



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, March 15, 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.

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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. 2009



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Chief Administrative Officer
Report: #2024-INFO-13
Date: March 8, 2024

Subject:

The Region's submission to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regarding Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) application to amend its power reactor operating licence for the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station to allow for the commercial production of cobalt-60

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide Regional Council with an update on the Region's participation in the upcoming Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hearing in writing to allow for the commercial production of the cobalt-60 (Co-60) radionuclide at the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station (DNGS).

2. Background

2.1 Established under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act, the mandate of the CNSC is to '*regulate the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment; to implement Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy; and to disseminate objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public*'.¹

2.2 OPG's current operating licence for the Darlington NGS is valid until November 30, 2025. The CNSC will be conducting a hearing in writing in Spring 2024 to consider OPG's application to amend Section IV of the operating licence to allow for the commercial production of Co-60.

¹ www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-framework/

2.3 Co-60 is a medical isotope widely used in radiography, sterilization and some medical treatments. This medical isotope is currently produced at the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS).

2.4 In December 2021, Regional Council approved [Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy](#). The Region's submission to the CNSC aligns with the goals and actions of this strategy.

3. Next Steps

3.1 Staff will submit Durham Region's intervention (Attachment #1) to the CNSC.

3.2 Staff will continue to monitor the approval process and will report back on new developments as appropriate.

4. Previous Reports and Decisions

4.1 The following Regional staff reports related to the nuclear sector have been approved by Regional Council:

- a. Report #[2021-COW-37](#), Durham Region Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032

5. Relationship to Regional Plans

6. This report aligns with [Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy](#), [Durham Region's Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan](#) and the following strategic goals and priorities in the [Durham Region Strategic Plan](#):

- a. Under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, Priority 1.1 is to accelerate the adoption of green technologies and clean energy solutions through strategic partnerships and investment.
- b. Under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, Priority 1.1 is to demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.
- c. Under the goal of Economic Prosperity, Priority 3.4 is to capitalize on Durham's strengths in key economic sectors to attract high-quality jobs.

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: The Regional Municipality of Durham submission regarding Ontario Power Generation's application to amend its power operator licence for the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station to allow for the commercial production of cobalt-60

Prepared by: Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, at 905-668-7711 extension 6263 in collaboration with staff from the Nuclear Sector Working Group (Planning and Economic Development, Works, Social Services, Transit, Health, Finance and the CAO's Office).

Approved by: Sandra Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives at 905-668-7711 extension 2449.

Respectfully submitted,

XXX

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Submission regarding Ontario Power Generation's application to amend its power reactor operating licence for the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station to allow for the commercial production of cobalt-60

March 2024

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Glossary of Acronyms

| | |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| CNSC | Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission |
| Co-60 | Cobalt-60 |
| Mo-99 | Molybdenum-99 |
| OPG | Ontario Power Generation |

1. Acknowledgement

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years before 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 large Métis communities and growing Inuit communities here in Durham Region. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

2. Message from the Regional Chair

Dear Acting President Berube and Independent Members of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission,

On behalf of Durham Region, I am pleased to show support for Ontario Power Generation (OPG) in its application to amend its power operator licence for the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station, to allow for the commercial production of Cobalt-60.

OPG has a strong and productive track record of producing and harvesting Cobalt-60 in Durham Region; with the Pickering Nuclear Generation Station being the first generating station in Ontario to produce it.

For decades, the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station has been one of the world's leading sources of this important, life-saving product. The medical and industrial applications of this isotope helps to keep millions of Ontarians safe and healthy. Cobalt-60 plays a key line of defence in hospitals and health-care facilities, and for food processors and distributors.

Fast-forward to today, aside from producing the clean, reliable energy that our communities greatly benefit from every day, OPG works in partnership with Bruce Power and Nordion to supply more than 50 per cent of the world's Cobalt-60. This process involves a highly skilled and talented workforce; one that is being developed right here in Durham Region at our nuclear energy-supporting institutions and organizations.

As highlighted in our Nuclear Sector Strategy, increased investment, research and job creation in the nuclear energy sector are needed in Durham. This is an exciting economic opportunity that highlights the potential for future investment in isotope processing in our region.

I am supportive of OPG's application and am confident that this investment in the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station will help us work toward our vision of a healthier, cleaner and safer future for all.

Sincerely,

John Henry
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer
The Regional Municipality of Durham

3. Introduction

In Durham Region, nuclear energy is a vital part of our story. Since the 1960s, we have been proud to be at the forefront of nuclear innovation. The nuclear facilities, supply chain, research and development capacity, and academic expertise found within our borders make Durham Region Canada's premier nuclear jurisdiction. Currently, the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) produces Cobalt-60 (Co-60) and Darlington NGS is the only commercial power reactor source of Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) in the world. Together, Durham Region is a key source and exporter of these important life-saving radioisotopes.

4. Durham Region's support for the licence amendment

In 2021, we engaged broadly with partners, Indigenous rights holders and the community to gain insight into how the Region should participate in the nuclear sector. Through this process, we developed [Empowering the Community: Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy](#) that aims to empower Durham Region by building an understanding of the nuclear sector, working with partners to seize opportunities, and preparing for an evolving future. As outlined in the strategy, the Region is committed to playing an active role in nuclear regulatory processes and policy development across all levels of government to protect the interests of our community.

Through this engagement, our community requested that we seek opportunities for growing the local nuclear supply chain and research sector by creating an economic vision focused on clean energy, a low carbon economy and life-saving medical isotopes. A key action of Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy is to attract medical isotope production and processing operations to the Region.

Medical isotopes are extremely valuable and save lives every day by sterilizing medical equipment and diagnosing and treating deadly diseases. Co-60 is widely used in radiography, sterilization and some medical treatments. The Region understands that OPG is requesting an amendment to Section IV of its existing power reactor operating licence for the Darlington NGS to add a new licensed activity and allow OPG to possess, transfer, produce, package, manage and store Co-60. This activity aligns with our community's vision and actions in our strategy. Durham Region is pleased to support this application.

5. Durham Region: the Clean Energy Capital of Canada

Durham Region is home to a large energy economic cluster. For decades, OPG has been a top contributor to the local economy through local purchasing of goods and services from Durham-based suppliers. We recognize that major nuclear projects including the refurbishment of Darlington and Pickering NGSs and construction of four small modular reactors (SMRs) here in the Region will deliver significant direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits in addition to thousands of new and sustained high-value jobs.

Alongside these exciting advancements, billions of dollars have been committed to the industry by both the provincial and federal governments¹. It is critical that this economic stimulus deliver economic multiplication throughout the local economy in Durham Region by attracting and enabling inbound business investment and the establishment of permanent operations by organizations throughout the nuclear value chain. A large proportion of our residents leave Durham Region to travel to their place of employment. Canada's nuclear technology development and manufacturing, including isotope processing and sales, should have strong roots in Durham Region, and the sector should offer a variety of permanent, local, high-value careers to the people who have supported this industry for decades.

Durham Region looks forward to continuing its strong partnership with OPG and will continue to work together with partners to facilitate this initiative and attract business investment to the Region.

¹ Canada's Small Modular Reactor Action Plan progress update. October 2022.
<https://smractionplan.ca/sites/smractionplan/files/2023-01/full-approved-progress-update-eng-access.pdf>

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Chief Administrative Officer
Report: #2024-INFO-14
Date: March 15, 2024

Subject:

2023 Annual Report – Empowering the Community: Durham’s Nuclear Sector Strategy
2022-2032

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To report on progress in 2023 to advance [Empowering the Community: Durham’s Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032](#) (Strategy).

2. Background

2.1 In December 2021, Regional Council unanimously [approved](#) the Strategy.

2.2 The Strategy is Durham’s long-range plan to build capacity within our organization and community to understand, anticipate and respond to the evolving nuclear activities in Durham and influence policy and decision-making that affect the Region.

2.3 Implementation of the Strategy will ensure that Regional Council and staff:

- a. Are well-versed on the impacts and opportunities related to the nuclear sector as a key employer within Durham Region,
- b. Have the knowledge and capacity to participate effectively in related nuclear policy and regulatory matters,
- c. Have a framework for understanding where Regional efforts will be most effective, and for setting and revising priorities as needed in an evolving sector, and

- d. Are equipped to manage uncertainty, support and make evidence-based decisions, recognize opportunities, and work collaboratively with partners.
- 2.4 The Strategy also supports planned actions to implement the low carbon pathway adopted in the [Durham Community Energy Plan](#) (2019) and address the climate emergency [declared by Regional Council](#) (2020). The availability of low-carbon electricity from nuclear generation will be critical to power the Region's achievement of these targets.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

3.1 Reports relevant to the Strategy include:

- a. [2021-COW-37](#) Durham Region Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032.
- b. [2023-INFO-59](#) 2022 Annual Report – Empowering the Community: Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032

4. 4. Implementing Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy

- 4.1 The Region's internal Nuclear Sector Working Group, in partnership with external organizations, has led the implementation of the Strategy.
- 4.2 The key actions taken in 2023 to advance the goals of the strategy are summarized in Attachment #1.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

- 1.1: Accelerate the adoption of green technologies and clean energy solutions through strategic partnerships and investment
- 1.4: Demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change
- 2.2: Enhance community safety and well-being
- 3.1: Position Durham Region as the location of choice for business
- 3.2: Leverage Durham's prime geography, social infrastructure, and strong partnerships to foster economic growth
- 3.4: Capitalize on Durham's strengths in key economic sectors to attract high-quality jobs
- 5.3: Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Strategy provides Regional staff with a valuable framework that has allowed the Region to prioritize and align actions, identify where to invest our resources, and enhanced our ability to plan and prepare for developments in the sector.
- 6.2 Regional Council will receive ongoing annual reports on the implementation of the Strategy.
- 6.3 This report was prepared by the Nuclear Sector Working Group (Planning and Economic Development, Works, Social Services, Transit, Health, Finance and the CAO's Office).

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: 2023 Annual Report – Empowering the Community: Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy

Prepared by: Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, at 905-668-7711, extension 6263.

Approved by: Sandra Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives at 905-668-7711, extension 2449.

Respectfully submitted,

XXX

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



Empowering the Community:

Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy
2023 Annual Report

2023 was a significant year for the nuclear sector with announcements from the federal government through [Budget 2023](#). In July, the Province of Ontario released its [Plan for a Clean Energy Future](#) demonstrating its continued support for nuclear generation including [additional small modular reactors \(SMRS\) at Darlington](#). The four SMRs will produce 1,200 megawatts (MW) at the Darlington site, pending regulatory approval.



Goal 1: Grow understanding of the nuclear sector among Regional Council, staff, and the community

- Hosted regular educational sessions to increase staff knowledge on economic development opportunities, the role of public health in nuclear host communities, and the financial impact of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station on the region.
- Participated in site tours of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station, the Darlington Waste Management Facility (WMF), the site for Canada's first on-grid SMR, and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) test facility.
- Collaborated with the Social Research Centre at Ontario Tech University to deliver a Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Survey. More than 1,450 residents completed the survey.
- Participated in Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Open House event at the Darlington Energy Complex (DEC), which saw over 3,500 visitors. Durham staff spoke directly with over 1,100 attendees and provided educational resources.
- Promoted Emergency Preparedness Week with messaging focused on knowledge gaps among residents as identified in the Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Survey.
- Launched Durham's completely re-imagined At the Ready guide, a no-fuss approach to emergency preparedness.
- Coordinated the Durham Nuclear Health Committee, a forum to discuss radiological emissions from nuclear facilities in Durham Region and assess the potential environmental and human health impacts.
- Launched three communication campaigns promoting the availability and safety of Potassium Iodide (KI) tablets including a new animated video.
- To simplify how residents access emergency preparedness information, various pages on durham.ca were streamlined and consolidated.
- In collaboration with the CAO's Office, Planning and Economic Development, Finance and the Works departments, staff developed an [information report](#) to keep Council informed of changes in the broader energy sector in Ontario.

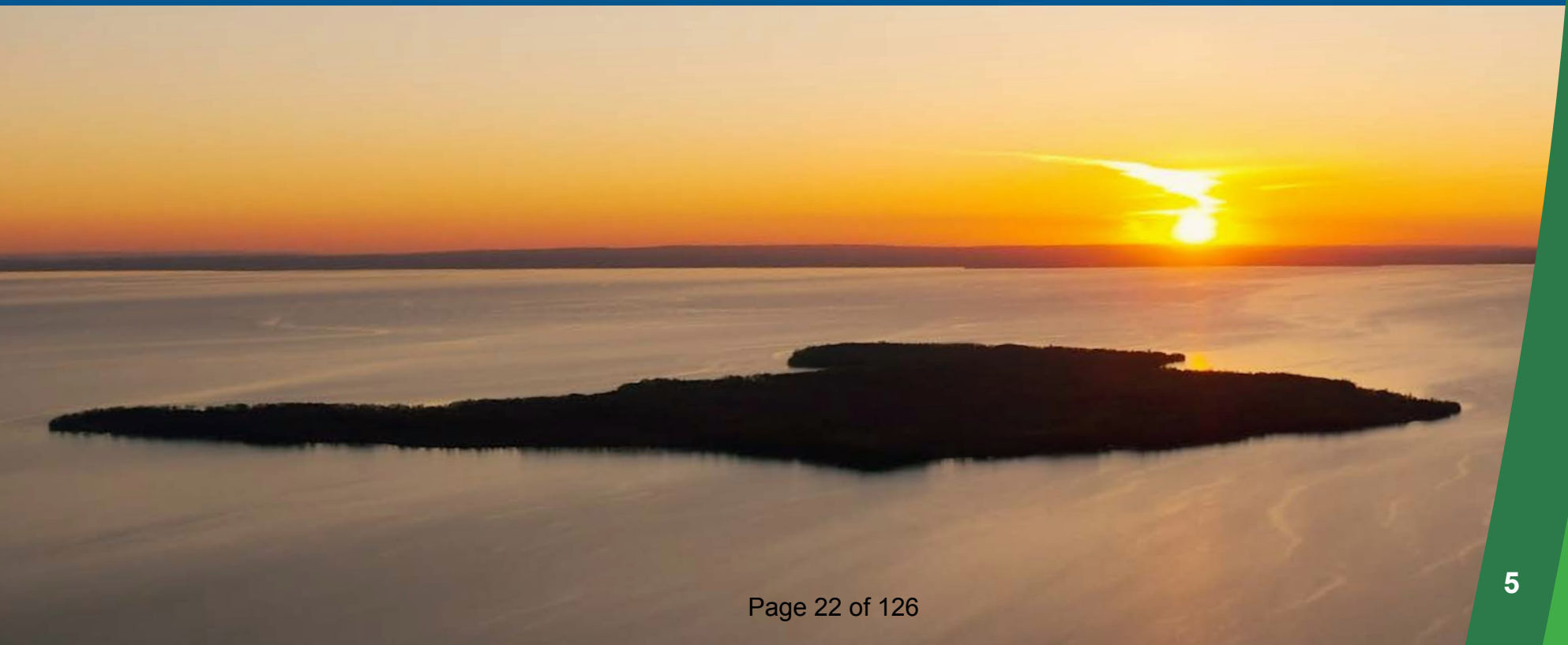
Goal 2: Build prosperity by maximizing the benefits of being a nuclear host community and Canada's premier centre of the nuclear industry and innovation

- Partnered with OPG to host an "Amp up your business in Durham Region" booth at Collision Conference.
- Welcomed GE Hitachi and SNC Lavalin to the new OPG headquarters in Oshawa.
- Sponsored, exhibited and provided opening remarks for OPG Supplier Days at Pickering and Darlington.
- Continued to attract partners from around the world to learn about the nuclear sector and the opportunities in Durham Region:
 - Collaborated with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade to welcome global diplomatic missions to tour Durham Region and meet with OPG. The Government of Ontario Trade and Investment Office helped the Region profile and promote Durham Region for Ontario's commercial trade opportunities in OPG's projects and supply chain.
 - Welcomed the Swedish Consulate and Swedish Embassy of Canada, Federal Committee of Industry and Trade for the Swedish Parliament as they toured Durham Region and OPG's mock SMR training reactor. Guests received a presentation on activities and discussed OPG's expertise in the development of SMRs.
 - Participated in an SMR roundtable with the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Energy and Prime Minister of Poland.
 - Coordinated a tour for delegates from the Intelligent Communities Forum Conference at OPG.



Goal 3: Protect and sustain the community by addressing the impacts and opportunities of being a nuclear host community

- Developed and submitted an [intervention](#) to participate in the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) first of two hearings to consider OPG's application for a licence to construct the first SMR at Darlington.
- Continued to maintain staff awareness around key policy decisions including the Minister of Natural Resources' [approval](#) of NWMO's strategy development process for low- and intermediate-level waste in Canada.
- The new Regional Official Plan was adopted by Council on May 17, 2023. There have been significant updates to the policies related to nuclear power generation, including policies and mapping to protect the Automatic Action Zone (AAZ) surrounding both the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generation Stations. The new Regional Official Plan also recognizes the history and the long-term opportunities related to nuclear power generation in Durham.





Goal 4: Lead and develop partnerships within the nuclear sector to build leadership capacity and influence decision-making

- Continued our partnerships and memberships including with the Canadian Advanced Manufacturing in Nuclear Alliance (CAMiNA), Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) and the Canadian Nuclear Association.
- Sent a delegation to represent the Region at the 2023 Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA) Conference in Ottawa.
- Increased our participation in the Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC) including participation in a delegation to Vienna, Austria to attend a [meeting](#) with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) together with leaders of nuclear facility host communities, representatives of facility operators, safety authorities and government officials from some 50 countries to share experiences in fostering positive relationships with local stakeholders in the nuclear sector.



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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Chief Administrative Officer, Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2024-INFO-15
Date: March 15, 2024

Subject:

“Blueprint for More and Better Housing” - Overview of the Task Force Report for Housing and Climate

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Task Force for Housing and Climate Report – [Blueprint for More and Better Housing](#), released on March 5, 2024.

2. Background

In 2022 CMHC stated that Canada needs 5.8 million new homes by 2030 to restore housing affordability. The Task Force for Housing and Climate is an independent, cross-partisan Task Force made up of 15 housing experts from across Canada who developed a national policy “blueprint” for how federal, provincial, and municipal governments can work together to build the required 5.8 million homes right, meaning that they are affordable, low-carbon and resilient to the impacts of climate change.

2.1 The Blueprint Report contains 10 recommendations and 140 individual policy actions that highlight the importance of all levels of government working together to fix Canada’s housing crisis and provide Canadians with homes fit for a climate crisis.

3. Overview of Blueprint Recommendations

3.1 The Task Force set four goals to guide the creation of more and better housing in Canada:

- Goal 1 - Make it Low-Carbon: Reduce Canada's housing related emissions to meet Canada's 2030 climate targets.
- Goal 2 – Make it Resilient: Every home built from 2025 onward should stand up to worsening climate hazards, supporting National Adaptation Strategy goals
- Goal 3 – Make it Affordable: Cut the number of households spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs to zero by 2031.
- Goal 4 – Make it at Scale: Increase the scale and productivity of the homebuilding sector to build 5.8 million homes between 2022 and 2030.

3.2 The Blueprint Report cites five deciding factors for developing a coordinated policy framework and lists a series of actions for each level of government:

- a. Where we Build – This is identified in the report as the single most powerful opportunity for building more and better housing. This means building new housing in existing cities and communities to make more efficient use of land and infrastructure.
 - Legalize Walkable, Accessible, Inclusive, Transit Rich Climate-Friendly Neighbourhoods.
 - Value and Conserve Nature to Protect Homes and Reduce Emissions.
- b. What we Build – Building energy efficient, climate resilient homes, while eliminating red tape that slows housing growth and increases costs.
 - Call on provincial governments to adopt the highest tiers in the National Model Building Codes, and for those codes to be revised to incorporate climate resilience features.
- c. How we Build – Streamlining regulatory barriers and accelerating innovations to increase productivity and scale (including modular and pre-fabrication), ensure that taxes, fees and charges do not render projects unfeasible and that the available workforce has the required skills.
 - Address Resource, Labour and Capital Constraints.
 - Streamline Approval Processes to Accelerate Approvals on Worthwhile Projects.
 - Create the Financial Conditions for Climate Friendly Building.
 - Accelerate Clean Innovation and Productivity to Build Climate-Friendly Housing at Scale.

-
- d. Why we Build – Every Canadian has the right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity.
- Facilitate the Acquisition or Construction of 2.3 million Non-market and Below-market Homes by 2030 and Cut the Number of Households Spending More than 30% of Their Income on Shelter Costs to Zero by 2031.
- e. Foundations of Success – Achieving Canada’s housing goals will require better data, information, maps, government collaboration, and the infrastructure that supports housing.
- Enhance Policy Coordination, Data Collection, and Sharing and Mapping.
 - Align Incentives to Minimize Unintended Consequences.
- 3.3 The Blueprint provides 41 specific policy recommendations for Municipal governments which can be summarized in the following 8 Key Takeaways:
- a. Legalize density by:
- eliminating unit maximums for all forms of residential housing,
 - abolishing parking minimums on residential, commercial and industrial properties,
 - legalizing the construction of CMHC pre-approved housing designs as-of-right; and
 - adopting ambitious as-of-right density permissions adjacent to transit lines.
- b. Create a more permissive land use, planning and approvals system by:
- Repealing policies, zoning or plans that prioritize the preservation of the physical character of the neighbourhood; and
 - Exempting from site plan approval and public consultation all projects that conform to the Official Plan and/or require only minor variances.
- c. Revise and update zoning laws to:
- Allow establishment of small-scale retail spaces in residential areas (especially highly accessible by public transit and walkable locations); and
 - Waive office space requirements in all downtown building conversions/ redevelopments.

-
- d. Accelerate innovation in homebuilding by:
- Encouraging collaboration between local governments, technology companies, research institutions, and buildings on sustainable construction practices; and
 - Facilitating local pilot projects and demonstrations of new building technologies and methods.
- e. Create the conditions to scale up homebuilding by:
- Prioritizing the use of existing municipally-owned land and public funding,
 - Identifying and allocating suitable municipal land for the development of non-market housing (including supportive housing, student residences and affordable rental properties),
 - Implementing land banking strategies to secure and preserve land for future non-market housing; and
 - Collaborating with local Indigenous organizations to enable Indigenous-led housing development opportunities that meet the unique needs of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples living in urban environments.
- f. Increase coordination and evidence-based decision making by:
- Enhancing data collection,
 - Developing consistent definitions of terms such as “affordability” and “affordable housing”,
 - Writing zoning by-laws in BIM-readable matrices and tables, and
 - Ensuring that zoning bylaws are up to date with official plans.
- g. Utilize hazard maps to ensure new housing is not built in high-risk areas prone to climate impacts.
- h. Consult local Indigenous Rights Holders on housing projects early on to:
- Request their involvement to help better understand the needs and wants of their communities, and
 - Support the sharing on Indigenous Knowledge related to climate and ecology.

4. Strategic Plan

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

- a. Goal 1.4 – Demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

- b. Goal 2.1 – Revitalize existing neighbourhoods and build complete communities that are walkable, well-connected, and have a mix of attainable housing.
- c. Goal 4.1 – Revitalize community housing and improve housing choice, affordability, and sustainability.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The majority of the recommendations of the Blueprint Report align with the Region’s approach for community housing revitalization, improving affordable housing supply, support for climate resiliency, advancing innovation, improving engagement with indigenous communities and the broader objectives of the Regional Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Elaine Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

Original signed by

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social 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-16
Date: March 15, 2024

Subject:

Prescribing Patterns, Substance Use Disorder Diagnoses, and Access to Treatment Prior to Substance-Related Toxicity Deaths in Ontario

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on the report entitled: [Prescribing Patterns, Substance Use Disorder Diagnoses, and Access to Treatment Prior to Substance-Related Toxicity Deaths in Ontario](#), released by The Ontario Drug Policy Research Network (ODPRN) and Public Health Ontario (PHO) on March 5, 2024.

2. Background

2.1 The joint report from ODPRN and PHO provides an overview of prior prescribing patterns, substance use disorder diagnoses, and toxicity events among people who died from accidental opioid, benzodiazepine, stimulant and/or alcohol-related toxicities in Ontario using data from the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario and ICES from January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022.

2.2 ODPRN and PHO released an [infographic](#), which summarizes key findings from the report.

3. Report Highlights

3.1 Overall substance-related toxicity deaths are summarized below:

- a. There were 10,024 accidental substance-related toxicity deaths involving opioids (84 per cent), stimulants (61 per cent), alcohol (13 per cent) and benzodiazepines (7.8 per cent).
- b. There was a 72.2 per cent increase in the number of deaths from the first 12 months of the study compared to last 12 months of the study period, and nearly two in three people who died from a substance-related toxicity had a prior substance use disorder diagnosis.
- c. For prior non-fatal substance-related toxicities, nearly one in five were treated in a hospital setting for the following substance-related toxicity in the year before death: involving opioids (17 per cent), stimulants (five per cent), benzodiazepine (two per cent) and alcohol (one per cent).

3.2 Substance-specific findings are summarized below:

- a. For non-pharmaceutical substances involved in death, 99 per cent involved stimulants (e.g., cocaine, methamphetamine), 86 per cent involved opioids (e.g., fentanyl) and 50 per cent involved benzodiazepines (e.g., etizolam, bromazolam).
- b. For polysubstance use contributing to death, 98 per cent involved benzodiazepine, 84 per cent involved alcohol, 80 per cent involved stimulants and 66 per cent involved opioids.
- c. Prior substance use disorder diagnoses are summarized below:
 - For opioid-related toxicity deaths, nearly two in three had a substance use disorder, one in two had an opioid use disorder, and opioid use disorder diagnoses varied significantly across age groups.
 - For stimulant-related toxicity deaths, three in five had a substance use disorder, one in four had a stimulant use disorder, and stimulant use disorder diagnoses varied across age groups.
 - For alcohol-related toxicity deaths, three in five had a substance use disorder, one in two had an alcohol use disorder, and alcohol use disorder diagnoses were similar across age groups.
 - For benzodiazepine-related toxicity deaths, nearly two in three had a substance use disorder and less than one in 20 had a benzodiazepine use disorder.

4. Local Program Initiatives

- 4.1 The Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) partakes in harm reduction activities, including the needle exchange program, the opioid patch return program, naloxone distribution, and support programs for sex trade workers. More

information on harm reduction programming can be found [here](#). Information and resources on safe needle disposal can also be found on [durham.ca](#).

- 4.2 DRHD provides information regarding the risks associated with use of alcohol, opioids and drugs, including information on overdose prevention, recommendations for reducing usage and community resources and services for individuals looking for help, available at [durham.ca](#).
- 4.3 Local health statistics and information on alcohol and drugs can be found on the [Durham Health Stats](#) webpage.
- 4.4 Local data on alcohol use are available on the [RRFSS Data Explorer](#).
- 4.5 To address the local opioid crisis, the Durham Region Opioid Task Force continues to work on implementing the objectives identified in the [Durham Region Opioid Response Plan](#).
- 4.6 The [Durham Region Opioid Information System \(DROIS\)](#) is an online tool that provides the latest opioid overdose-related statistics, including Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) calls.
- 4.7 The [Youth Data Tracker](#) is an online tool that provides information on health risk behaviours and attitudes of Durham Region students in Grades seven to 12.
- 4.8 Information and trends on:
 - a. Comparison of benzodiazepine overdose emergency department visits in Durham Region and Ontario categorized by age and sex are available [here](#).
 - b. Comparison of early substance use – alcohol (December 2017) in Durham Region and Ontario are available [here](#).
 - c. Comparison of past year alcohol use (December 2017) in Durham Region and Ontario are available [here](#).
 - d. Comparison of percentage of secondary school students reporting substance use before Grade nine (2016-2017) in Durham Region and Ontario are available [here](#).
- 4.9 Individuals and community organizations can use the [Report Drugs Durham Tool](#) to anonymously report a bad or unexpected reaction to drugs.

5. Previous Reports

- 5.1 Report [2020-INFO-114](#) provided an update on the report: [Preliminary Patterns in Circumstances Surrounding Opioid-Related Deaths in Ontario during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

- 5.2 Report [2021-INFO-60](#) provided an update on the report: [Changing Circumstances Surrounding Opioid-Related Deaths in Ontario During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).
- 5.3 Report [2022-INFO-10](#) provided an update on the report: [Patterns of Medication and Healthcare Use Among People Who Died of Opioid-Related Toxicity During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Ontario](#).
- 5.4 Report [2022-INFO-67](#) provided an update on the report: [Lives Lost to Opioid Toxicity among Ontarians Who Worked in the Construction Industry](#).
- 5.5 Report [2023-INFO-60](#) provided an update on the report: [Opioid Toxicity and Access to Treatment among Adolescents and Young Adults in Ontario](#).
- 5.6 Report [2023-INFO-83](#) provided an update on the report: [Characteristics of Substance-Related Toxicity Deaths in Ontario: Stimulant, Opioid, Benzodiazepine, and Alcohol-Related Deaths](#).

6. Relationship to Strategic Plan

6.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goal and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

a. Goal 2: Community Vitality

- 2.3: Enhance community safety and well-being
- 2.4: Influence the social determinants of health to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The ODPRN and PHO report demonstrates that many individuals interacted with hospital care to treat non-fatal substance-related toxicity events or a substance use disorder. However, recent medical treatment among individuals with substance use disorders is low, identifying missed opportunities.
- 7.2 The findings of the report suggest the need for broad access to harm reduction, health, and social care programs, and for improved coordination of care throughout the healthcare system and other sectors. This will support rapid identification of individuals' health and social needs related to their substance use and a comprehensive approach to the complex needs of polysubstance users.
- 7.3 DRHD continues to: inform residents of the risks of substance use; keep community partners and the public informed about substance use activity; and implement harm reduction initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



EARLY RELEASE OF REPORT

**The Regional Municipality of Durham
Report**

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2024-P-**
Date: April 2, 2024

Subject:

Decision Meeting Report

Application to Amend the Durham Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Thornlea Holsteins Ltd., to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties, in the Municipality of Clarington, File: OPA 2023-002 (Regional Official Plan Amendment #198).

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

- A) That Amendment #198 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, be adopted as contained in Attachment #3 to Commissioner's Report #2024-P-**;
 - B) That "Notice of Adoption" be sent to the applicant, the applicant's agent, the Municipality of Clarington, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and all other person or public bodies who requested notification of this decision; and
 - C) That the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to modify the Council adopted Durham Regional Official Plan as shown on Attachment 4 so that the approvals granted by Regional Council through Amendment #198 are carried forward and properly reflected in the Region's new Official Plan which is currently pending approval by the Minister.
-

Report:**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 On January 27, 2023, Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Thornlea Holsteins Ltd. submitted an application to amend the Regional Official Plan (ROP) to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation on non-abutting farm parcels in the Municipality of Clarington.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 On April 4, 2023, the Planning and Economic Development Committee received the Public Meeting Report #2023-P-9, which includes details of the proposed non-abutting surplus farm dwelling severance.

3. Site Description

- 3.1 The subject site is located on the north side of Concession Road 5, west side of East Townline Road. The property is municipally known as 4854 Concession Road 5 and is located at Part of Lot 1, Concession 5 in the Municipality of Clarington (refer to Attachment #1).
- 3.2 The subject site is a rectangular shape and is approximately 39.7 hectares (98 acres) in size. The southern portion of the site contains an existing house, barn, driveshed and a silo. The existing silo is to be removed. A wooded area is located in the northeast portion of the site. The existing house is rented to a tenant who is not involved with the farming operation.
- 3.3 The surrounding land uses to the subject site includes:
- a. North - Agricultural land, wooded area, and rural residences
 - b. East – East Townline Road, agricultural land, rural residences
 - c. South – Concession Road 5, rural residences, agricultural land, woodlot
 - d. West – Wooded area, agricultural areas, and rural residences

4. Background

- 4.1 Thornlea Holsteins Ltd. has applied to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan (ROP) to permit the severance of a 0.3 ha (0.7 acre) rural residential parcel of land containing a farm dwelling, driveshed and the barn from a 39.7 hectare (98 acre) farm parcel.

- 4.2 The applicant has submitted a concurrent related Zoning By-law Amendment Application with the Municipality of Clarington to rezone the proposed retained farm parcel to prohibit any further severances, and the construction of any new dwellings, and rezone the barn to prohibit its use for livestock.

5. Reports Submitted in Support of the Application

- 5.1 A Planning Justification Report/Agricultural Assessment prepared by Clark Consulting Services Ltd. dated January 27, 2023, has been submitted in support of the application. The report concludes that the proposed amendment meets the objectives and requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement, the Greenbelt Plan, the Regional Official Plan, the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, and the Provincial Minimum Distance of Separation (MDS) requirements.
- 5.2 An Environmental Site-Screening Questionnaire dated December 21, 2023, completed by GHD Ltd., reported the subject land as having low level of environmental concerns and no further assessment is required.

6. Provincial Plans and Policies

- 6.1 The subject site is located within the Protected Countryside designation of the Greenbelt Plan. Both the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, and Greenbelt Plan permit the severance of a residence surplus to a farming operation as a result of farm consolidation, provided the planning authority ensures that a residential dwelling is not permitted on the proposed retained farm lot created by the severance and will be limited to the minimum size needed to accommodate the use.

7. Durham Regional Official Plan (ROP) Context

- 7.1 The subject site is located within the “Prime Agricultural Areas” designation in the current ROP. Severance applications for the agricultural uses may be considered in accordance with the relevant policies of the Sub-Section 9A of the current ROP.
- 7.2 Policy 9A.2.10 of the current ROP permits the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of a farmer acquiring a non-abutting farm, provided that:
- a. the dwelling is not need for a farm employee;
 - b. the farm parcel is a size which is viable for farming operations;
 - c. for sites within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Plan, the dwelling was in existence as of December 16, 2004; and

- d. the farm parcel is zoned to prohibit any further severance or the establishment of any residential dwelling.

The current ROP also states that no further severance shall be permitted from the acquired farm parcel.

8. Planning Analysis

- 8.1 Thornlea Holsteins Ltd. owns a total of six agricultural properties in the Municipality of Clarington. The house located on the subject site is not utilized by a farm employee and is surplus to the farm operations as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels.
- 8.2 The severance of the surplus dwelling will not have an impact on the current farming operation. The proposed retained farm parcel will continue to remain a viable farm size for agriculture use. The subject dwelling existed prior to December 16, 2004, when the Greenbelt Plan came into effect.
- 8.3 The proposed Amendment to the Regional Official Plan requires that the retained farm parcel be rezoned to prohibit any further severances, the construction of any new dwellings, and rezone the barn to prohibit its use for livestock.
- 8.4 The proposed amendment is consistent with the PPS (2020) and conforms with the Greenbelt Plan (2017) and the Durham Regional Official Plan.

9. Public Meeting and Submissions

- 9.1 In accordance with the Planning Act, a notice of public meeting regarding this application was published in the appropriate newspaper, mailed to those who own lands within 120 metres (400 feet) of the subject lands, and a public meeting was held on April 4, 2023. Commissioner's Report #2023-P-9 provides information on the application.
- 9.2 The Region did not receive any written submissions from the public related to the proposed amendment application. The applicant's consultant was present at the Public Meeting to answer questions of Committee.

10. Consultation

- 10.1 On February 26, the Municipality of Clarington provided supporting comments for the proposed Regional Official Plan Amendment application.

10.2 The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, the Regional Health Department, the Regional Works Department, the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee and the Municipality of Port Hope have also indicated they have no concerns with the approval of the proposed application.

10.3 No comments or concerns were received from any member of the public.

11. Notice of Meeting

11.1 Written notification of the meeting time and location of the Planning and Economic Development Committee was sent to all that requested notification, in accordance with Regional Council procedure.

11.2 The recommendation of the Planning and Economic Development Committee is scheduled to be considered by the Regional Council on March 5, 2024. If Council adopts the proposed Amendment, notice will be given by the Regional Clerk and Council's decision will be final unless appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

12. Relationship to Strategic Plan

12.1 In the processing of ROPA amendment applications, the objective is to ensure responsive, effective and fiscally sustainable service delivery in accordance with Goal 5 of the Durham Region Strategic Plan, "Service Excellence".

12.2 Goal 3 of the Durham Region Strategic Plan promotes Economic Prosperity. The application specifically supports the Goal 3.5 "Provide a supportive environment for agriculture and agricultural food industries".

13. Conclusion

13.1 The proposed amendment is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms with the policies of the Greenbelt Plan and the current Durham Regional Official Plan. The required implementing Zoning By-law will prohibit any further severances and the construction of new dwellings on the retained farm parcel. Accordingly, it is recommended that Amendment #198 to the ROP, as shown on Attachment #3, be adopted.

13.2 During the transition period between the current and in-effect ROP (2020 consolidation) and prior to the Minister of Municipal and Housing's approval of the Council adopted ROP (Envision Durham), it is recommended that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing also be requested to include an amendment, as

contained in Attachment 4, as a modification to the adopted Regional Official Plan through its approval process.

14. Attachments

Attachment #1: Location Sketch

Attachment #2: Applicant's Total Land Holdings

Attachment #3: Amendment #198 to the Durham Regional Official Plan

Attachment #4: Modification to Council adopted ROP (Envision Durham)

Respectfully submitted,

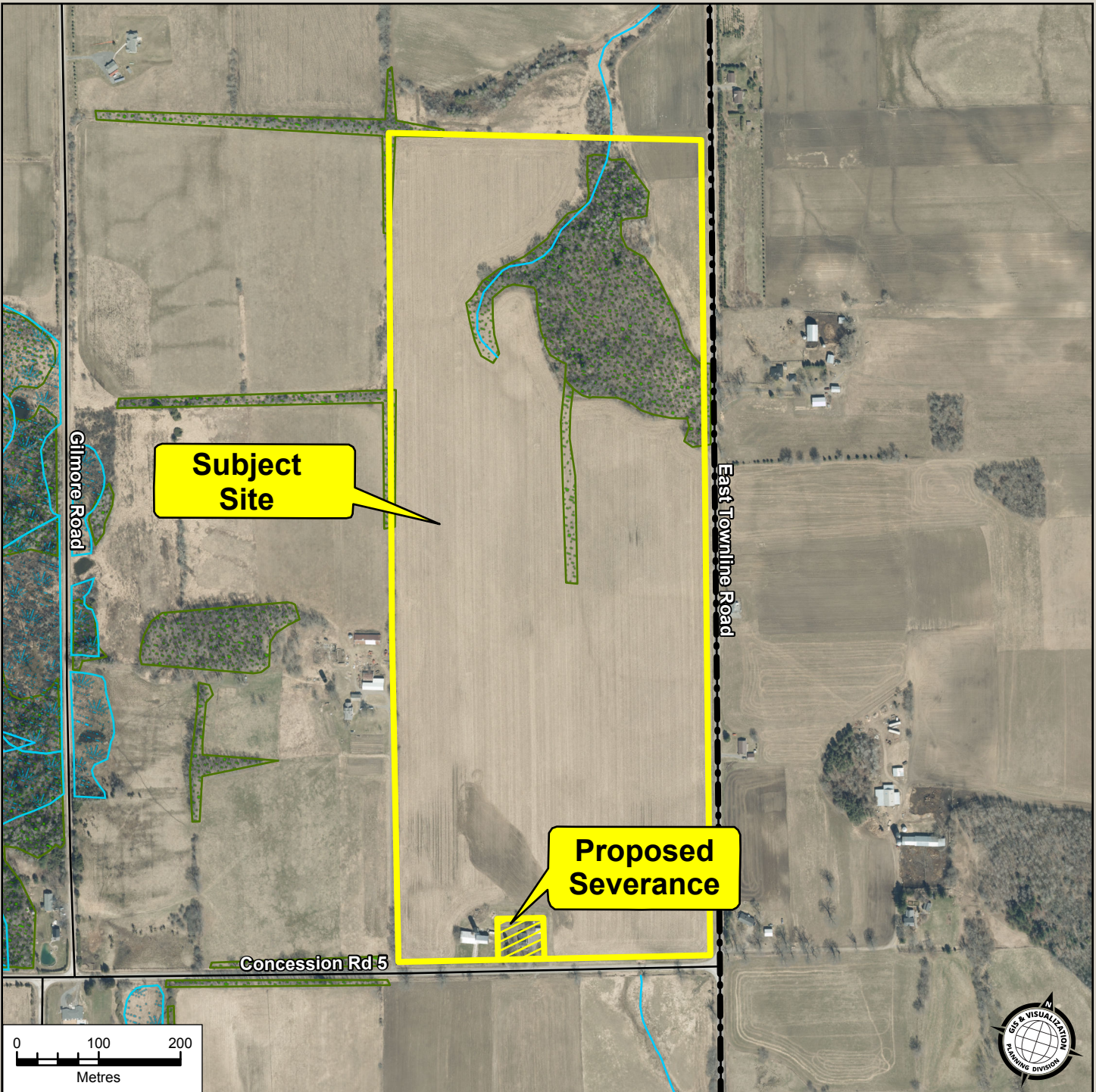
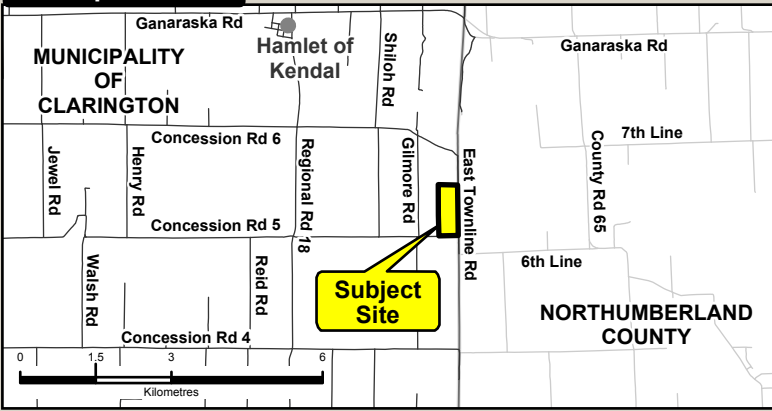
Original signed by

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

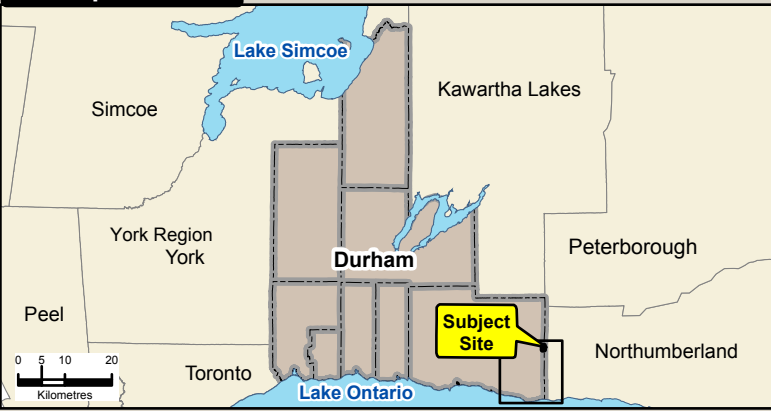
Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

Municipal Context






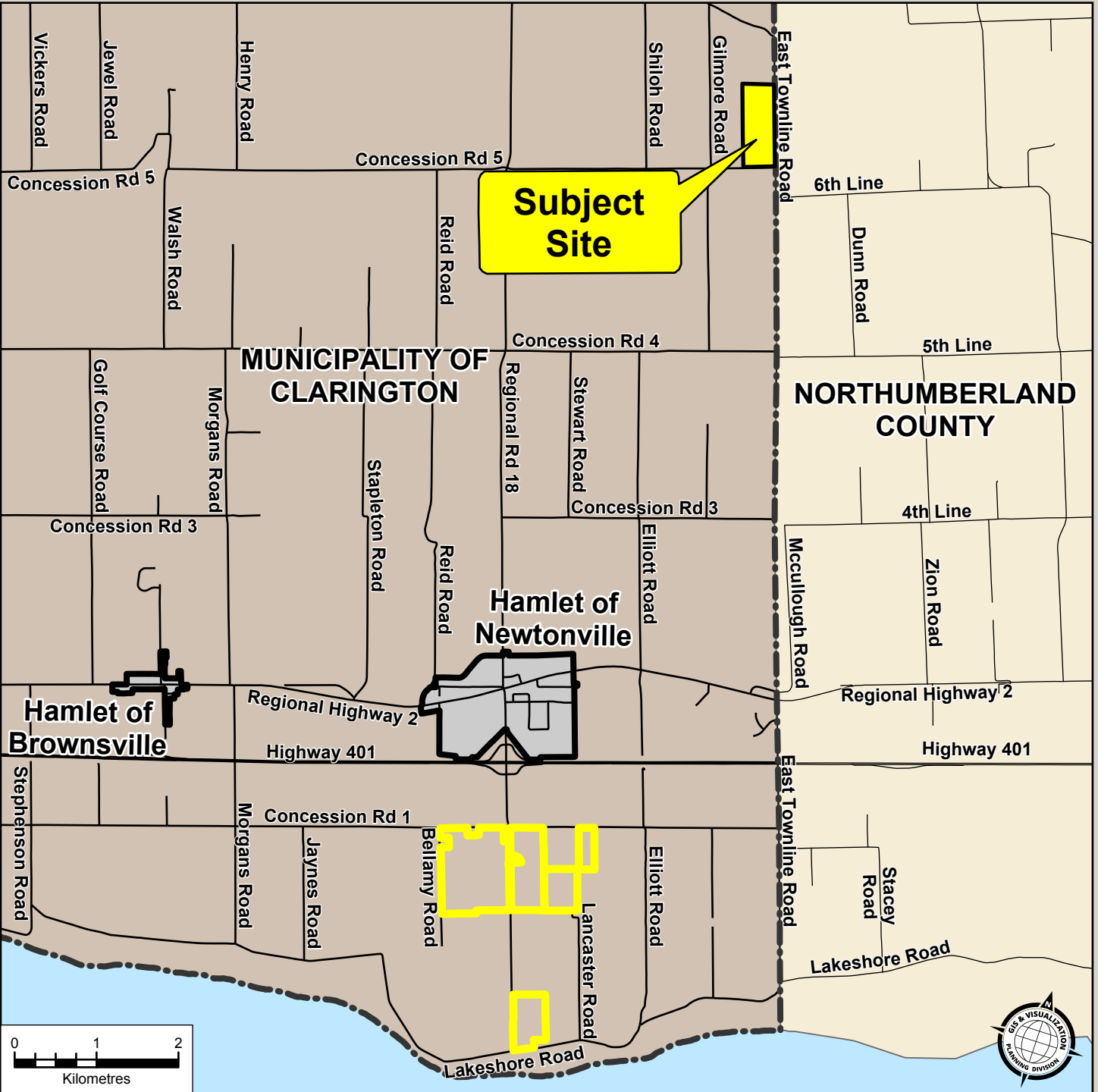
Municipal Context



Attachment #2
Commissioner's Report: #2024-P-**
File: ROPA 2023-002
Municipality: Municipality of Clarington

Legend

-  Subject Site
-  Other Lands Owned by Thornlea Holsteins Ltd.
-  Municipal Boundary



Amendment #198 to the Durham Regional Official Plan

Purpose and Effect: The purpose and effect of this Amendment is to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels on lands designated as “Prime Agricultural Areas.”

Location: The subject site is located on the north side of Concession Road 5, west side of East Townline Road. The property is municipally known as 4854 Concession Road 5 and is part of Lot 1, Concession 5 in the Municipality of Clarington.

Basis: The residential dwelling on the subject site is not required by and is a surplus to the farm operation. The amendment conforms with the Durham Regional Official Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.

Amendment (Current Regional Official Plan- 2020 Consolidation):

The Durham Regional Official Plan is hereby amended by adding the following policy exception to Section 9A.3.2:

“9A.3.2 (iii) A surplus farm dwelling rendered surplus from the parcel identified as Assessment No. 18-39-050-005-28300 located in Part of Lot 1, Concession 5 in the Municipality of Clarington, subject to the inclusion of the provisions in the zoning by-law to prohibit the construction of any new dwelling on the retained parcel; and the use of the existing barn for housing livestock. In accordance with Provincial and Regional policies, no further severances of the property are permitted.

Implementation: The provisions set forth in the Durham Regional Official Plan regarding the implementation of the Plan shall apply in regards to this Amendment.

Interpretation: The provisions set forth in the Durham Regional Official Plan regarding the interpretation of the Plan shall apply in regards to this Amendment.

Request by Durham Region Council to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to Modify the Durham Regional Official Plan

Request: Durham Region Council hereby requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing modify the new Durham Regional Official Plan as adopted on May 17, 2023 by adding the following policy exception to Section 10.4:

“10.4.20 iii) a surplus farm dwelling rendered surplus from the parcel identified as Assessment No. 18-39-050-005-28300 located in Part of Lot 1, Concession 5, in the Municipality of Clarington, subject to the inclusion of the provisions in the zoning by-law to prohibit the construction of any new dwelling on the retained parcel; and the use of the existing barn for housing livestock. In accordance with Provincial and Regional policies, no further severances of the property are permitted;”


Rationale: On May 17, 2023, Durham Region Council adopted a brand new Regional Official Plan which is currently before the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing pending approval. On April 24, 2024, Durham Regional Council adopted Amendment #198 to the currently in effect (the “old”) Official Plan to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Municipality of Clarington. This requested modification to the new Official Plan will enable the permissions granted by Amendment #198 to be carried forward and property reflected in the new Official Plan.

File: 03-05

March 4, 2024

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL
clerks@durham.ca

Regional Clerk

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 8:57 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Pilot Curbside Giveaway Event (All Wards)

This is in response to your correspondence dated December 20, 2023 to Oshawa City Council concerning the above-referenced matter.

Oshawa City Council considered the matter at its meeting of February 26, 2024 and adopted the following recommendation:

“Whereas on September 16, 2023 the “Curbside Giveaway Day” took place in all local area municipalities across the Region of Durham, with the exception of the City of Oshawa; and,

Whereas the program was well received from participating local municipalities with by-law enforcement reporting no increase in waste materials left at the curb after the event; and,

Whereas on December 20, 2023, Regional Council adopted the following resolution pursuant to Report 2023-WR-8 “Pilot Curbside Giveaway Event Summary and Recommendations”, dated December 6, 2023:

- A. “That the Regional Municipality of Durham implements a Curbside Giveaway Event twice per year in the Spring and Fall; and
- B. That Regional staff work with the City of Oshawa and the Town of Whitby to include them in these events if approved by their respective Councils.”; and

Whereas 2024 dates have been scheduled for May 4th and September 14th, and will be promoted by the Region; and,

Whereas staff received feedback from community members interested in participating in the event; and,

Whereas there is not expected to be any financial impact to the City; and,

Therefore be it resolved that the City of Oshawa participate in the annual "Curbside Giveaway Event' in conjunction with the Region of Durham and the Town of Whitby".


If you need further assistance concerning the above matter, please contact Kevin Alexander, Commissioner, Community and Operations Services, at the address listed below or by telephone at 905-436-3311.

Mary Medeiros
Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk



/pa

c: Community and Operations Services Department

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|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:12 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

SUBJECT : Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren at its meeting on February 20, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

Resolution #2024-35

Moved by: Francine Bérubé
Seconded by: Maurice

Turcot

BACKGROUND

The Municipality of Markstay Warren is responsible for 6 cemeteries. This is a similar situation in many municipalities in Ontario, and that trend will continue. Several municipalities in the Province have passed resolutions asking for annual funding, staff training as well as appropriate and affordable software development for all municipalities to use to administer these cemeteries.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff have reviewed this issue and recommend that the Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren pass the proposed resolution.

Resolution

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or

abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Carey Roy a/s Kim Morris

Kim T. Morris

CAO/Clerk

DG/Greffière

Municipality of Markstay-Warren

(705)853-4536 ext. 202

Email: kmorris@markstay-warren.ca




Virus-free. www.avg.com

March 8, 2024

Municipality of Wawa
Office of the Clerk
Municipal Office
40 Broadway Avenue
PO Box 500
Wawa, ON P0S 1K0

Email: slord@swawa.cc

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 10:08 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Support Bill C-310 and Enact Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act

Further to correspondence received from the Municipality Wawa calling on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax, the Council of the Town of Hanover passed the following resolution;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL | Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the Council of the Town of Hanover support the recommendation of the Municipality of Wawa calling upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

CARRIED

Respectfully,



Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk

cc: Honourable Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC23265 | Meeting Order: 10 |
| Moved by: <i>Cathy Fannon</i> | Seconded by: <i>J. Mal</i> |

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

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

Clerk: _____

| MAYOR - MELANIE PILON | CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | |

This document is available in alternate formats.



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

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|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:49 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

February 23, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation

Sent by email to: Premier@ontario.ca; Minister.mto@ontario.ca

Re: Resolution on Highway 413

At its regular meeting of Council held on February 21, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 3

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas the Township of Amaranth recognizes the importance for efficient and effective transportation networks in the Province and;

Whereas, the Province has committed to getting 1.5 millions home built within the next 10 years or less.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Township of Amaranth request that the Province of Ontario pause advancement on proposed highway 413 and redirect the approximate \$8 billion cost for highway 413 to support municipal infrastructure costs and housing construction initiatives and;

Further be it resolved that at least 50% of those funds be allocated for small urban and rural Ontario with populations less than 50,000. **CARRIED**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk

Copy: Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org
Hon. Kinga Surma, MPP Etobicoke Centre kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org
Dufferin County Municipalities

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca

| | |
|--|--|
| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:21 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



Friday, March 8, 2024

Rural Ontario Municipal Association
ATTN: Board of Directors

SENT VIA EMAIL: roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Good Roads Association
ATTN: Board of Directors

SENT VIA EMAIL: info@goodroads.ca

RE: Return to Combined ROMA and OGRA Conferences

Dear ROMA & OGRA Board of Directors,

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, February 26, 2024, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Kelly
Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

WHEREAS as a past attendee of combined conferences, it makes great sense for the OGRA & ROMA conferences to be returned to a combined conference effort, not only financially for the municipality but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff; and

WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, returning to a combined conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation; and

WHEREAS during the 2019 OGRA conference AGM a resolution was passed regarding the re-establishment of an annual combined conference for both OGRA & ROMA; and

WHEREAS it is understandable that little movement has happened since the resolution at the 2019 OGRA conference AGM was passed, due to delays of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person, that a hybrid participation option be considered for the sessions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Petrolia call upon both the ROMA & OGRA boards to re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference.

FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MPP Ben Lobb and be circulated to Municipalities of Ontario; as amended.

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 519-524-8344 ext. 210 or afisher@goderich.ca.

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/ar

cc. Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca
Hon. Paul Calandra Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron–Bruce lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
Mandi Pearson, Clerk/Operations Clerk mpearson@petrolia.ca
Ontario Municipalities



| | |
|--|--|
| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 10:21 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
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| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

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

The Honorable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Minister.mah@ontario.ca

DEVLIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Hanover regarding a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.

Motion023-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican
Seconded by Councillor Grace Hamm

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity.

CARRIED

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc. Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478

Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



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

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,




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



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

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 10:24 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: National Fire Fighting Strategy

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Municipality of Calvin regarding a review of the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Motion024-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican

Seconded by Councillor Glenn Locke

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc.

Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

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"/> |



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|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:13 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Legislative Services
 Michael de Rond
 905-726-4771
 clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
 100 John West Way, Box 1000
 Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

March 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 Premier's Office, Room 281
 Legislative Building, Queen's Park
 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
 premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024
 Member Motion 8.1.9 - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Council/Committee Meeting
 Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Province expanded Strong Mayor Powers to municipalities over 50,000 in population, who committed to a housing pledge in the fall of 2023 to help address the housing crisis, but was not mandatory to accept with a housing pledge; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora head of council has the discretion whether to use the strong mayor powers, except for those dealing with the budget; and

Whereas strong mayor powers permit the head of council the ability to create new committees of council made under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, where all members are council members, and assign their functions. The head of council is also able to appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of such committees of council;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council requests that the Mayor reconsider using strong mayor powers to alter the current structure of Council and/or committee meetings, but rather remains the same as officials were originally elected to do; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, and all Ontario municipalities.**

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024
Council/Committee Meeting Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers
March 6, 2024

2 of 2

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael de Rond".

Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the Standing Committee Reports, items 8.1 and 8.2, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.1.7, 8.1.8, 8.2.1, 8.2.4, 8.2.6, and 8.2.8, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.1 General Committee Meeting Report of February 6, 2024

8.1.9 Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Council/Committee Meeting Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers

Whereas the Province expanded Strong Mayor Powers to municipalities over 50,000 in population, who committed to a housing pledge in the fall of 2023 to help address the housing crisis, but was not mandatory to accept with a housing pledge; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora head of council has the discretion whether to use the strong mayor powers, except for those dealing with the budget; and

Whereas strong mayor powers permit the head of council the ability to create new committees of council made under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, where all members are council members, and assign their functions. The head of council is also able to appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of such committees of council;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council requests that the Mayor reconsider using strong mayor powers to alter the current structure of Council and/or committee meetings, but

rather remains the same as officials were originally elected to do; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried



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|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:16 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Legislative Services
 Michael de Rond
 905-726-4771
 clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
 100 John West Way, Box 1000
 Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

March 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 Premier's Office, Room 281
 Legislative Building, Queen's Park
 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
 premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024
 Member Motion 8.2.8 - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Legislative Amendments to
 Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

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

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

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

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

**Whereas municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of
 council member behaviour; and**

**Whereas municipal governments have limited abilities in their toolkit to
 adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct; and**

**Whereas the most severe penalty that can be imposed on a municipal
 member of council is the suspension of pay for 90 days, even when
 egregious acts are committed and substantiated; and**

**Whereas AMO has called on the government to table and pass legislation
 that reflects the following recommendations:**

- **Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment**
 - **Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario**
 - **Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province**
 - **Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner**
 - **Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office;**
1. **Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora supports the call of action the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has submitted to the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them, in consultation with municipal governments; and**
 2. **Be It Further Resolved That the legislation encompasses the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's letter of recommendations which includes options for enforcing compliance by council members with municipal Codes of Conduct such as**
 - **Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment**
 - **Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario**
 - **Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province**
 - **Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner**
 - **Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office; and**

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, the Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all 444 Ontario municipalities.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

8.2 General Committee Meeting Report of February 20, 2024

8.2.8 Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

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

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

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

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

Whereas municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour; and

Whereas municipal governments have limited abilities in their toolkit to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct; and

Whereas the most severe penalty that can be imposed on a municipal member of council is the suspension of pay for 90 days, even when egregious acts are committed and substantiated; and

Whereas AMO has called on the government to table and pass legislation that reflects the following recommendations:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment

- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
 - Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
 - Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
 - Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office;
1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora supports the call of action the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, (AMO), has submitted to the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them, in consultation with municipal governments; and
 2. Be It Further Resolved That the legislation encompasses the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's letter of recommendations which includes options for enforcing compliance by council members with municipal Codes of Conduct such as
 - Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
 - Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
 - Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
 - Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
 - Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office; and


3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora–Oak Ridges–Richmond Hill, and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket–Aurora, the Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all 444 Ontario municipalities.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)



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|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:34 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Legislative Services
 Michael de Rond
 905-726-4771
 clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
 100 John West Way, Box 1000
 Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

March 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 Premier's Office, Room 281
 Legislative Building, Queen's Park
 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
 premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024
 Member Motion 8.2.7 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing
 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend
 Gymnasium Use**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the importance of fostering community engagement and providing recreational opportunities; and

Whereas schools are funded by local taxpayers; and

Whereas school gymnasiums serve as valuable amenities that can enhance recreational activities for residents; and

Whereas existing school board policies/procedures do not prioritize municipal residency within their allocation of the use of space; and

Whereas the school board charges a premium rate to use the schools on weekends causing a barrier for the Town or local organizations to afford;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That this Council requests the Province and the Minister of Education to assist in making school board facilities available to local municipalities on a priority, at a cost recovery rate; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That Council requests the School Boards within the jurisdiction of the Town of Aurora to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town for the shared use of school gymnasiums on evenings and weekends; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this request be sent to the relevant School Boards, expressing the Town's interest in establishing a collaborative agreement for evening and weekend gymnasium access; and**

- 4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town staff is directed to collaborate with the School Boards in drafting the terms and conditions of the MOU, ensuring clarity and fairness in the shared use of these facilities; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That upon reaching an agreement, the MOU shall be presented to Council for review and approval; and**
- 6. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party, Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and**
- 7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: York Region District School Board
York Catholic District School Board
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party
Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
All Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the Standing Committee Reports, items 8.1 and 8.2, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.1.7, 8.1.8, 8.2.1, 8.2.4, 8.2.6, and 8.2.8, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.2 General Committee Meeting Report of February 20, 2024

8.2.7 Member Motion - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend Gymnasium Use

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the importance of fostering community engagement and providing recreational opportunities; and

Whereas schools are funded by local taxpayers; and

Whereas school gymnasiums serve as valuable amenities that can enhance recreational activities for residents; and

Whereas existing school board policies/procedures do not prioritize municipal residency within their allocation of the use of space; and

Whereas the school board charges a premium rate to use the schools on weekends causing a barrier for the Town or local organizations to afford;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That this Council requests the Province and the Minister of Education to assist in making

school board facilities available to local municipalities on a priority, at a cost recovery rate; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That Council requests the School Boards within the jurisdiction of the Town of Aurora to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town for the shared use of school gymnasiums on evenings and weekends; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this request be sent to the relevant School Boards, expressing the Town's interest in establishing a collaborative agreement for evening and weekend gymnasium access; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town staff is directed to collaborate with the School Boards in drafting the terms and conditions of the MOU, ensuring clarity and fairness in the shared use of these facilities; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That upon reaching an agreement, the MOU shall be presented to Council for review and approval; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party, Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and
7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.

Carried



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

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

Delivered via email
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 10:12 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

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

March 11, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Provincial and Federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario); Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South; David Piccini, MPP,



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

Northumberland-Peterborough South; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all
Municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

cc. the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario);
the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and
Communities (Canada);
the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
(Ontario);
Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
David Piccini, MPP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
AMO;
ROMA;
FCM; and
all Ontario Municipalities




The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

All Ontario Municipalities

Sent via email

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:38 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

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

March 8, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the Architectural Conservancy Ontario regarding Proposed Amendment to Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to the removal of listed (non-designated) properties from municipal heritage registers

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act on or before January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS since January 1, 2023, municipal staff and members of the municipal heritage committee in the Town of Cobourg have been diligently working to: review the municipal heritage register; research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties; review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties; contact owners of such properties; determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

WHEREAS the above-noted work involving 213 listed properties in the Town of Cobourg is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024 with the limited municipal resources available.



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Cobourg authorize the Mayor to promptly send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act be amended to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to forward this resolution to all 443 municipalities in Ontario seeking support of the ACO correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristina Lepik".

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

P.O. Box 490
7 Creswell Drive
Trenton, Ontario K8V 5R6
www.quintewest.ca



A Natural Attraction

Tel: 613-392-2841
Toll Free: 1-866-485-2841
josh.machesney@quintewest.ca
clerk@quintewest.ca

Josh Machesney, City Clerk / Manager of Legislative Services

March 7, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via Email - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:25 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

RE: Notice of Motion – Councillor Stedall – Housing Funding

Dear Prime Minister:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on March 6, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 24-167 – Notice of Motion – Housing Funding

Moved by Councillor Stedall

Seconded by Councillor Armstrong

Whereas the City of Quinte West is in need of \$28M in funding to complete the West End Trunk Sewer Main replacement in 2024, which is critical in the ongoing development of new homes in Quinte West;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West requires \$58.6M in funding to upgrade the Trenton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade building to accommodate new homes to be built;

And Whereas the City cannot afford to increase Water, Sewer or Tax rates to fund all of this infrastructure;

And Whereas increased Debt to build the projects will just increase costs to Water, Sewer and Tax rates, or increased costs to developers;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West is currently experiencing a housing crisis from all citizens but specifically with regards to over 250 requiring housing, from Military members of CFB Trenton;

And Whereas City Council approved a Housing Action Plan with a projected 831 new residential units to be completed based on anticipated Housing Accelerator Fund funding over 3 years;

And Whereas the Federal government denied the City of Quinte West the Housing Accelerator Fund;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West is not currently eligible for funding under the Provincial Building Faster Fund as its population is below the threshold;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West may make application to the provincial Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund which has only \$200M available in funding of which the province would only fund up to 73% to a maximum of \$35M for one project;

And Whereas additional funding has not been allocated from the Federal Government to enhance the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Funding;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the City of Quinte West calls on the Federal Government to re-evaluate their lack of funding for municipalities with a population less than 50,000 in rural Ontario and to make available funding for infrastructure programs to help build infrastructure to help build much-needed new homes;

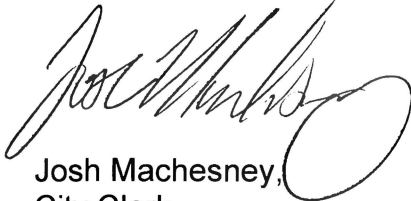
And Further That the Province of Ontario be asked to invest more than the currently allocated \$200M into their Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund;

And Further That this motion be circulated to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Federal Minister for Housing, Ryan Williams MP, Premier Doug Ford, the Provincial Ministers of MOI, MMAH, and Todd Smith MPP, and all municipalities, for their support. **Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours Truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST



Josh Machesney,
City Clerk

cc: Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Todd Smith, MPP, Bay of Quinte
All Municipalities



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk
160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5
Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010
Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

March 7, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Attention: County of Northumberland

**RE: Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to
Clarify the Definition of Employer**


Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on March 4, 2024, received, and endorsed the correspondence from The Corporation of the County of Northumberland dated February 22, 2024, regarding support for amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer with the following motion:

Moved: Councillor Howe

Seconded: Councillor Davoli

Resolved that Council endorse Northumberland County's resolution regarding support for amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of Employer.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 8:51 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "V Steele". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "V".

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills
Development
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 22, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Northumberland County Resolution –
'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify
the Definition of Employer'**

At a meeting held on February 21, 2024 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109 adopting the below recommendation from the February 6, 2024 Corporate Support Committee meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Lucas Cleveland
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"That the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at matherm@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M Mather".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution


Moved By L. Cleveland Agenda Item 10 Resolution Number 2024-02-21-109
 Seconded By O. Anushko
 Council Date: February 21, 2024

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the four Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held February 6 and 7), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

| Committee Name | Item # | Description | Held By |
|----------------|--------|---|---------|
| | | - Social Services Committee, Item 7.a, 'Correspondence, '310 Division Street, Cobourg' – Held by Councillor Cleveland | |

And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
 Councillor's Name

Carried 
 Warden's Signature

Deferred _____
 Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
 Warden's Signature

Corporate Support Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: February 6, 2024

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2024-02-06-071

Moved by: S. Dibb

Seconded by: B. Ostrander

Council Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

"That the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried 
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
Committee Chair's Signature



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca
DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

January 15th 2024

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10th 2024, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

Motion 14

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bob Bailey, MPP – Sarnia-Lambton
Association of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario's Big City Mayors
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario
Council of Ontario Construction Associations
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

Sent Via Email

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

PO BOX 5000 STN A
200 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCCA
200, RUE BRADY
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

www.greatersudbury.ca
www.grandsudbury.ca

CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;

AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;

AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;

AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;

AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Yours truly,



Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

69 FOURTH AVENUE, P. O. BOX 40, LARDER LAKE, ON P0K 1L0

PH: 705-643-2158 FAX: 705-643-2311

LARDERLAKE.CA

January 11th, 2024

Sent Via Email

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, the following resolution of support was adopted:

Resolution: 4

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

Crystal Labbe

CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON
 Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

Paul Kelly

SECONDED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

Mayor Quinn

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities OF Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Reginal Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Recorded vote requested:

| | For | Against |
|----------------|-----|---------|
| Tom Armstrong | | |
| Patricia Hull | | |
| Paul Kelly | | |
| Lynne Paquette | | |
| Patty Quinn | | |

I declare this motion

| |
|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date) |
| Because: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body) |
| Expected response: _____ (enter date) |

| |
|--|
| Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest* |
| |
| |


Chair:

[Signature]

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**
Office of the Town Clerk
160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5
Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010
Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 9:01 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

March 7, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

332 Picton Main Street,
Picton, ON, K0K 2T0

Attention: Catalina Blumenberg, Clerk

Dear: Clerk Blumenberg

RE: Support for a Review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on March 4, 2024, received, and endorsed the correspondence from The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward dated February 16, 2024, regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates with the following motion:

Moved: Councillor Korstanje

Seconded: Councillor Freake

Resolved that Council endorse the County of Prince Edward's resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "V Steele".

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services
Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
The Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
All Ontario Municipalities

WHEREAS designated Service Managers are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity, or tools to provide the necessary income and health related supports to people experiencing poverty; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the Provincial Government to immediately develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to address the rising levels of poverty in Ontario, in particular for those on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County joins the Town of Orangeville to calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation, answering calls already made by “Raise the Rates” campaign and the “Income Security Advocacy Centre”;
- b) Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;
- c) Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch, and Marcia Wallace, CAO

February 16, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of February 13, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-81

DATE: February 13, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS poverty is taking a devastating toll on communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, with people in receipt of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program being disproportionately impacted;

WHEREAS the cost of food, housing, medicine, and other essential items have outpaced the highest inflation rates seen in a generation;

WHEREAS people in need of social assistance have been legislated into poverty, housing insecurity, hunger, poorer health, their motives questioned, and their dignity undermined;

WHEREAS Ontario Works (OW) Financial Assistance rates have been frozen since 2018 (\$733 per month);

WHEREAS Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefit rates have been increased by 6.5 per cent as of July 2023 to keep up with inflation, however even with the increase, ODSP rates still fall below their value in 2018 (\$1,376 when adjusted for inflation) and significantly below the disability-adjusted poverty line (\$3,091 per month)

WHEREAS OW and ODSP rates do not provide sufficient income for a basic standard of living and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of people across Ontario who rely on these programs live in poverty;

WHEREAS the poverty risk profile for Prince Edward County created by Vital Signs states that 10.1% - 13.5% of County residents are living on low income;

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 12, 2024 10:18 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Good morning.

Council has passed a resolution, shown below, in support of the Municipality of St. Charles relating to a fully funded Municipal Equipment Operator Course.

Resolution: 2024-89

Moved by: Dan O'Halloran

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 2024=043 from Municipality of St. Charles calling on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund. Carried

Best regards,

Cheryl Marshall,

Clerk/Treasurer

Township of McMurrich/Monteith

P.O. Box 70, 31 William Street

Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0

Phone: 705-685-7901 Fax: 705-685-7393

www.mcmurrichmonteith.com

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From: Tammy Godden <clerk@stcharlesontario.ca>

Good Afternoon:

At its Regular Meeting of Council held February 21, 2024, the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles passed the following Resolution 2024-043.

Tammy J. Godden (she/her)
Clerk, Municipality of St.-Charles

2 King Street East

P.O. Box 70

St.-Charles, ON, P0M 2W0

Clerk@stcharlesontario.ca

Tel: 705-867-2032 Ext. 207

Toll Free: 1-877-867-2032

Fax: 705-867-5789



www.stcharlesontario.ca

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Town of Kearney

| | |
|--|--|
| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 13, 2024 3:51 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Website: <http://townofkearney.ca>
 Phone: 705 636 7752
 Fax: 705 636 0527

P.O. Box 38
 8 Main Street
 Kearney, Ontario
 POA 1M0

March 13, 2024

Hon. Todd McCarthy
 Minister of Public and
 Business Service Delivery
 5th Floor 777 Bay St.
 Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
 VIA EMAIL: Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
 CEO/Registrar
 100 Sheppard Avenue East,
 Suite 500
 Toronto ON M2N 6N5
 VIA EMAIL: info@thebao.ca

MPP Graydon Smith
Constituency office
 230 Manitoba St.
 Bracebridge, ON P1L 2E1
 VIA EMAIL: Graydon.Smith@pc.ola.org

Re: 9.1 Township of Puslinch Council Resolution 2024-003 regarding Cemetery Administration Management

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, at its meeting held on March 7, 2024, considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution 2024-82: Moved by: Councillor Sharer, Seconded by: Councillor Pateman

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the Resolutions of Puslinch Council, Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

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

Sincerely,

Cindy Filmore
 Deputy Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities



Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and
Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
VIA EMAIL:

Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

MPP Jill Dunlop
Unit 9
575 West St. S
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6
VIA EMAIL:
Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL:
info@thebao.ca

MPP Brian Saunderson
Suite 28
180 Parsons Rd.
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8
VIA EMAIL:
Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org

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

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-003: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED



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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Ontario Municipalities



CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

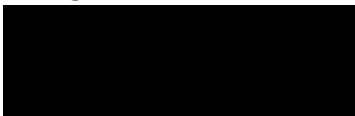
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities



To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

| Cemetery Name | Address | Status |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Batteau Hill Cemetery | 2670 County Road 124, Duntroon | Inactive |
| Bethel Union Cemetery | 2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell | Inactive |
| Dunedin Union Cemetery | 9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin | Active |
| Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery | 2870 County Road 124, Duntroon | Inactive |
| Lavender Cemetery | 827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore | Active |
| Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery | 6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners | Inactive |
| Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery | 2279 County Road 42, Stayner | Active |
| Stayner Union Cemetery | 7661 Highway 26, Stayner | Active |
| Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery | 12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners | Inactive |

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- Increased regulatory processes

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- Inconsistent cemetery regulations

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- High maintenance costs

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- Cost of cemetery management software

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

| | |
|--|---|
| Submitted by: | Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services |
| Reviewed by: | Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk |
| Financial Implications Reviewed by: | Kelly McDonald, Treasurer |
| Approved by: | John Ferguson, CAO |

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

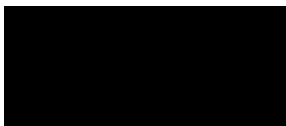
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,



Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 15, 2024

A regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: J. Cuthbertson, Member at Large, Chair
B. Baszyk, Brock
G. Carpentier, Scugog, First Vice-Chair
P. Cohen, Post-Secondary Student
K. Lui, Member at Large
K. Murray, Clarington attended the meeting at 7:19 PM
M. Nasir, Ajax
L. Nguyen, Youth Member
B. Widner, Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
Councillor Shahid
D. Stathopoulos, Oshawa

Staff

Present: S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
***all staff members participated electronically**

2. Election of Officers for 2024

Election of the DECAC Second Vice-Chair

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by P. Cohen,
That K. Murray be nominated for the position of Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee.

Moved by M. Nasir, Seconded by B. Baszytk,
That nominations be closed.
CARRIED

K. Murray indicated prior to the meeting that she would stand.

K. Murray was acclaimed to the position of Second Vice-Chair.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by P. Cohen, Seconded by B. Widner,
That the agenda for the February 15, 2024 Durham Environment and
Climate Advisory Committee (DECAC) meeting, be approved.
CARRIED

4. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by K. Lui, Seconded by G. Carpentier,
That the minutes of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory
Committee meeting held on Thursday, January 18, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

6. **Presentations**

A) Durham Climate Dashboard (Nayel Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor)

Nayel Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor, participating electronically, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Durham Climate Dashboard.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Durham Climate Dashboard
 - Objectives
 - Key Drivers
- Development Process
 - Environmental Scan & Research
 - Staff Consultation
 - Data Collection Framework
- Reporting Process
 - Connection to the Strategic Plan
- Durham Climate Dashboard: Demo

N. Halim responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether more metrics could be provided on the decisions made by Regional Council, the

subsequent actions made, and the impact that those actions have had on the Region's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets; and whether staff have considered having a newsfeed/blog on the dashboard that would discuss the activities of Committees and Council with respect to anything related to climate in order to raise more awareness for Durham Region residents.

In response to a question from G. Carpentier with respect to the rising criticism of installing bike lanes and reducing the number of active car lanes and whether this is being considered in the Durham Transportation Plan, N. Halim advised that he would forward this question to the transportation team and get back to him directly.

B) Update on Courtice District Energy System Project (Nayel Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor)

Nayel Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor, participating electronically, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an update on the Courtice Energy System Project.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- District Energy – An Introduction
- Strategic Alignment
- Project History & Context
- District Energy Options Evaluated
- District Energy Options Evaluated – Heating Only
- Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) Heating Only – District Energy Systems (DES) Business Case
- DES Business Case
 - Sensitivity Analysis
- Potential for Low-Cost Financing and Grants
- District Energy Ownership Models
- Target Project Development Timeline & Process

N. Halim responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether the two schools located near the Courtice GO Station could be heated with district energy after the expansion of the district energy program; and whether there has been any consideration for the reduction of greenhouse gases during the infrastructure and digging phases.

7. Items for Action/Discussion

A) Update on DECAC Attendance at Port Perry Lions Club Waste Diversion Event

A. Luqman advised that G. Carpentier and K. Lui will be participating in the waste diversion event as representatives of Durham Environment and Climate Change Advisory Committee (DECAC) as well as the Scugog Environmental and Climate Change Advisory Committee (SECCAC). She advised that the event will take

place on February 24, 2024 in Port Perry and that staff will be putting together handout materials including copies of the Climate Resiliency Guide that DECAC created and various swag items for G. Carpentier and K. Lui to provide to the residents.

B) Update on Pollinator Funding, re: DECAC Motion for Pollinators on Regional Facilities and Rights-of-Way

A. Luqman advised that the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) has approved funding in the amount of \$8,000 for the Region to implement pollinator gardens on rights-of-way and on Regional property, and an additional amount of funding for signage. She advised that staff have met internally to talk about what the next steps will be and to arrange a meeting with the CWF within the next few weeks to discuss potential sites, seedlings, and specific pollinators etc., as the CWF has specific requirements that will need to be met.

A. Luqman advised that more updates will be available at the March DECAC meeting.

C) DECAC Spring Pollinator Project – 2024 Planning

A. Luqman asked the Committee if they would be interested in the Spring pollinator project again this year. She stated that if there was interest then the planning would need to begin now, and volunteers would be needed for filling and labelling the seed packets, as well as handing them out at the Region's eight composting events. She advised that volunteer hours would also be available for any students that are interested in participating.

8. For Information

A) Information Report #2024-INFO-03: 2023 Source Water Protection Annual Report

A copy of Report #2024-INFO-03 of the Acting Commissioner of Works was received.

B) Updates on Durham Region's Transition to Extended Producer Responsibility and Organics Program Changes – Presentation Slides to February 7th, 2024 Works Committee

A copy of the updates on Durham Region's Transition to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Organics Program changes presentation was received.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding clarification with respect to pulling in more business and restaurant compost, A. Luqman advised that she would forward the question to the Works Department staff.

C) Commissioner's Report #2024-COW-7: Request for Funding from the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority for the Acquisition of Land adjacent to the

Long Sault Conservation Area in the Municipality of Clarington (3029 Regional Road 20)

A copy of Report #2024-COW-7 of the Commissioners of Finance and Planning & Economic Development was received.

In response to a question from the Committee with respect to whether DECAC can support the request from the CLOCA, A. Luqman advised that she would take that question back to the appropriate staff for more information.

- D) Commissioner's Report #2024-COW-6: Request for Funding from the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority for the Acquisition of Land in close proximity to the Long Sault Conservation Area in the Municipality of Clarington (Hubble Property)
-

A copy of Report #2024-COW-6 of the Commissioners of Finance and Planning & Economic Development was received.

- E) Commissioner's Report #2024-COW-4: Approval of Memoranda of Understanding between Durham Region and Partner Conservation Authorities
-

A copy of Report #2024-COW-4 of the Commissioners of Finance and Planning & Economic Development was received.

- F) Commissioner's Report #2024-COW-1: Courtice Transit-Oriented Community District Energy System Preliminary Business Case Update
-

A copy of Report #2024-COW-1 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received.

- G) Town of Ajax Receives Award of Appreciation for Commitment to Sustainability for Energy Efficient Pool Cover
-

A copy of the article titled, "Town of Ajax Receives Award of Appreciation for Commitment to Sustainability for Energy Efficient Pool Cover" was received.

- H) Ajax Waterfront Erosion Mitigation Project
-

A copy of the link to the Ajax Waterfront Erosion Mitigation Project was received.

- I) Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration Projects
-

A copy of the links to the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration Projects was received.

J) Minutes of the January 16th, 2024 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Meeting and DAAC Resolution – Backyard Chickens within Urban and Rural Settlement Areas

A copy of the January 16th, 2024 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Meeting and DAAC Resolution – Backyard Chickens within Urban and Rural Settlement Areas was received.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the DAAC resolution with respect to backyard chickens within urban and rural settlement areas and the overall negative connotation it portrayed. The Committee agreed that avian viruses are to be taken seriously but that there is a lot of science and research on this topic that was not addressed, and that there are benefits for having backyard chickens.

A. Lugman advised that she would share DECAC's views with the DAAC staff liaison.

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by P. Cohen,
That Information Items 8. A) to 8. J) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

9. Other Business

There was no other business considered.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

11. Adjournment

Moved by P. Cohen, Seconded by L. Nguyen,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

J. Cuthbertson, Chair, Durham Environment
and Climate Advisory Committee

S. Ciani, 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, February 22, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce was held on Thursday, February 22, 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

Vice-Chair Case 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: S. Bookal, Community Member
PG Case, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Vice-Chair
R. Coelho, Community Member attended the meeting at 7:05 PM
A. Frempong, Community Member
Councillor Lee, Regional Council
B. Nelson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
C. Oyeniran, Community Member
Councillor Shahid, Regional Council attended the meeting at 7:42 PM
K. Vieneer, Community Member
J. Williamson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
G. Wilson-Beier, Community Member
*** all members participated electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Anderson, Regional Council Alternate

Absent: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
T. Hancock, Community Member
J. Munawa, Community Member
N. Samuel, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Chair was absent to tend to Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce related business

Staff

Present: A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Hector-Alexander, Director, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
A. Sharma, Policy Advisor, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** all staff participated electronically**

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by S. Bookal,
That the minutes of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting held on Thursday, January 24, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

6. Presentations

A) Jason Hunt, Director, Legal Services, Region of Durham, and Adam Patel, Student, Legal Services, Region of Durham, re: Hate Speech By-Law

This presentation was not heard and will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

7. Information Items

There were no information items.

8. Discussion Items

A) Pickering Anti-Black Racism Taskforce – Request for Support

Discussion ensued regarding the request for support from the Pickering Anti-Black Racism Taskforce to attend a Pickering Council meeting as a way to unite and express concerns regarding Pickering Councillor Robinson's recent comments on Black History Month and her statements regarding racism.

Moved by K. Vieneer, Seconded by A. Frempong,
That the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

CARRIED

The Committee went into closed session at 7:13 PM and reconvened at 7:38 PM.

[Refer to the Closed Meeting minutes of February 22, 2024]

V. Walker advised that during the closed session general discussion ensued.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by S. Bookal,
That N. Samuel be appointed to delegate at the upcoming Pickering Council meeting on February 26, 2024 to speak on behalf of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce in response to comments made by City of Pickering Local Councillor Robinson.

CARRIED

B) Sub-Committee Updates

1. DRPS Working Group

Councillor Lee stated that the DRPS Working Group is coordinating with V. Chavannes, Director, Strategy Research and Organizational Performance, to attend a future meeting that will include a discussion regarding how Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) intends to bridge the gap with racialized communities. He advised that V. Chavannes will be provided with a series of questions to consider ahead of the meeting to guide the discussion and stated that the Working Group intends to invite other members of DRPS to future meetings to continue building understanding and rapport with DRPS.

2. School Board Working Group

G. Wilson-Beier stated that the School Board Working Group held its first meeting with Durham school boards to develop a plan of action for collaboration on joint anti-racism initiatives. She advised that two-thirds of the major school boards were in attendance at the meeting and that the Working Group will continue its efforts to connect with private schools to include them in future meetings and joint work.

3. EDI Working Group

A. Frempong stated that the EDI Working Group is continuing its research and discussions with regards to developing an anti-hate by-law for the Region and advised that the group is following an 8-step resource published

by Public Health Ontario that outlines the steps for developing a municipal by-law.

Discussion ensued with respect to suggestions to engage DRPS and Regional staff to provide assistance and advice in the development of an anti-hate by-law; and whether involvement at the lower tier municipalities has been considered.

4. Education Working Group

A. Hector-Alexander stated that planning for a community healing event remains ongoing with anticipation of the event taking place around Earth Day in April. She further stated that the Working Group is considering engaging a speaker for the event and are looking for someone who can effectively bring together different cultural backgrounds and welcomed suggestions from the Committee in that regard.

A. Hector Alexander advised that the Working Group is also contemplating ways to support and bring together other committees with a shared goal and/or vision and that an event such as a half-day symposium is being considered to encourage discussion surrounding larger goals among such committees.

Discussion ensued with members providing feedback and suggestions regarding collaboration opportunities within the community.

9. **Other Business**

A) Clarington Black History Month Celebration: Black Vendor Village

Councillor Anderson shared that Clarington is hosting its Black History Month celebration on February 24, 2024 at the Garnet B. Rickard Recreation Complex from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. He stated that the event will contain a market with over 50 vendors and invited members to attend.

B) Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce Apparel and Giveaways

A. Hector-Alexander suggested designing Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART) apparel and giveaways that members can use to increase visibility and promote the work of the Committee while attending events in the community.

Discussion ensued regarding various product options; whether there is a budget to be allocated towards same; the creation of a DRART logo; and how representation of each of the sub-committees can be incorporated.

C) 9th Annual Look Back into the Future Black History Month Conference

Councillor Lee stated that C. Oyeniran is organizing the 9th Annual Look Back into the Future Black History Month Conference, which is taking place on February 25, 2024 from 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM at the Ajax Community Centre. He further stated that A. Hector-Alexander is one of the keynote speakers and invited members of the Committee to attend.

D) Town of Ajax to Raise Pan African Flag for Black History Month

Councillor Lee stated that the Town of Ajax will be raising the Pan African flag on February 29, 2024 at Pat Bayly Square in Ajax in support of Black History Month, and welcomed members of the Committee to attend.

E) Virtual Format for March Meeting

At the consensus of the Committee, it was agreed that the March 28, 2024 meeting will be held virtually.

F) Social Media Presence

Councillor Lee stated that developing a social media presence for the Committee would allow the Committee to access a larger audience and further share the work that is being achieved and suggested adding this as a discussion item for the next meeting to allow for a further dialogue on the topic.

Discussion ensued regarding how a social media presence could be developed and branded; and who would monitor and/or have access to creating and sharing content.

Staff advised they will seek advice from the communications team regarding creating and posting content to social media under the Region's brand and will report back at a future meeting.

G) Womxn of Colour Durham Collective – We Outside Pilot Program

B. Nelson stated that the Womxn of Colour Durham Collective have undertaken a 1-year pilot program called "We Outside" which focuses on addressing barriers in sport and recreation specifically for racialized women and non-binary individuals. She further stated that an end of cohort event is being organized for March 12, 2024 to celebrate the pilot program and invited members to attend.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by B. Nelson,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

PG Case, Vice-Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk