Seconded by B. Smith,
That nominations be closed.
CARRIED

B. Smith was acclaimed as the First Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

D. Risebrough was acclaimed as the Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

J. McKay requested that the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting be amended to reflect that he was present for the meeting.

Moved by T. Watpool, Seconded by M. Shiers,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Lia Van Wees, Grounds Supervisor, OntarioTech – Windfields Farm Project

Lia Van Wees, Grounds Supervisor, OntarioTech, presented to the Committee with regards to the Windfields Farm Project.

L. Van Wees stated that Windfields Farm is a multi-purpose farm that has an office for OntarioTech, a lab for forensic students, some small apple orchards, and is part of the 50 million tree program. She further stated that OntarioTech uses the property for sustainability and research projects and planted approximately 20 acres of wildflowers in 2023.

L. Van Wees advised that OntarioTech is seeking input from members of the community with respect to potential uses for an approximately 9-acre vacant portion of the mid-section of the farm and welcomed suggestions from the Committee.

Discussion ensued with members of the Committee providing suggestions for potential uses of the farm; potential challenges accessing the vacant lot with large equipment and machinery; and the history of vegetation grown on the lot.

L. Van Wees responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the type of soil on the vacant piece of land; whether any weeds are currently growing on the lot; and whether OntarioTech has received funding for the development of the lot.

B) Jennine Agnew-Kata, Executive Director, Literacy Network of Durham Region & DWA and Literacy Network of Durham Region, and Heather McMillan, Executive Director, Durham Workforce Authority - Pathways to Skilled Trades

Jennine Agnew-Kata, Executive Director, Literacy Network of Durham Region & DWA and Literacy Network of Durham Region, and Heather McMillan, Executive Director, Durham Workforce Authority, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Pathways to Skilled Trades.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Project Sponsors: Introductions
 - Durham Workforce Authority
 - Literacy Network of Durham Region
- Pathways to Skilled Trades
- Agri-food: Project Progress to Date
 - Project Scope
 - Key Themes: Research and Stakeholder Feedback
- Durham Agriculture Advisory Committee (DAAC) Feedback
- Discussion Questions
 - Do the key themes we've discussed resonate with your experience in Durham Region?
 - How are the skilled trades influencing the agriculture industry in Durham Region?
 - From your perspective, what are the hiring and skills challenges that the agriculture industry is currently facing? What particular jobs are challenging to fill?
 - Would you be interested in participating individually or as part of a group in our work? What is the best way to engage?
- Preliminary Project Observations.

Discussion ensued with regards to the need for skilled trades workers in the agriculture field; the difficulties in finding and retaining trained workers; the changes experienced in the agriculture sector as a result of the introduction and continued advancements of intelligent control systems and specialized technical equipment, and the resulting creation of technical-related positions; the importance of educating high school students and parents of the availability of skilled trades jobs and apprenticeships, and educational requirements; alternative avenues for attracting workers; the intense demands of agriculture related jobs; and the benefits of upgrading machinery and equipment.

6. Discussion Items

A) Agriculture 101 Training

A. De Vos advised that Agriculture 101 Training has been provided to Council for Scugog and Brock and advised that dates have been set to present to Council for Uxbridge, Whitby, and Clarington. She stated that a date to present to Oshawa Council is pending confirmation and that a volunteer is required to present to Pickering.

It was the consensus of the Committee that M. Somerville present to Pickering Council.

A. De Vos stated that the presentation to Brock prompted discussion with Councillors looking for the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee's (DAAC) feedback as it relates to battery storage and backyard chickens. She further

stated that there was Council support for agriculture tourism and Council vocalized the importance of educating youth about agriculture.

Discussion ensued with regards to backyard chickens being kept in urban areas, and the potential negative effects of backyard chickens causing an increase in predatory animals and rodents, and avian influenza outbreaks.

Further discussion ensued with regards to by-laws related to the possession of farm animals in urban municipalities.

Moved by G. O'Connor, Seconded by B. Smith,
That we recommend to the Planning and Economic Development
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional
Council:

That as the introduction of chickens within urban and rural settlement areas (which includes towns, villages and hamlets) can result in the potential spread of Avian Influenza and other diseases to livestock in the Region, particularly poultry farms;

And that backyard chickens attract pests and predators, resulting in conflicts between predatory animals and chickens, and additional vectors for spreading disease;

Therefore be it resolved that Durham Regional Council be advised that the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) does not support permitting chickens being kept in urban settlement areas and rural settlement areas (which includes towns, villages and hamlets); and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the area municipalities for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

S. Jibb introduced Lori Talling to the Committee as the successful candidate for the temporary position of Manager of Agricultural & Rural Economic Development in the Planning and Economic Development Department.

S. Jibb provided the following update:

- The Townships of Scugog, Uxbridge and Brock are undertaking a project to update their zoning by-laws to better enable and encourage agriculture related and farm diversified uses and aims to create consistency across the three municipalities. A project team has been formed with representatives from all three municipalities and the Region, and a consultant will be retained as well. The project should run throughout 2024 and more updates will be provided.

A. De Vos provided the following update:

- An agri-food gateway program is a new program that is being run by Durham College with support from the National Research Council. The purpose of the program is to assist with agriculture training for technology companies and will provide in-class training in agriculture and agri-tech. The program will begin this year and companies are required to apply to be a part of the program.
- An Environmental Farm Plan Workshop is scheduled to take place on two (2) separate days on February 13 and 20, 2024 in Courtice and members of the Committee are welcome to attend.

C) Backyard Chickens DAAC Position

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting as part of Discussion Item A) Agriculture Training 101 [see page 5 of these minutes].

D) Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington Update

T. Barrie stated that the Agricultural Advisory Committee in Clarington heard a presentation regarding rodenticide and advised that some municipalities have already moved towards banning rodenticide.

T. Barrie responded to a question from the Committee regarding what alternatives to rodenticide were suggested at the presentation.

E) Durham Farm Fresh Update

J. McKay stated that Durham Farm Fresh recently had its Annual General Meeting and advised that they have hired a coordinator that is shared with Durham Farm Connections. He advised that engagement among members is a continued challenge.

J. McKay responded to a question from the Committee with regards to the number of active memberships Durham Farm Fresh has currently.

F) Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance Update

M. Scott stated that the Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance is currently drafting an urban agriculture paper and anticipates them presenting to the Committee in the spring.

G) Durham Region Federation of Agriculture Update

M. Shiers stated that the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture had a meeting on December 19th that mainly addressed organizational matters, and also included a discussion regarding battery storage.

H) Presentation on 2023 Annual Report & Workplan to Planning and Economic Development Committee

Z. Cohoon stated that he appeared before the Planning and Economic Development Committee to present DAAC's Annual Report and Workplan. He advised that a few questions and light discussion took place following the presentation.

I) 2024 Farm Tour

D. Risebrough suggested Colebrook Farms in Uxbridge as a potential location for this year's farm tour and stated that he has had preliminary discussions with staff at the farm and has reached out to the owner to discuss further. He stated that Colebrook Farms runs a thoroughbred horse breeding operation and a training operation for racehorses.

D. Risebrough suggested the formation of a subcommittee that would be responsible for arranging the farm tour for this year. The Committee agreed that D. Risebrough, T. Barrie, T. Watpool, N. Swain and Z. Cohoon will comprise the subcommittee.

The Committee discussed potential dates for the farm tour.

J) Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve Easements Discussion

M. Scott stated that due to the Province of Ontario's reversal of its decision with regards to the Greenbelt Lands, the preserve lands have reverted to its previous status and remain protected. M. Scott advised that there are currently no steps to be taken by either the Region or the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) at this time.

7. Information Items

A) Pickering Urban Agricultural Engagement

M. Scott stated that the City of Pickering is canvassing for opinions on its Urban Agriculture Program.

A link to the City of Pickering's Urban Agricultural Engagement website was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda.

8. Other Business

A) Battery Storage Sites

M. Scott advised that the deadline to apply for battery storage sites with the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) has now passed. He further advised that more information regarding the sites that applied should be available shortly and next steps will include the sites seeking government approval. M.

Scott stated that approval of applications is based on a point system, with more points being given to sites that have received government approval.

M. Scott advised that the motion regarding the DAAC's position on battery storage sites was passed by Regional Council in December 2023.

Discussion ensued with regards to alternate power sources; the outcome of previous solar power projects in Newtonville and Newcastle; and the environmental impact of battery storage sites.

B) Nominations for Outstanding Young Farmers

J. McKay stated that Outstanding Young Farmers is accepting nominations for 2024 for farmers who are 40 years of age or younger with an ownership stake in their operations and who have undertaken an innovative and unique approach to their operations. He advised that nominations are being accepted until the end of February and welcomed members of the Committee to submit nominations ahead of the deadline.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 starting at 7:30 PM.

10. Adjournment

Moved by B. Smith, Seconded by Hubert Schillings,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Z. Cohoon, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk

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

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ANTI-RACISM TASKFORCE

Thursday, January 25, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce was held on Thursday, January 25, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:04 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment

Chair Samuel read the following land acknowledgement:

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the growing Inuit communities and large Métis communities and here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

2. Roll Call

Present: PG Case, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Vice-Chair
A. Frempong, Community Member
B. Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Councillor Lee, Regional Council
J. Munawa, Community Member
C. Oyeniran, Community Member
N. Samuel, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Chair
K. Vieneer, Community Member
J. Williamson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
G. Wilson-Beier, Community Member
*** all members participated electronically**

Absent: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Bookal, Community Member
R. Coelho, Community Member

T. Hancock, Community Member
B. Nelson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
Councillor Shahid, Regional Council

Staff

Present: P. Hines, Manager, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
H. Mohammed, Policy Coordinator, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
A. Sharma, Policy Advisor, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** all staff participated electronically**

3. Election of Officers for 2024

This item was not considered. V. Walker advised the Committee that pursuant to the Durham Region Anti-Racism Task Force Terms of Reference, elections for Chair and Vice-Chair are only required to take place at the beginning of each term of Council.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by G. Wilson-Beier, Seconded by Councillor Lee,
That the minutes of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting
held on Thursday, November 23, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

6. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

7. Presentations

There were no presentations to be heard.

8. Information Items

A) 2024 Regional Black History Month

P. Hines stated that the Region's 2024 celebration for Black History Month will take place on February 1, 2024 and that this year's theme is "Together We Rise Durham: Black History, Intersectionality and Joy". She advised that the Region has partnered with 13 organizations for the event, consisting of Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS), the Canadian Jamaican Club of Oshawa, Congress of

Black Women of Whitby/Oshawa, Pickering Anti-Black Racism Taskforce, Lakeridge Health, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Services, DurhamONE, and six of the Region's area municipalities. P. Hines stated that the event will include multiple performances and a panel discussion with 4 panelists to discuss Black History and share their personal life experiences.

P. Hines stated that Durham Region Transit (DRT) has offered to wrap one of its buses for the month of February that will display the Black History Month theme and will be featured on various bus routes throughout the month including the Region's most populated route. She further stated that there will be cards inside the bus that describe the significance of Black History and that contain quotes from well-known Black Canadians.

P. Hines welcomed members of the Committee to attend the event and recommended that the Committee reserve a table to facilitate discussions with the community and promote the work of the Committee.

P. Hines responded to questions from the Committee with regards to which routes the wrapped bus will appear on; and whether there is a possibility for DRPS to wrap any of its vehicles.

9. Discussion Items

A) Suggestions on Matters to be Discussed with Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS)

Councillor Lee stated that as part of the DRPS Working Group's objective to develop a working relationship with DRPS, the group had an initial discussion with Vidal Chavannes, Director, Strategy, Research and Organizational Performance, and are looking to invite him to the February meeting to continue the discussion. Councillor Lee further stated that in preparation for V. Chavannes joining a future meeting, the working group intends to compile a list of questions to send to V. Chavannes in advance to lead to a more productive discussion. Councillor Lee welcomed the Committee to contribute to the list of questions.

Councillor Lee also stated that the discussion with V. Chavannes is a preliminary step to the working group's goal of ultimately inviting the Region's Chief of Police to a future meeting in its endeavour to foster a positive connection with DRPS.

Detailed discussion ensued with the Committee formulating questions with regard to DRPS' budget allocations and rollover of surplus; DRPS' priorities as it relates to diversity and inclusion and accessibility; training for officers handling mental health calls from diverse community members and other educational components within DRPS; the correlation of anticipated increase in crime rates and the continued growth of the population in the Region; the importance of learning and understanding historical origins of police foundations; data collection by DRPS; and the priorities V. Chavannes has identified in his role with DRPS.

B) Anti Hate / Hate Mitigation for Municipalities

N. Samuel stated that various materials were circulated to the Committee to encourage a general discussion regarding hate mitigation within the Region and welcomed input from the Committee in that regard.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the draft motions prepared by Councillor Shahid to the Town of Whitby and the Region with respect to hate mitigation with comments consisting of revising the motions to contain more actionable items; specifically identifying additional groups in the motions; considering what policies, by-laws, and whistleblower mechanisms are in place in other municipalities in Ontario as it relates to hate mitigation strategies; the benefit of having a formal process in place that outlines consequences for hate related activity; and the development of a Regional by-law that supports a position of anti-hate in the Region.

Further discussion ensued with regards to the Region of Waterloo's development of an anti-hate by-law and how the same could be accomplished in Durham Region.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the EDI Working Group undertakes the task of developing language to be incorporated into a Regional anti-hate by-law. Staff suggested the Working Group collaborate with the Region's Legal Department to obtain advice from a legal perspective.

C) Sub-Committee Updates

1. EDI Working Group

A. Frempong advised that the EDI Working Group will work towards drafting language for an anti-hate by-law for the Region and stated that this assignment will tie in with the Group's current objective of the development of a hate reporting tool in the Region.

2. DRPS Working Group

J. Munawa provided the following update on behalf of the DRPS Working Group:

- The discussion that took place earlier in the meeting under Item 9. A) will be used to formulate questions to send to V. Chavannes. The Group will coordinate with V. Chavannes for him to attend a future Committee meeting.
- The development of a public resource that outlines how to report a hate crime is progressing and the Working Group is looking to determine the purpose of the resource, the intended audience, and a

potential release date. The group will have the resource reviewed by Sergeant Conrad Wong of the Equity Unit in DRPS and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Division, and subsequently routed through DRPS for final approval before being publicly circulated.

- With respect to the focus of community engagement, the Working Group will look at ways to collaborate with DRPS for its Community Day event.

3. School Board Working Group

C. Oyeniran advised that the Working Group has received responses to their invitations to the school boards on collaborating on joint anti-racism initiatives and all Boards within the Region have confirmed attendance. C. Oyeniran stated that an introductory meeting has been scheduled to take place with Board representatives on February 7, 2024.

4. Education Working Group

PG Case stated that the Education Working Group is organizing a healing event that will feature various modes of drumming from different cultures as a way to demonstrate commonalities throughout different communities. He advised that the Group is still in the organizing stage for the event, and that it is the intention that the healing circle is the first part of a series of community healing events that focus on connecting different cultures and communities through shared interests. He added that ideas for subsequent events would possibly be themed around dance and food.

10. Other Business

A) Trent U – Black Studies Program Launch

H. Mohammed stated that Trent University is developing a Black Studies program and is hosting an event to launch the program at its Oshawa Campus on February 5, 2024 from 2:00PM to 4:00PM. She advised that the invitation will be shared with the Committee and welcomed members to attend the event with the Region's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Division as an opportunity to connect with other organizations.

H. Mohammed responded to a question from the Committee with regards to whether the event will also be live-streamed.

B) Member Vacancies on Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART)

In response to a question regarding vacant seats on the Committee, P. Hines stated that the number of members on the Committee currently is within the guidelines set out in its Terms of Reference and therefore the Committee is not

formally recruiting at this time. She further stated that if members are aware of someone who would be interested in applying to become a member, that they would be required to submit an application and go through the interview process.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by A. Frempong, Seconded by K. Vieneer,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM

Respectfully submitted,

N. Samuel, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk