



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, April 26, 2024

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

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2. Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports.

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	There are no Confidential Reports.	
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6.1	Port Colborne	79
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6.2	Municipality of Wawa	89
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on March 5, 2024, in support of the resolution by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and the Township of Larder Lake regarding ‘Support for amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer’ 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on March 26, 2024, in support of the resolution from the Town of Goderich regarding the Return to combined Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Conferences 	

6.4	Hastings County	92
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6.8	Town of Grimsby	100
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6.9	Municipality of Wawa	105
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 16, 2024, in support of the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course 	
6.10	Municipality of Wawa	109
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 16, 2024, encouraging action on the part of the Provincial Government to create a Municipal Accessibility Fund for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings 	

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence.

8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

There are no Advisory/Other Committee Minutes

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

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

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

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Works
Report: #2024-INFO-28
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

Upcoming Closure of the Northbound Lane on Thickson Road (Regional Road 26) from Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60) to south of Victoria Street (Regional Road 22) for the Reconstruction and Widening of Thickson Road (Contract D2024-19), including Local Watermain and Storm Sewer Construction, in the Town of Whitby

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) Council of the planned closure of the northbound lane on Thickson Road (Regional Road 26), during the 2024 construction season to facilitate its reconstruction and widening from Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60) to the south of Victoria Street (Regional Road 22).

2. Background

2.1 The Region has completed the design for the reconstruction and widening of Thickson Road from Wentworth Street to the south of Victoria Street. The project has been tendered and closed and is currently in the award process. Construction is anticipated to commence in late May 2024, with completion in late spring/summer 2025. Existing Thickson Road at this location is a two-lane road with a rural cross-section and will be widened to four lanes as identified in the Durham Transportation Master Plan and the Environmental Assessment

completed in November 2014. In addition to the reconstruction and widening, the planned works include the urbanization of Thickson Road with storm sewer installation, watermain construction, and a Multi-Use Path (MUP) on the east side from Victoria Street to Wentworth Street. Restoration works at the intersection of Thickson Road and Wentworth Street will include improvements to traffic signals and crosswalks in support of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

- 2.2 Due to the nature of the proposed works along Thickson Road, this construction will require a closure of the northbound traffic lane for approximately four months in 2024. The lane closure will affect all northbound vehicles, including local traffic and emergency services. Southbound traffic will be maintained throughout the construction.
- 2.3 There is no pedestrian/active transportation facilities on Thickson Road south of Victoria Street. However, during construction, the contractor will be required to maintain temporary pedestrian and active transportation connections along Thickson Road between Wentworth Street and Victoria Street.

3. Proposed Detour

- 3.1 Regional staff have reviewed the northbound lane closure and detour route requirements. The signed vehicle detour will be along Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60), Stevenson Road (Regional Road 53) and Victoria/Bloor Street (Regional Road 22). Refer to Attachment #1.
- 3.2 A communication plan will be utilized to inform the public. This will include advance notices mailed to businesses and residents, digital releases through the Region's website and social media channels, and public service announcements (PSAs). Subsequent construction notices will be hand-delivered to businesses and residents two weeks prior to any construction activities and prior to any lane closures. Physical signage will also be utilized on-site to inform road users in advance of the closure.
- 3.3 In consultation with Durham Region Transit (DRT), buses will be detoured to accommodate ridership. GO Transit has also been notified.
- 3.4 Emergency vehicles will not be able to pass through the project in the northbound direction. EMS and the local Fire Departments have been informed. Advance notice will be provided to emergency services, DRT and GO Transit on the lane closure date upon confirmation from the contractor.

3.5 The area immediately surrounding the work zone is largely comprised of commercial and industrial properties. Atlantic Packaging is the only property with direct access to Thickson Road. Access to Atlantic Packaging will be maintained in the southbound direction for entry and egress. Access to Tricont Avenue will also be maintained from Thickson Road in the southbound direction and via Forbes Street. Signage will be provided to advise the public that all businesses are open and accessible throughout the duration of construction.

4. Conclusion

4.1 This project includes several major components and has strict scheduling requirements to mitigate impacts to the extent possible for local residents, businesses, emergency services, and Durham Region Transit.

4.2 To complete this work in a safely and timely, closure of a northbound lane of Thickson Road from Wentworth Street to Victoria Street is required.

4.3 For additional information, contact: Andrew Janes, Project Manager, at 905-668-4113 ext. 3517.

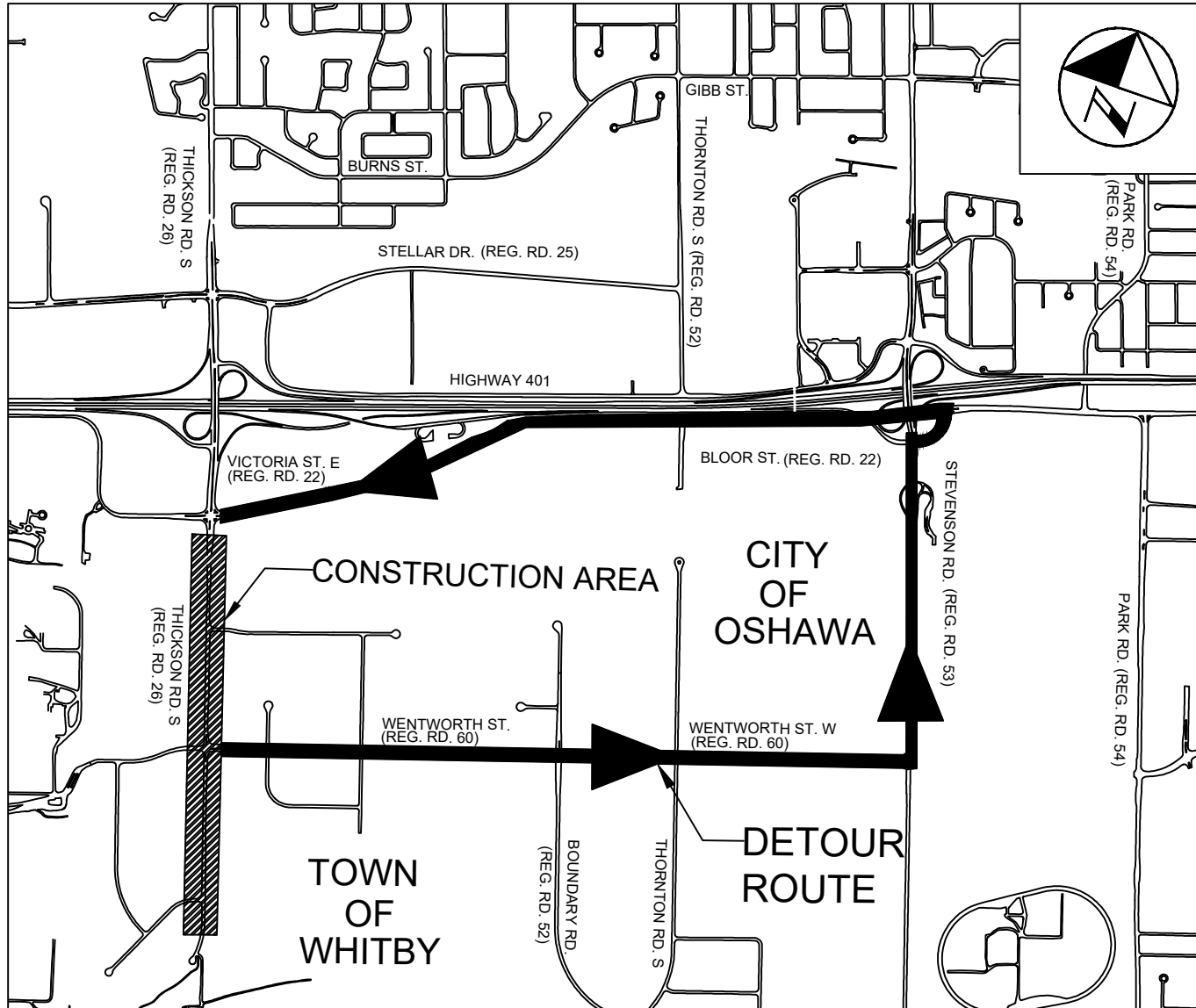
5. Attachments

Attachment #1: Location and Detour Plan

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

Ramesh Jagannathan, M.B.A., M.Eng., P.Eng., P.T.O.E.
Commissioner of Works



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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2024-INFO-29
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

2023 Annual Building Activity Review, File: D03-02

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 This report summarizes the key findings of the 2023 Annual Building Activity Review. This annual report includes building permit and construction activity for Durham Region and the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) for 2023, with comparisons to 2022.

2. Background

2.1 The Planning and Economic Development Department conducts ongoing monitoring activities to assess the effectiveness of the Durham Regional Official Plan (ROP) and other Regional policies. These monitoring activities assist in identifying emerging issues and trends.

2.2 Building activity is monitored as an indicator of Regional housing and employment activity, the level of local investment and economic performance. It is also an indicator of the local market for various new building types. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of construction activity from the start of the process (i.e. issuance of building permits), to the construction and occupancy of new residential

units into the market. The report concludes with a comparison of Durham's building activity with the other GTHA municipalities.

- 2.3 The 2023 Annual Building Activity Report (Attachment 1) presents key findings in both the residential and non-residential sectors along with trends, forecasts and housing market information. Attachment 2 to this report provides the background data and analysis used to produce the annual report.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 The 2022 Annual Building Activity Review and historical reports can be found on the [Planning for Growth](#) page on the Region's website.

4. Key Highlights

The following summarizes key highlights from the 2023 Annual Building Activity Review:

Residential building activity in Durham

- The total value of building permits issued in Durham decreased slightly by 0.4%, from \$2.89 billion in 2022 to \$2.87 billion in 2023.
- Residential building permit value decreased by 24.2%, from \$2.17 billion in 2022 to \$1.65 billion in 2023.
- The total number of permits issued for new residential units in Durham decreased 10.1%, from 6,530 units in 2022 to 5,869 units in 2023.
- Nearly 17.2% of new units (1,008 units) in 2023 were accessory apartments or additional dwelling units to an existing home, representing a 25.2% increase compared to 2022.
- A total of 78% of new residential units in Durham were in multiple residential forms including row houses and apartments.
- There was a 33.3% decrease in the number of housing starts from 5,797 in 2022 to 3,864 in 2023. At the same time, completions increased by 28.1% from 3,828 to 4,904.
- The average cost of a new single-detached dwelling in Durham increased 21.9% from \$993,940 in 2022 to \$1,211,552 in 2023. It should also be noted that the average cost of a new single-detached dwelling in Durham in 2023 was 11.2% below the GTHA average.

- The average price of a resale dwelling (all dwelling types) in Durham decreased by 8.6%, from \$1024,570 to \$936,023 in 2023. The average price of a resale single-detached dwelling also decreased by 8.3% from \$1,130,814 in 2022 to \$1,036,698 in 2023. It should be noted that the average bank rate increased by 107.4% from 2.42% in 2022 to 5.02% in 2023.

Non-residential building activity in Durham

- The value of non-residential building permits increased by 71.6%, from \$716.6 million in 2022 to \$1.23 billion in 2023.
- Major non-residential construction projects initiated in 2023 included:
 - A new warehouse/distribution centre in Ajax (cumulative value of \$179.3 million);
 - A new warehouse/distribution centre development in Ajax containing three buildings (cumulative value of \$160.3 million);
 - A new industrial building in Whitby (cumulative value of \$73.5 million);
 - A new industrial building in Oshawa (cumulative value of \$70.1 million);
 - A new long-term care facility in Clarington (\$61.3 million);
 - A new long-term care facility in Ajax (cumulative value of \$57.3 million);
 - A new warehouse in Oshawa (\$49.5 million);
 - A new industrial development in Pickering for FGF Food Campus (cumulative value of \$40.1 million);
 - A new industrial building in Whitby (\$30 million);
 - A new industrial building in Whitby (\$28.6 million);
 - A new industrial building in Pickering (\$26.9 million);
 - Site servicing and foundation for a new school in Oshawa (\$21.5 million);
 - A new Porsche Experience Centre in Pickering (\$20.2 million);
 - Renovations to a Regional facility in Whitby (\$18 million);

- A new commercial development in Whitby (cumulative value of \$17.7 million);
- A new foundation for a commercial building in Oshawa (15.1 million); and
- A new commercial development in Oshawa (cumulative value of \$12.6 million).

Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area

- Across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, the total value of building permits issued (both residential and non-residential) increased by 5.1% from \$29.6 billion in 2022, to nearly \$31.2 billion in 2023.
- In 2023, there were 62,629 building permits issued for new residential units in the GTHA, compared to 59,634 units in 2022 (+5%). Notably, Hamilton, York, and Toronto experienced an increase in the number of permits issued for new residential units, while Peel, Halton, and Durham experienced decreases.
- The total value of residential building permits in the GTHA increased slightly by 0.3%, from \$18.7 billion in 2022 to \$18.8 billion in 2023.
- The value of non-residential building permits issued in the GTHA increased by 13.4% from \$10.9 billion in 2022, to nearly \$12.4 billion in 2023.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

- a. Priority 3.1 (Economic Prosperity) – Position Durham Region as the location of choice for business; and
- b. Priority 5.3 (Service Excellence) – Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 In 2023, Durham's residential sector experienced a decrease in the overall value of building permits¹ (-24.2%) and in the number of permits for new units (-10.1%). The breakdown of new unit types indicates that the number of permits for apartments increased by nearly a third, while permits for single, semi-detached, and townhouse units decreased. The data indicates Durham's continued upward growth trend in units offering a higher degree of diversity and affordability of housing options occurring in both intensification and greenfield areas. The availability of more apartment units coincides with recent challenges in housing affordability, and this trend can be expected to continue to accommodate housing needs in new and existing communities.
- 6.2 Comparisons between the 2023 building permit data for new residential units and development charge receipts collected by the Finance Department indicate that development charges (DCs) have been received for 75% of new units. Development charges are not collected for not-for-profit housing units, as well as additional residential units or accessory apartments. Furthermore, the collection of DCs for rental housing, retirement homes, and long-term care homes commence at occupancy, therefore these units are not recognized at the building permit stage. Additionally, the pending exemption of affordable units will be a factor in the future. These factors contribute to the difference between the total number of units recognized from building permits and units tied to DC collection.
- 6.3 Non-residential building permit value increased (+71.6%) compared to 2022 in all sectors, including all investment such as renovations to existing units, and new, additional, and temporary floorspace.
- 6.4 The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), in their Housing Market Outlook for Canada and Metropolitan Areas noted that following the decline in housing prices 2023 due to climbing interest rates, prices for homes in the Greater Toronto Area are expected to rise in 2024 and 2025 as mortgage rates gradually decline². The decrease in the number of housing starts in 2023 is also expected to contribute to rising prices in the resale market.
- 6.5 A copy of this report will be forwarded to the area municipalities for information.

¹ The value of residential building permits includes new units, additions, renovations, and miscellaneous alterations.

² [Housing Market Outlook](#), Canadian Metropolitan Areas, Spring 2023. Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation.

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: 2023 Annual Building Activity Review

Attachment #2: Background Data and Analysis

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



Planning &
Economic
Development
Department



2023 ANNUAL BUILDING ACTIVITY R E V I E W

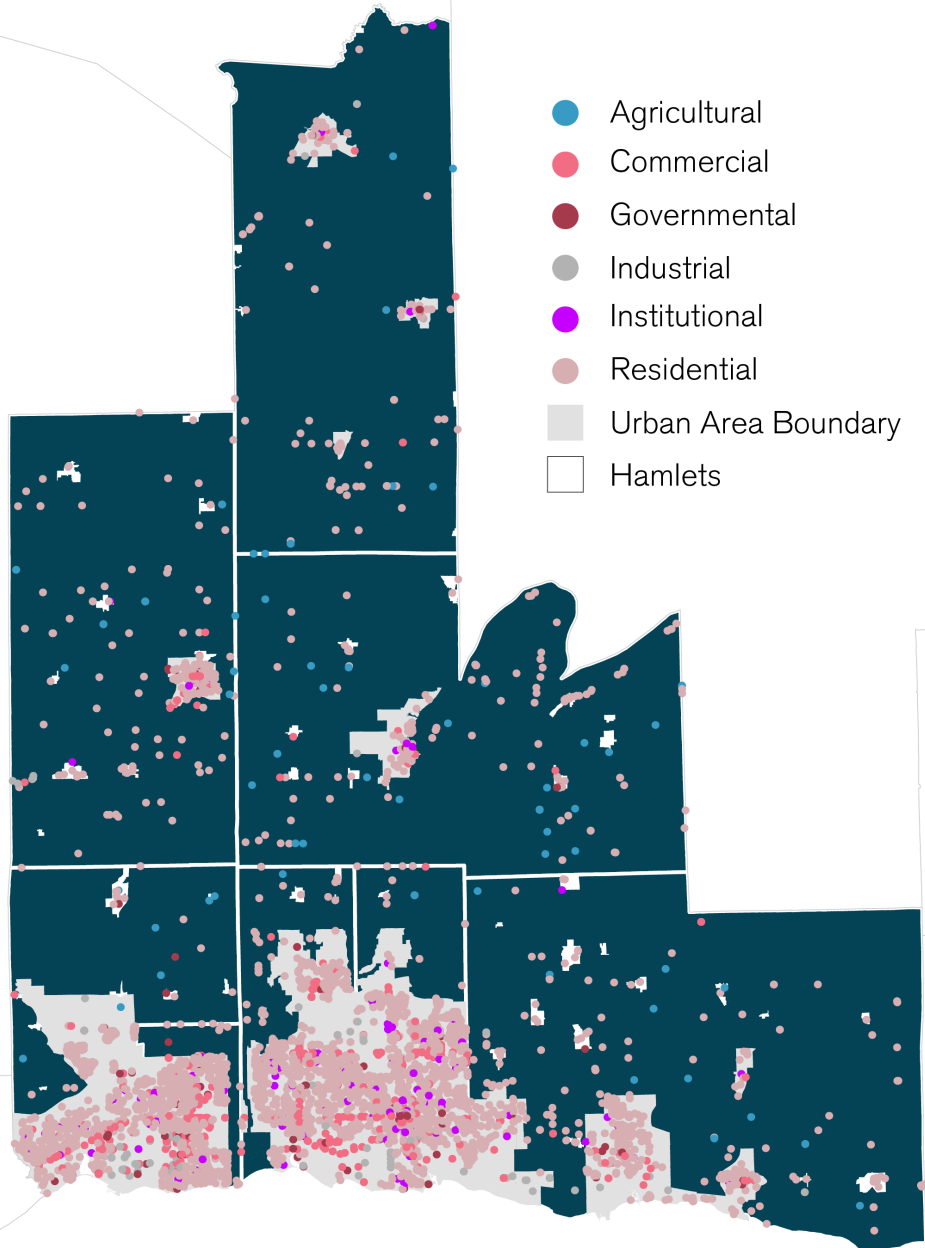
In 2023, Durham's residential sector experienced a decrease both in the number of permits for new residential units (-10.1%) and the value (-24.2%) of permits overall, compared to 2022.

The value of non-residential building permits increased significantly in Durham (+71.6%) compared to 2022.

Regional staff continue to monitor the impact of market-based shifts and inflationary pressures on building activity over the course of 2024.

The Planning and Economic Development Department conducts ongoing monitoring activities to assess the effectiveness of the Durham Regional Official Plan and other Regional policies.

Building activity is also an indicator of regional housing and employment activity, the level of local investment, and economic performance.

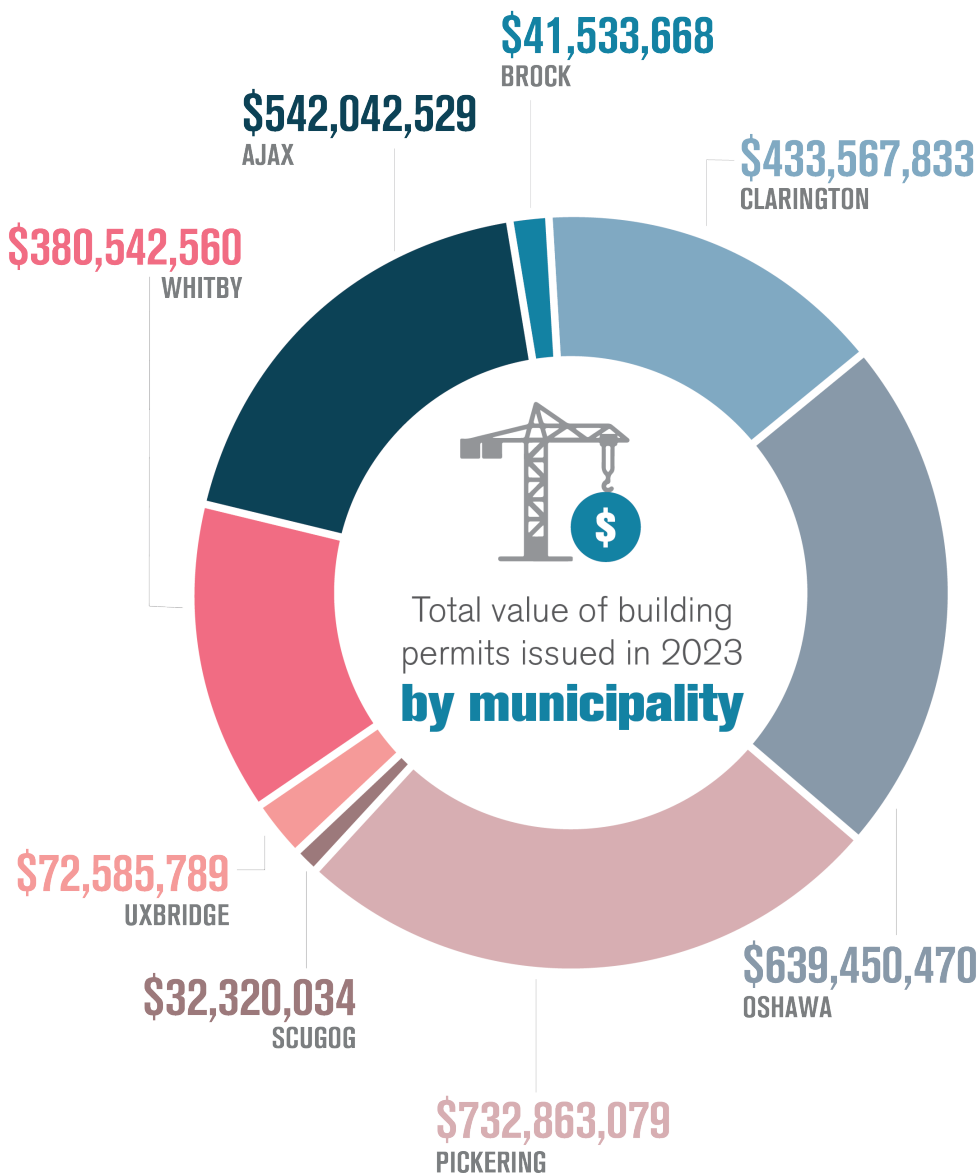


2023 HIGHLIGHTS



\$2,874,905,963 ^{-0.4%}

Total value of building permits issued



\$1,229,904,244 ^{+71.6%}

Total value of non-residential permits



\$1,645,001,719 ^{-24.2%}

Total value of residential permits issued



Permits issued for **new 5,869** residential units ^{-10.1%}



RESIDENTIAL

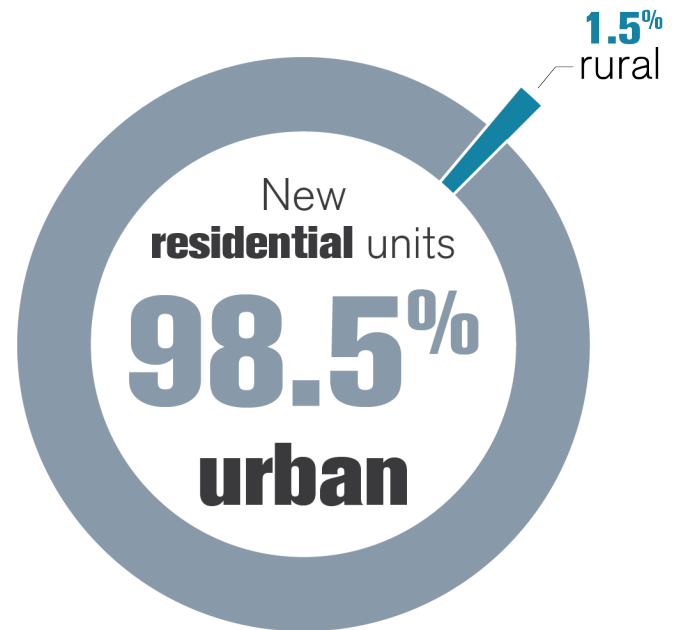
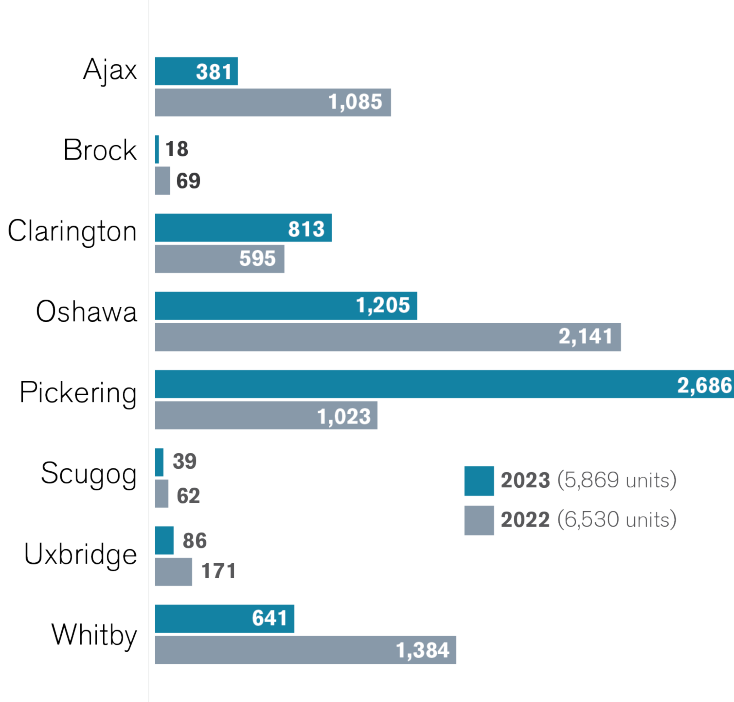


\$1.65 billion

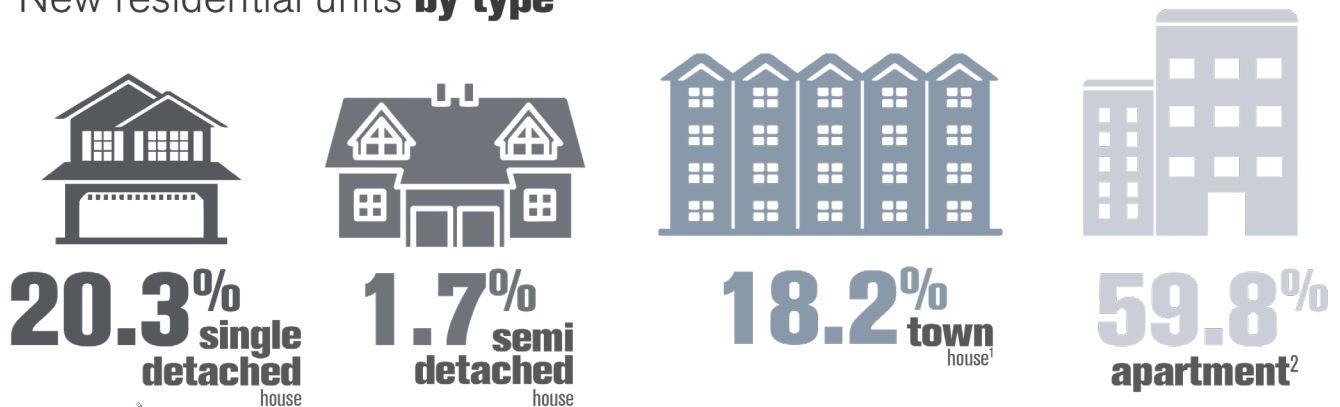
of **residential investment** in Durham last year



New residential units by municipality



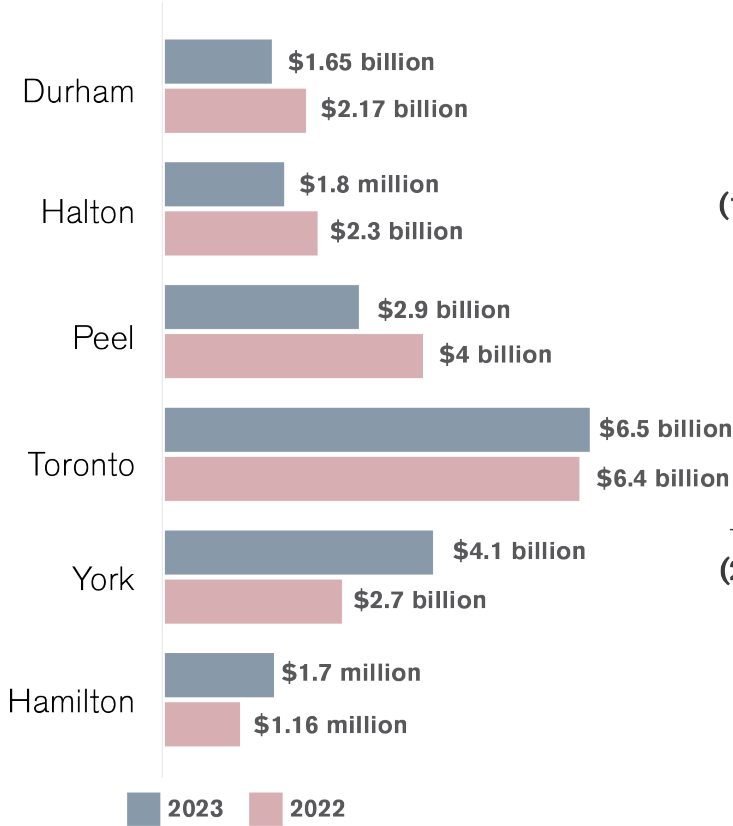
New residential units by type



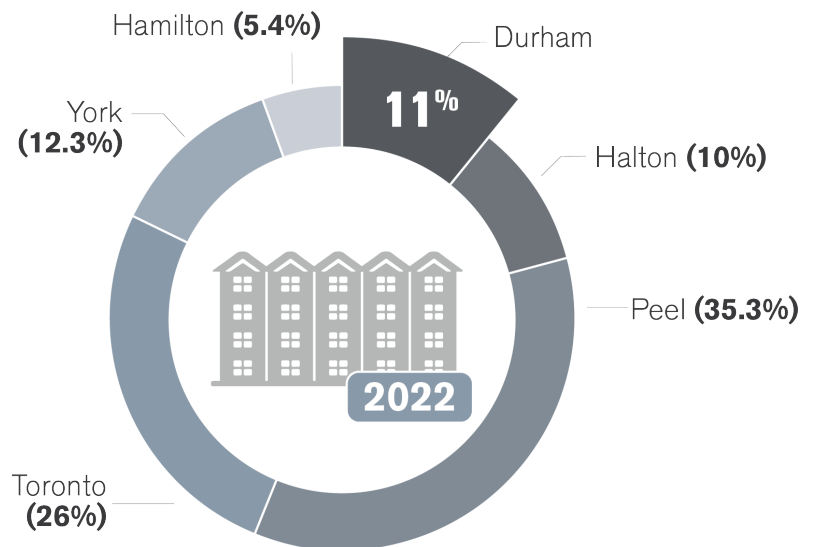
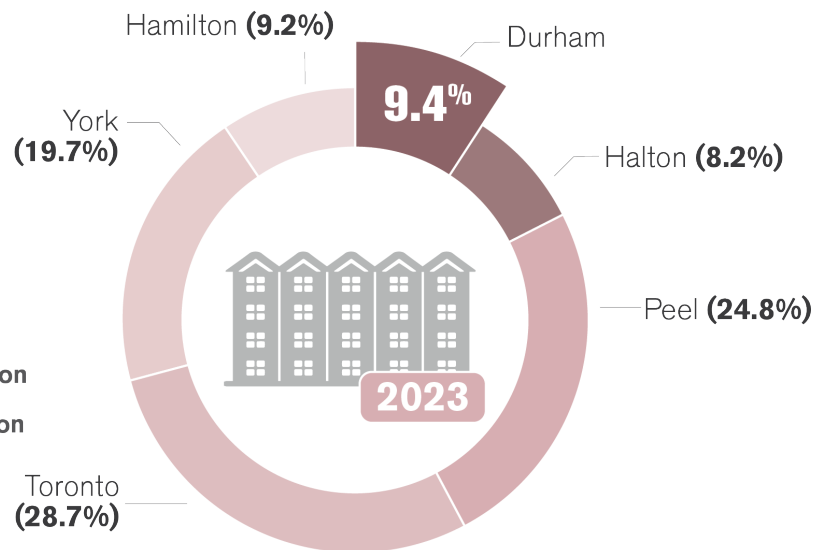
¹Includes all forms of town houses, including stacked townhomes and row housing.

²Includes apartments, condominiums, and accessory apartments/dwelling units.

Residential permit value by region



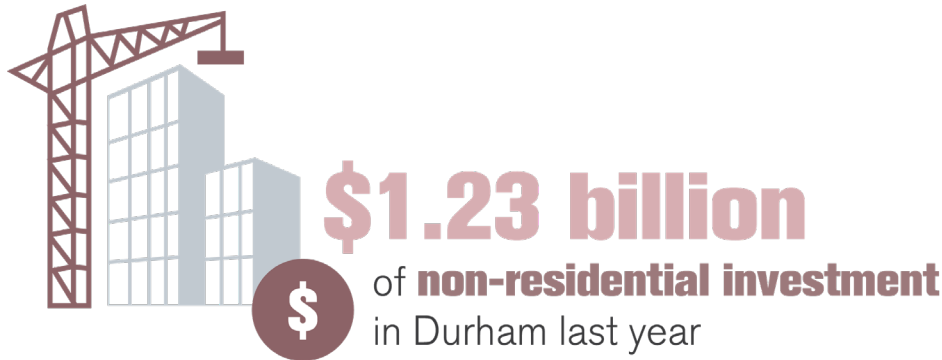
New residential units by region



\$18.8 billion
of residential investment
in the GTHA last year



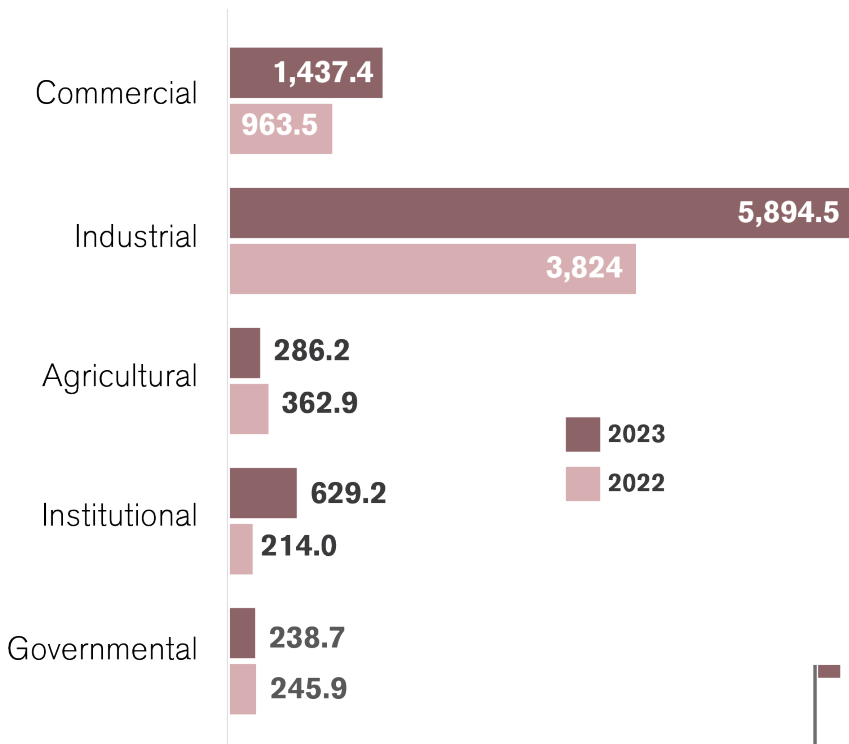
NON-RESIDENTIAL



Non-residential investment **by sector**



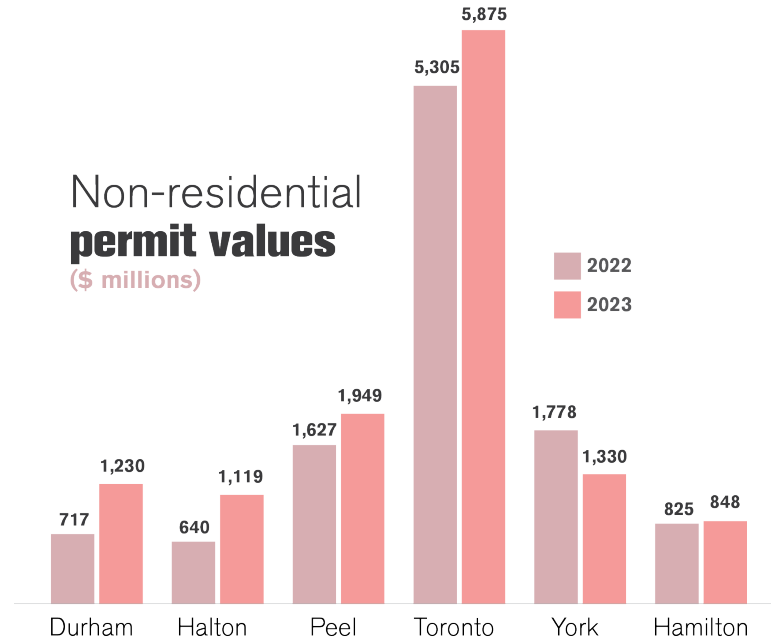
Non-residential **floorspace** (‘000 square feet)



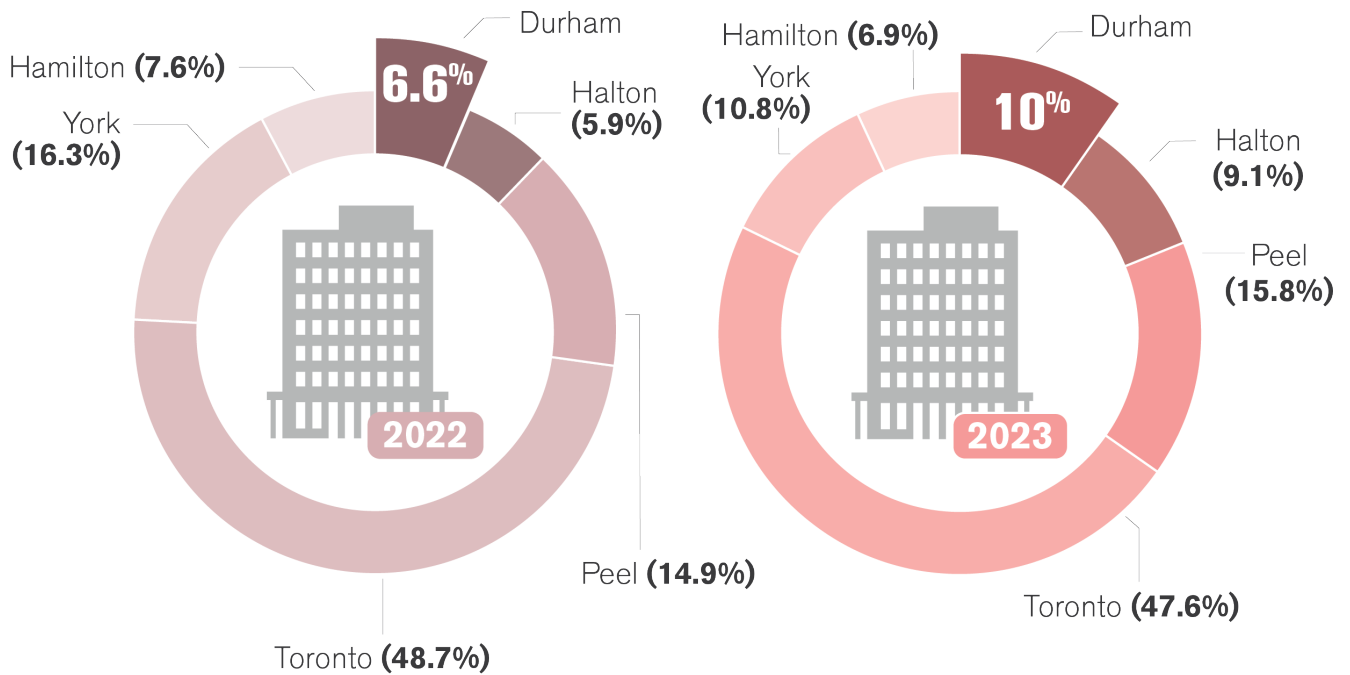


\$12.4 billion
of **non-residential investment**
in the GTHA last year

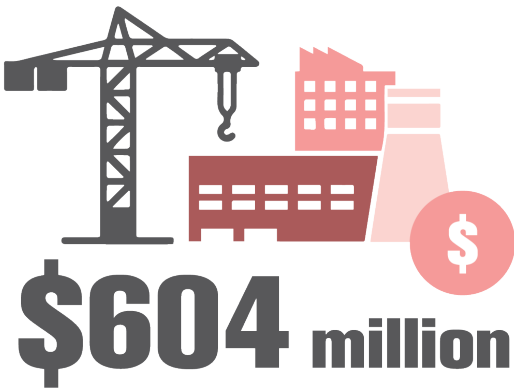
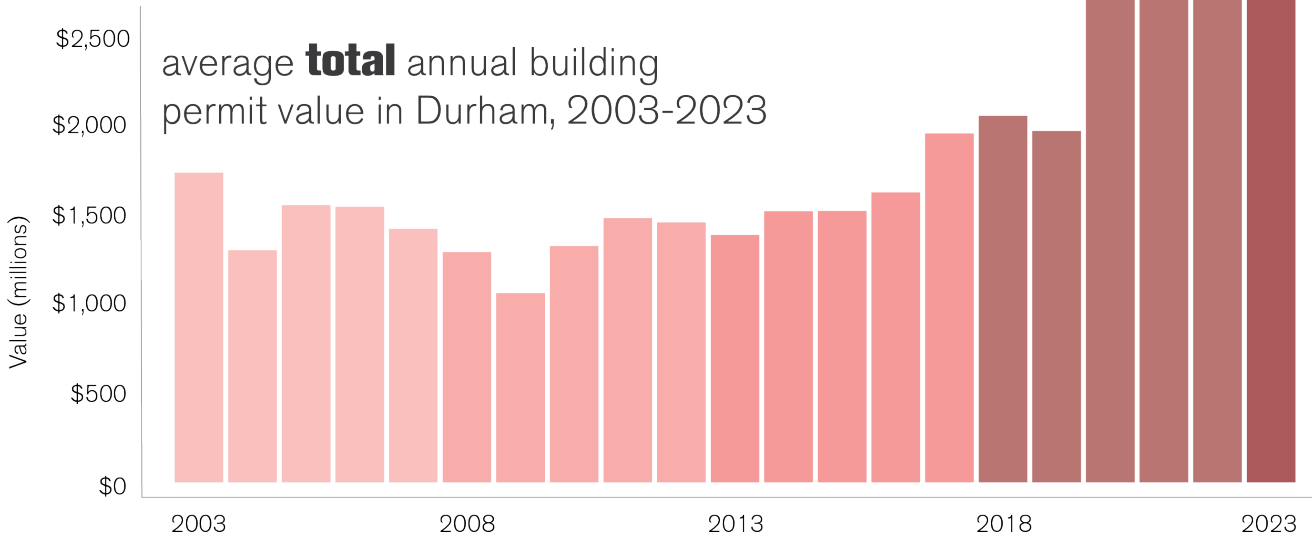
Non-residential permit values (\$ millions)



Non-residential investment **by region**

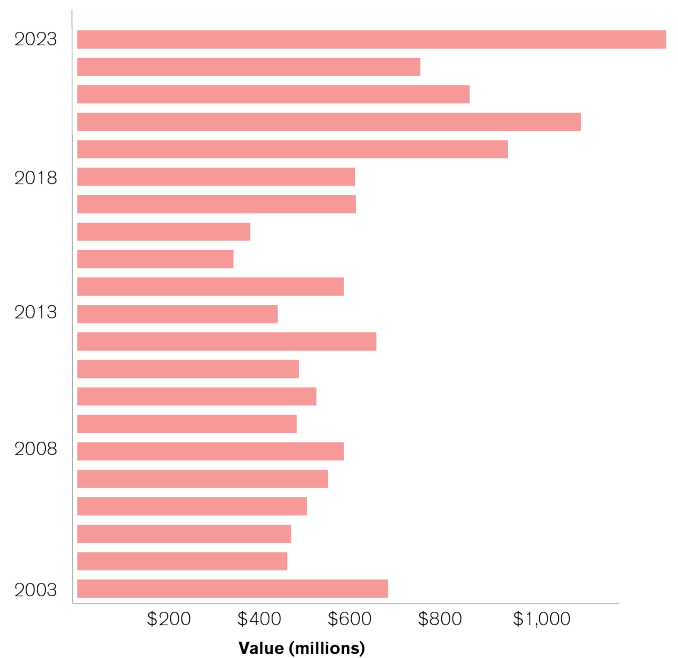


\$1.8 billion



\$604 million

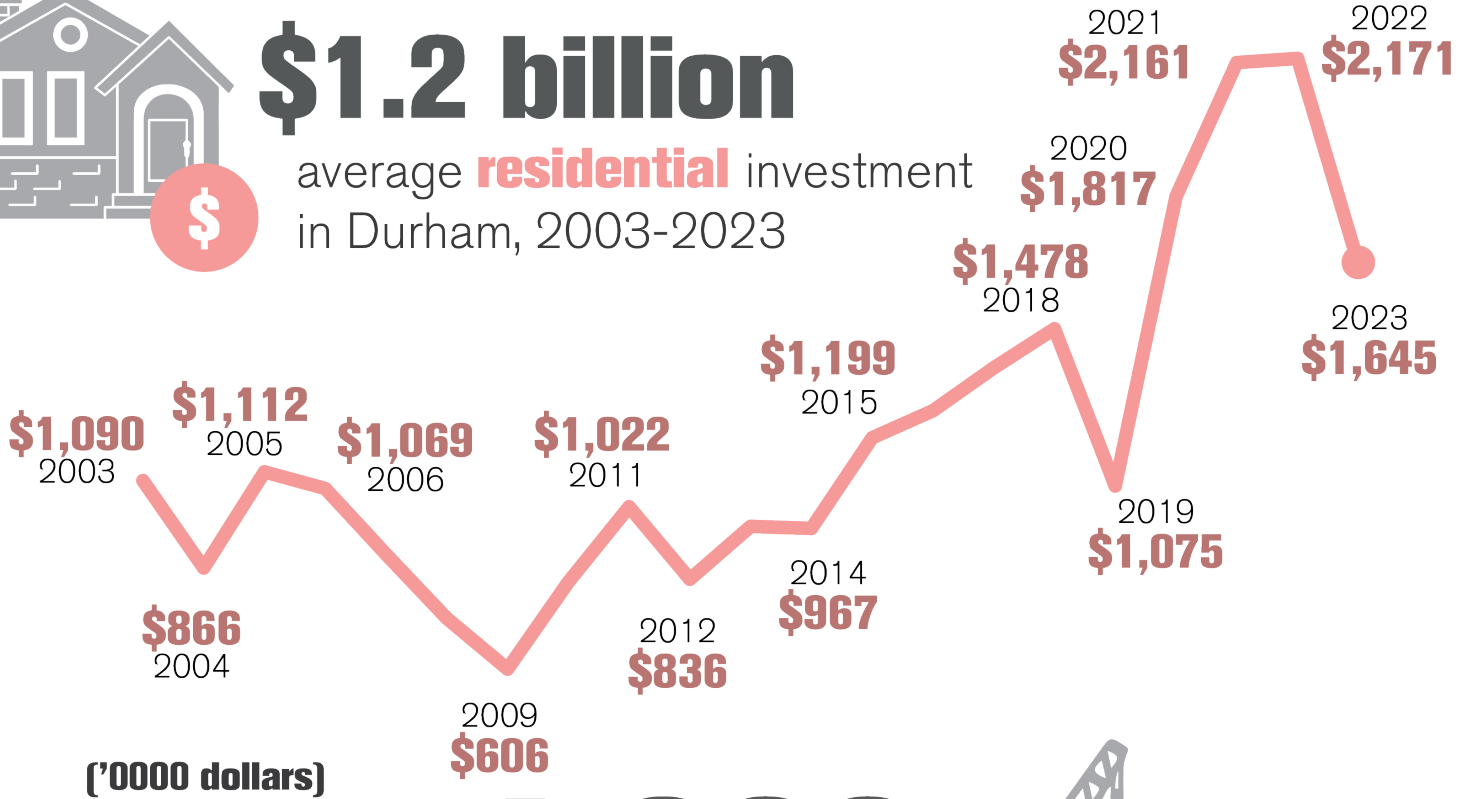
average **non-residential** investment in Durham 2003-2023





\$1.2 billion

average **residential** investment in Durham, 2003-2023

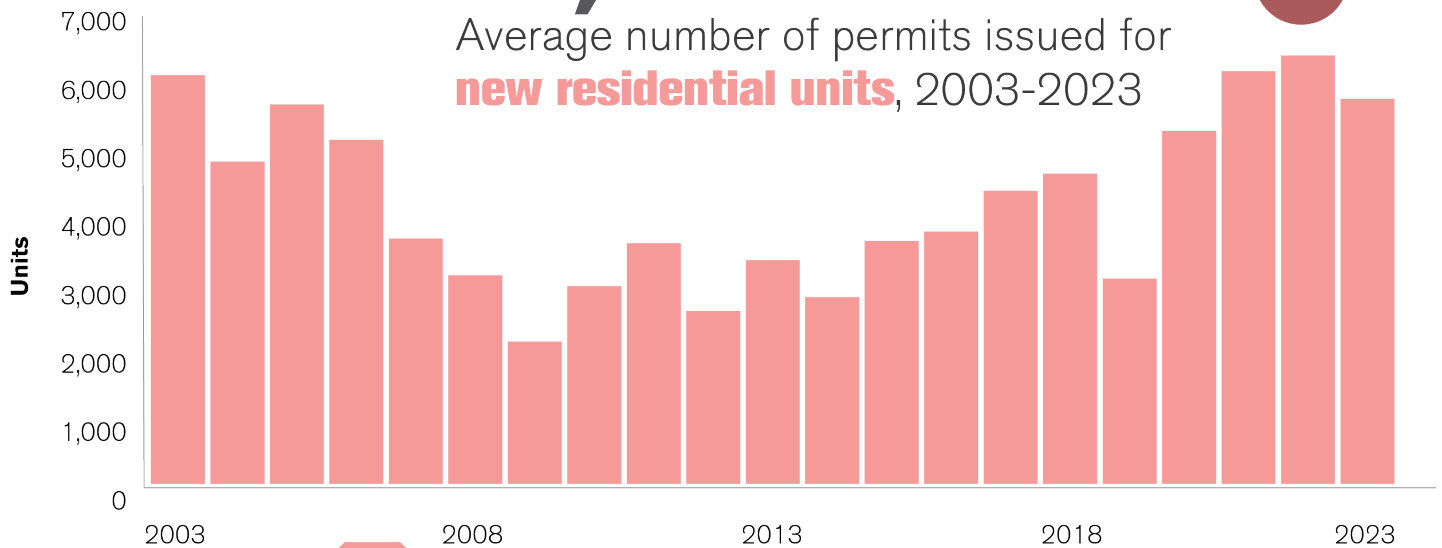


(**'0000 dollars**)

4,322

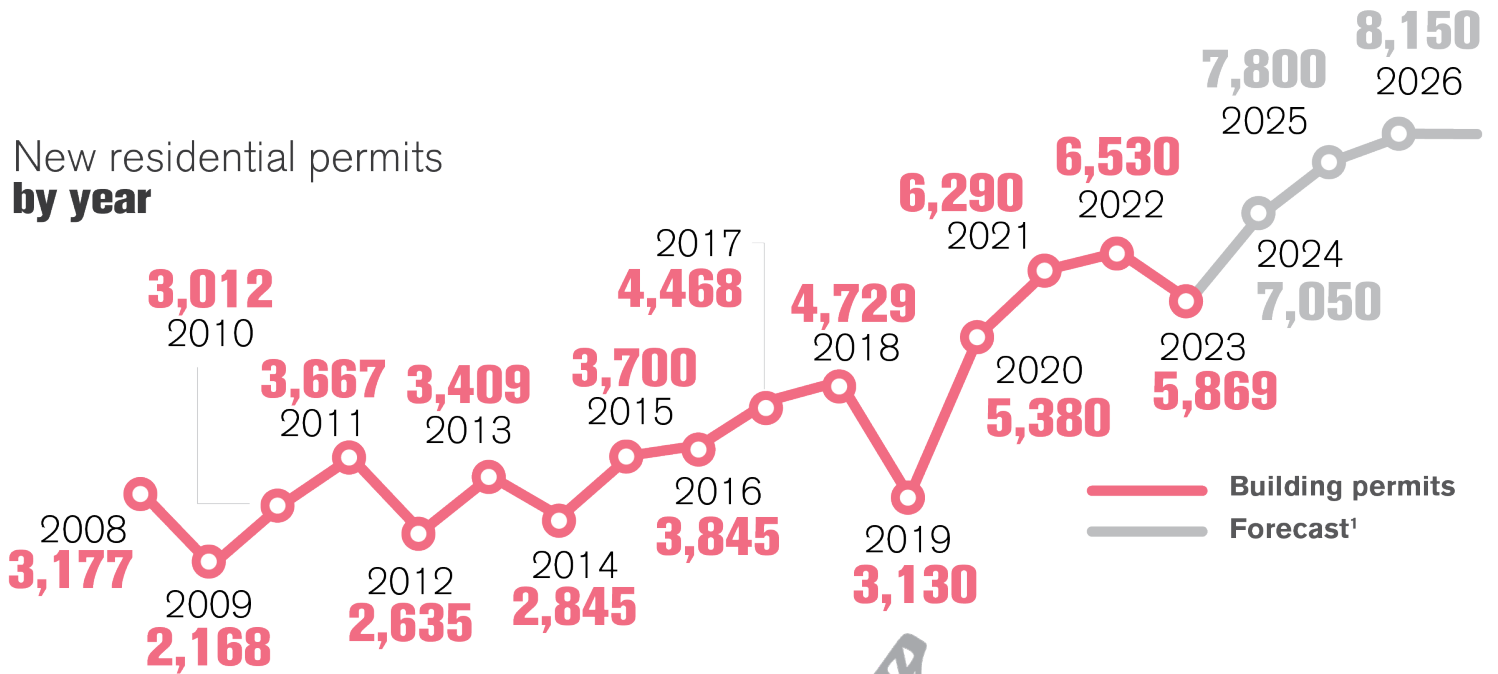


Average number of permits issued for **new residential units**, 2003-2023

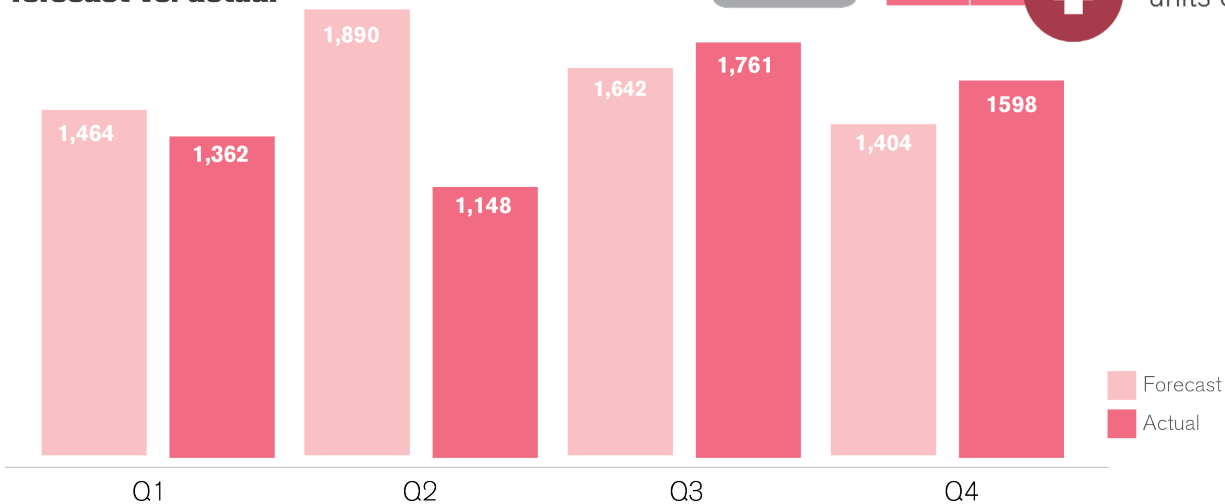


FORECAST

New residential permits by year



2023 building permits forecast vs. actual



7,050
Permits for new residential units expected in 2024

¹ Durham Region Planning & Economic Development Department - Residential growth forecasts for infrastructure planning, Spring 2023.

Note: The building permit forecasts are based on achieving Durham's overall population forecast of 1.3 million to 2051 as identified in the Council-adopted Regional Official Plan, pending approval from the Province at the time this document is being published.



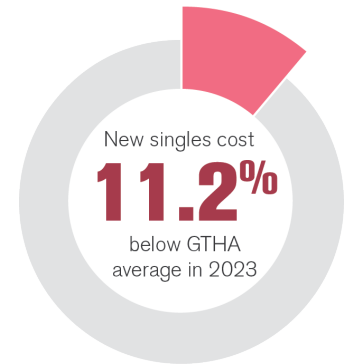
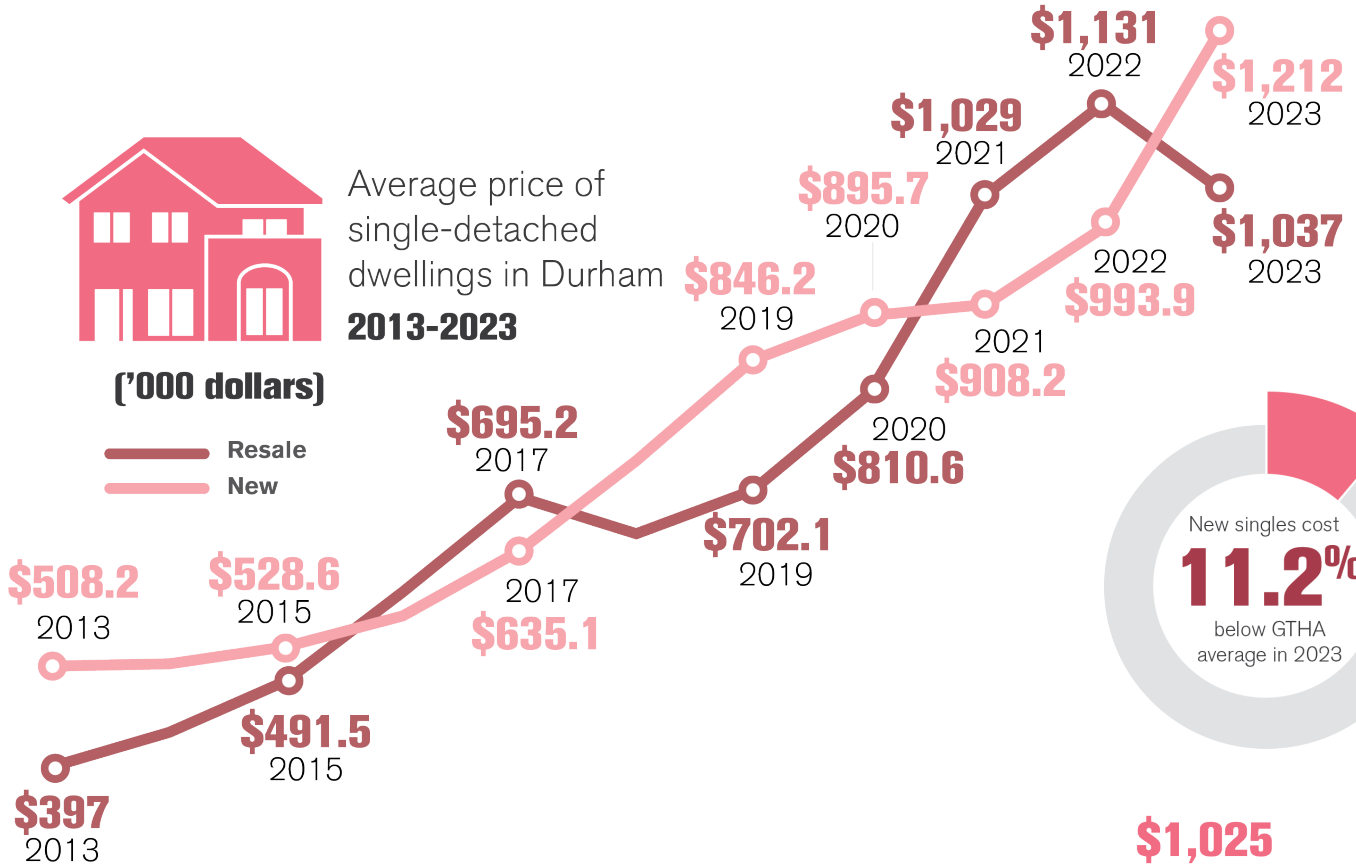
HOUSING MARKET



Average price of single-detached dwellings in Durham
2013-2023

(‘000 dollars)

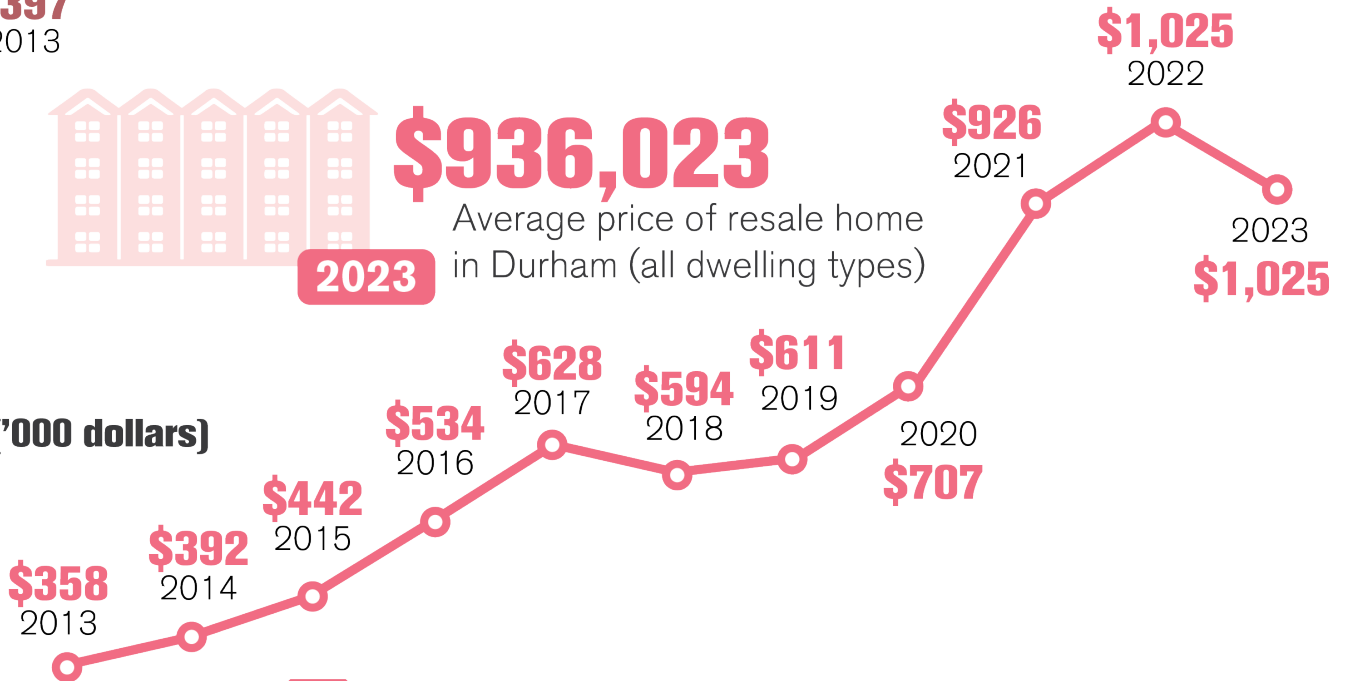
— Resale
— New



\$936,023

Average price of resale home in Durham (all dwelling types)
2023

(‘000 dollars)



The Regional Municipality of Durham
Planning & Economic Development Department
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, ON
905-668-7711 or 1-800-372-1102
www.durham.ca



If this information is required in an accessible format,
please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2546.

Attachment 2
Building Permit Activity in Durham - January to December

Table 1
 Total value of building permits (\$ million)

Key Indicators	2022		2023		% change
	#	%	#	%	
Total value of building permits (\$ millions)	2,887.3	100%	2,874.9	100%	-0.4
a) By area municipality:					
Ajax	308.1	10.7	542.0	18.9	76.0
Brock	49.3	1.7	41.5	1.4	-15.8
Clarington	309.3	10.7	433.6	15.1	40.2
Oshawa	902.3	31.3	639.5	22.2	-29.1
Pickering	471.0	16.3	732.9	25.5	55.6
Scugog	35.8	1.2	32.3	1.1	-9.8
Uxbridge	91.7	3.2	72.6	2.5	-20.8
Whitby	719.8	24.9	380.5	13.2	-47.1
b) By permit type:					
Residential	2,170.7	75.2	1,645.0	57.2	-24.2
Non-Residential	716.6	24.8	1,229.9	42.8	71.6

Table 2
 Total value of residential building permits (\$ million)

Key Indicators	2022		2023		% change
	#	%	#	%	
Total value of residential building permits (\$ millions)	2,170.7	100%	1,645.0	100%	-24.2
a) By area municipality:					
Ajax	199.4	9.2	75.9	4.6	-61.9
Brock	34.9	1.6	13.2	0.8	-62.1
Clarington	196.2	9.0	312.7	19.0	59.4
Oshawa	762.5	35.1	375.0	22.8	-50.8
Pickering	374.3	17.2	621.0	37.8	65.9
Scugog	31.0	1.4	24.5	1.5	-21.1
Uxbridge	75.8	3.5	58.9	3.6	-22.3
Whitby	496.5	22.9	163.7	10.0	-67.0
b) By construction type:					
New residential units	1,999.4	92.1	1,504.9	91.5	-24.7
Renovations, additions and improvements	170.7	7.9	140.1	8.5	-18.0

Note: All figures rounded
 Source: Durham Region Planning Division building permit summaries.

Table 3
Permits issued for new residential units (# of units)

Key Indicators	2022		2023		%
	#	%	#	%	Change
Permits issued for new residential units	6,530	100%	5,869	100%	-10.1
a) By unit type:					
Single	1,365	20.9	1,189	20.3	-12.9
Semi	199	3.0	101	1.7	-49.2
Town	2,320	35.5	1,069	18.2	-53.9
Apartment	2,646	40.5	3,510	59.8	32.7
b) By area municipality:					
Ajax	1,085	16.6	381	6.5	-64.9
Brock	69	1.1	18	0.3	-73.9
Clarington	595	9.1	813	13.9	36.6
Oshawa	2,141	32.8	1,205	20.5	-43.7
Pickering	1,023	15.7	2,686	45.8	162.6
Scugog	62	0.9	39	0.7	-37.1
Uxbridge	171	2.6	86	1.5	-49.7
Whitby	1,384	21.2	641	10.9	-53.7
c) By urban/rural area:					
Urban	6,446	98.7	5,780	98.5	-10.3
Rural	84	1.3	89	1.5	6.0
d) By average dwelling size (square feet):					
Single	2,651		2,576		-2.8
Semi	1,743		1,879		7.8
Town	1,709		1,698		-0.6
Apartment*	1,019		786		-22.9

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Durham Region Planning Division building permit summaries.

Table 4
Value of non-residential building permits (\$ millions)

Key Indicators	2022		2023		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
Value of non-residential building permits	716.6	100%	1229.9	100%	71.6
a) By sector:					
Commercial	206.9	28.9	244.5	19.9	18.2
Industrial	411.5	57.4	722.6	58.8	75.6
Agricultural	10.0	1.4	15.7	1.3	56.8
Institutional	36.9	5.1	200.0	16.3	442.6
Governmental	51.4	7.2	47.1	3.8	-8.3
b) By area municipality:					
Ajax	108.6	15.2	466.1	37.9	329.1
Brock	14.4	2.0	28.3	2.3	96.4
Clarington	113.1	15.8	120.8	9.8	6.9
Oshawa	139.8	19.5	264.5	21.5	89.1
Pickering	96.7	13.5	111.8	9.1	15.6
Scugog	4.8	0.7	7.9	0.6	63.8
Uxbridge	15.8	2.2	13.7	1.1	-13.8
Whitby	223.3	31.2	216.9	17.6	-2.9
c) Commercial, industrial, and agricultural sectors:	628.4	100.0	982.8	100.0	56.4
Value Associated with New Construction	400.0	63.7	753.6	76.7	88.4
Value of Renovations, Additions and Improvements	228.4	36.3	229.2	23.3	0.4
d) Institutional and governmental sectors:	88.2	100.0	247.1	100.0	180.1
Value Associated with New Construction	14.7	16.7	135.8	55.0	821.3
Value of Renovations, Additions and Improvements	73.5	83.3	111.3	45.0	51.4

Table 5
Non-residential floor space (thousand sq. ft.)

Key Indicators	2022		2023		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
Non-residential floorspace (thousand sq. ft.)	5,610.3	100%	8,486.0	100%	51.3
a) By sector:					
Commercial	963.5	17.2	1,437.4	16.9	49.2
Industrial	3,824.0	68.2	5,894.5	69.5	54.1
Agricultural	362.9	6.5	286.2	3.4	-21.1
Institutional	214.0	3.8	629.2	7.4	194.0
Governmental	245.9	4.4	238.7	2.8	-2.9
b) By area municipality:					
Ajax	815.5	14.5	3,738.9	44.1	358.4
Brock	118.8	2.1	154.6	1.8	30.1
Clarington	1,226.9	21.9	1,048.5	12.4	-14.5
Oshawa	320.6	5.7	756.1	8.9	135.9
Pickering	657.3	11.7	423.9	5.0	-35.5
Scugog	130.1	2.3	123.5	1.5	-5.1
Uxbridge	173.5	3.1	157.7	1.9	-9.1
Whitby	2,167.7	38.6	2,082.8	24.5	-3.9

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Durham Region Planning Division building permit summaries.

Table 6
Building permit activity in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA)

Key indicators	2022	2023	% Change		
1. Durham's share of GTHA building permit activity (%)					
Total Value	9.7	9.2	-0.5		
Residential Value	11.6	8.7	-2.8		
Residential Units	11.0	9.4	-1.6		
Non-Residential Value	6.6	10.0	3.4		
	2022	2022	2023	2023	% Change
	#	%	#	%	
2. Total value of building permits issued (\$ millions)					
GTHA	29,640.1	100.0%	31,150.9	100.0%	5.1%
Durham	2,887.3	9.7%	2,874.9	9.2%	-0.4%
Halton	2,989.4	10.1%	2,953.4	9.5%	-1.2%
Peel	5,598.0	18.9%	4,932.5	15.8%	-11.9%
Toronto	11,681.2	39.4%	12,410.8	39.8%	6.2%
York	4,501.2	15.2%	5,452.7	17.5%	21.1%
Hamilton	1,983.0	6.7%	2,526.6	8.1%	27.4%
3. Value of residential building permits issued (\$ millions)					
GTHA	18,749.4	100.0%	18,800.7	100.0%	0.3%
Durham	2,170.7	11.6%	1,645.0	8.7%	-24.2%
Halton	2,349.9	12.5%	1,834.7	9.8%	-21.9%
Peel	3,970.6	21.2%	2,984.0	15.9%	-24.8%
Toronto	6,375.9	34.0%	6,535.7	34.8%	2.5%
York	2,723.8	14.5%	4,123.2	21.9%	51.4%
Hamilton	1,158.5	6.2%	1,678.2	8.9%	44.9%

Note: This data may contain estimated values by Statistics Canada. As such, this data is subject to change

Sources: Statistics Canada (Halton, Peel, Toronto, York), City of Hamilton, and Durham Region Planning / Area municipal building permit records

Table 7
Permits issued for new residential unit types in the GTHA

Key indicators	2022	2022	2023	2023	%
	#	%	#	%	Change
GTHA	59,634	100.0%	62,629	100.0%	5.0%
Single	7,307	12.3%	5,337	8.5%	-27.0%
Semi	667	1.1%	470	0.8%	-29.5%
Town	7,680	12.9%	6,322	10.1%	-17.7%
Apartment	43,980	73.7%	50,500	80.6%	14.8%
Durham	6,530	11.0%	5,869	9.4%	-10.1%
Single	1,365	18.7%	1,189	22.3%	-12.9%
Semi	199	29.8%	101	21.5%	-49.2%
Town	2,320	30.2%	1,069	16.9%	-53.9%
Apartment	2,646	6.0%	3,510	7.0%	32.7%
Halton	5,941	10.0%	5,155	8.2%	-13.2%
Single	1,075	14.7%	536	10.0%	-50.1%
Semi	32	4.8%	97	20.6%	203.1%
Town	753	9.8%	1,381	21.8%	83.4%
Apartment	4,081	9.3%	3,141	6.2%	-23.0%
Peel	21,068	35.3%	15,502	24.8%	-26.4%
Single	1,606	22.0%	677	12.7%	-57.8%
Semi	169	25.3%	22	4.7%	-87.0%
Town	1,080	14.1%	929	14.7%	-14.0%
Apartment	18,213	41.4%	13,874	27.5%	-23.8%
Toronto	15,494	26.0%	18,000	28.7%	16.2%
Single	879	12.0%	857	16.1%	-2.5%
Semi	46	6.9%	70	14.9%	52.2%
Town	539	7.0%	592	9.4%	9.8%
Apartment	14,030	31.9%	16,481	32.6%	17.5%
York	7,361	12.3%	12,353	19.7%	67.8%
Single	1,834	25.1%	1,778	33.3%	-3.1%
Semi	137	20.5%	131	27.9%	-4.4%
Town	1,957	25.5%	2,047	32.4%	4.6%
Apartment	3,433	7.8%	8,397	16.6%	144.6%
Hamilton	3,240	5.4%	5,750	9.2%	77.5%
Single	548	7.5%	300	5.6%	-45.3%
Semi	84	1.1%	49	10.4%	-41.7%
Town	1,031	14.1%	304	4.8%	-70.5%
Apartment	1,577	21.6%	5,097	10.1%	223.2%

Table 8
Value of non-residential building permits issued in the GTHA (\$ millions)

Key indicators	2022	2022	2023	2023	%
	#	%	#	%	Change
GTHA	10,890.7	100.0%	12,350.2	100.0%	13.4%
Durham	716.6	6.6%	1,229.9	10.0%	71.6%
Halton	639.5	5.9%	1,118.7	9.1%	74.9%
Peel	1,627.4	14.9%	1,948.5	15.8%	19.7%
Toronto	5,305.2	48.7%	5,875.1	47.6%	10.7%
York	1,777.5	16.3%	1,329.6	10.8%	-25.2%
Hamilton	824.5	7.6%	848.4	6.9%	2.9%

Note: This data may contain estimated values by Statistics Canada. As such, this data is subject to change

Sources: Statistics Canada (Halton, Peel, Toronto, York), City of Hamilton, and Durham Region Planning / Area municipal building permit records

Table 9
Housing Market Supply of New Units in Durham - January to December

Key Indicators	2022		2023		%
	#	%	#	%	Change
1. Housing Supply					
a) Total Supply	11,432	100%	10,330	100%	-9.6
Pending Starts	2,514	22.0	2,496	24.2	-0.7
Under Construction	8,891	77.8	7,827	75.8	-12.0
Completed & Not Absorbed	27	0.2	7	0.1	-74.1
b) Starts	5,797		3,864		-33.3
c) Completions	3,828		4,904		28.1
2. Total Supply	11,432	100%	10,330	100%	-9.6
a) By unit type:					
Single	2,629	23.0	2,180	21.1	-17.1
Semi	279	2.4	208	2.0	-25.4
Town	3,613	31.6	2,210	21.4	-38.8
Apartment	4,911	43.0	5,732	55.5	16.7
3. Absorptions	3,769	100%	4,651	100%	23.4
a) By unit type:					
Single	1,276	306.0	1,582	90.6	24.0
Semi	266	63.8	164	9.4	-38.3
Town	1,443	346.0	2,208	126.5	53.0
Apartment	784	188.0	697	39.9	-11.1
b) By area municipality:					
Ajax	292	70.0	233	13.3	-20.2
Brock	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Clarington	629	150.8	398	22.8	-36.7
Oshawa	1,104	264.7	1,299	74.4	17.7
Pickering	417	100.0	1,746	100.0	318.7
Scugog	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Uxbridge	71	17.0	88	5.0	23.9
Whitby	1,256	301.2	887	50.8	-29.4

Source: Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC) - Local Housing Market Tables, 2022/23 and Housing Market Information Portal

Table 10
Housing Market Indicators - January to December

Key Indicators		2022	2023	% Change
1.	Average Interest Rates¹			
	Conventional Mortgage Rates (%):			
	1 Year Term	4.46	7.15	60.4
	3 Year Term	4.90	6.61	34.9
	5 Year Term	5.65	6.68	18.3
	Bank Rate (%):	2.42	5.02	107.4
2.	Average Cost of a New Single Detached Dwelling²			
	Durham Region:	\$993,940	\$1,211,552	21.9
	Ajax	\$1,658,181	\$1,295,925	-21.8
	Brock	--	--	--
	Clarington	\$924,469	\$1,177,541	27.4
	Oshawa	\$895,504	\$1,199,216	33.9
	Pickering	\$1,236,773	\$1,232,638	-0.3
	Scugog	--	--	--
	Uxbridge	--	\$1,534,682	--
	Whitby	\$959,566	\$1,172,438	22.2
	City of Toronto	\$2,075,673	\$2,064,866	-0.5
	York Region	\$1,531,070	\$1,629,377	6.4
	Peel Region	\$1,210,599	\$1,172,823	-3.1
	Halton Region	\$1,060,496	\$1,192,312	12.4
	Hamilton	\$622,445	\$710,968	14.2
3.	Resale Housing Market in Durham³			
	Number of Sales	9,875	8,487	-14.1
	Number of New Listings	18,164	16,389	-9.8
	Average Price (all dwelling types)	\$1,024,570	\$936,023	-8.6
	Average Price (single-detached dwelling)	\$1,130,814	\$1,036,698	-8.3

Sources: 1. Bank of Canada Website: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/interest-rates/canadian-interest-rates/>
2. CMHC, Housing Now - Greater Toronto Area, December 2022/2023 and Housing Market Information Portal. Prices rounded.
3. Toronto Regional Real Estate Board - Market Watch, December 2022/2023. Prices rounded.

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-30
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

Program Reports

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) programs and services for the period January – March 2024.

2. Highlights

2.1 DRHD reports for January – March 2024 include the following key highlights:

- a. Health Analytics, Policy & Research – Health Analytics Information Products, and Health Policy & Equity updates;
- b. Health Protection – Emergency Management, Food Safety, Healthy Environments, Part 8 Ontario *Building Code* (Sewage Systems) and Safe Water updates;
- c. Healthy Families – Durham Health Connection Line, Healthy Babies Healthy Children, and Infant & Child Development updates;
- d. Healthy Living – Healthy Living, and *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* updates;
- e. Infectious Diseases – Infectious Diseases Prevention & Control updates; and
- f. Paramedic Services – Administration, Community Paramedicine, Logistics, Operations, and Quality & Development updates.

2.2 Boards of health are required to “superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board” (section 4, clause a, HPPA). In addition, medical officers of health are required to “[report] directly to the board of health on issues relating to public health concerns and to public health programs and services under this or any other Act” (sub-section 67.(1), HPPA). Accordingly, the Health Information Update is a component of DRHD’s ‘Accountability Framework’, which also may include program and other reports, Health Plans, Quality Enhancement Plans, Durham Health Check-Ups, business plans and budgets; provincial performance indicators and targets, monitoring, compliance audits and assessments; RDPS certification; and accreditation by Accreditation Canada.

3. Relationship to Strategic Plan

3.1 This report and the program updates included align with the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

a. Goal 2 – Community Vitality:

- 2.2 Enhance community safety and well-being.
- 2.3 Influence the social determinants of health to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations.
- 2.4 Support a high quality of life for all through human services delivery.

b. Goal 5 – Service Excellence:

- 5.1 Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.
- 5.2 Collaborate for seamless service experience.
- 5.3 Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Program Reports are provided to update Regional Council (DRHD’s board of health) on public health programs and activities as a component of DRHD’s Accountability Framework.

5. Attachment

Program Reports for the period January – March 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

ABBREVIATIONS

- ACP – Advanced Care Paramedic
- AIV – Autonomous Intravenous
- AP – Automatic Prohibition
- BOH – Board of Health
- CCC – Child Care Centres
- CE – Continuing Education
- CEPCP – Central East Prehospital Care Program
- CP – Community Paramedicine
- DHCL – Durham Health Connection Line
- DPHS – Diseases of Public Health Significance
- DPZ – Detailed Planning Zone
- DRHD – Durham Region Health Department
- DROIS – Durham Region Opioid Information System
- ED – Emergency Department
- HBHC – Health Babies Healthy Children
- HCP – Health Care Providers
- HOC – Health Operations Centre
- HPD – Health Protection Division
- HPE – Health Policy & Equity
- ICD – Infant & Child Development Program
- IPAC – Infection Prevention & Control
- KI – Potassium Iodide
- LH – Lakeridge Health
- LTCH – Long-Term Care Homes
- MOH – Ontario Ministry of Health
- NM – Nutrition Month

- NNSW – National Non-Smoking Week
- OAGO – Office of the Auditor General of Ontario
- OBC – Ontario *Building Code*
- OPHS – *Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability*
- PCIS – Parent Child Interaction Scale
- PCOP – Primary Care Outreach Program
- PCP – Primary Care Paramedic
- PHN – Public Health Nurses
- PM – Preventative Maintenance
- PSS – Personal Services Settings
- RDPS – Region of Durham Paramedic Services
- RH – Retirement Homes
- SFOA – *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*
- TEO – Tobacco Enforcement Officers
- WNV – West Nile virus



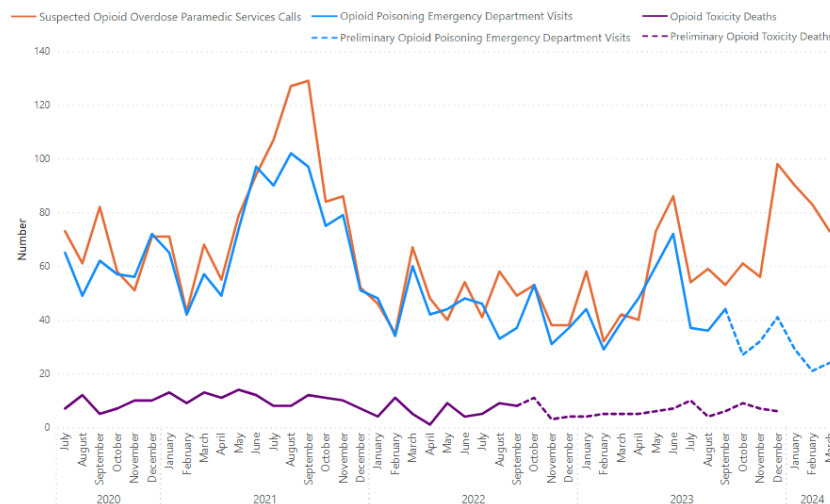
Report for January – March 2024

Health Analytics Information Products

The DROIS interactive dashboard was launched in March and is a key component for monitoring opioid related data in Durham Region. This dashboard is available at durham.ca/opioidstats and is updated weekly each Wednesday.

The main DROIS page provides a view of overall trends by layering all data sources together, including RDPS response calls, ED visits and opioid-related deaths, to show the overall trends in local opioid overdose-related statistics. Both preliminary and confirmed data are included to show the most current picture possible.

Opioid-Related Data in Durham Region



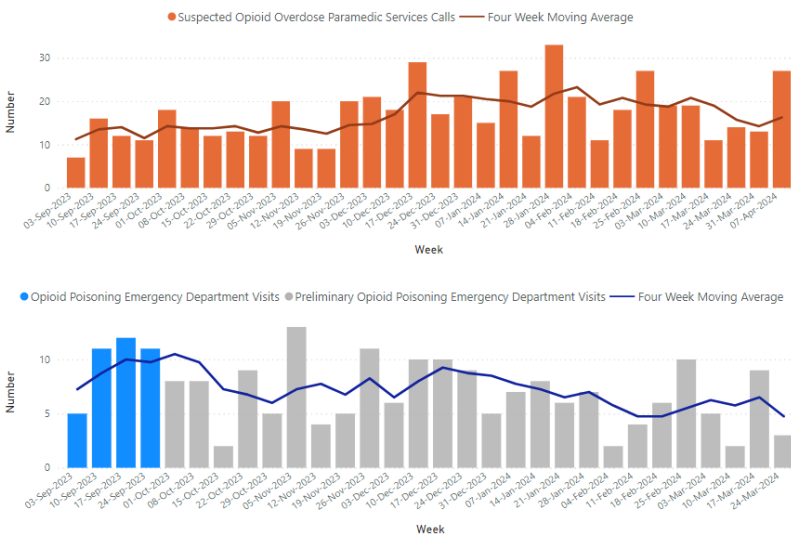
Key trends include:

- Opioid-related activity peaked in the summer of 2021, with significant increases in RDPS response calls, ED visits and opioid-related deaths.
- Recent data are showing an increase in RDPS response calls; however, it is a hopeful sign that preliminary data for ED visits have not increased. The

dashboard will continue to be updated as confirmed ED visit data become available.

- All opioid-related data show variation with increases and decreases observed. This variability is normal and expected for this type of health data and is best explored using the weekly dashboard view which presents the weekly data with a moving average to provide context on the overall trends.

Opioid-Related Data in Durham Region



The collection and monitoring of information related to local opioid concerns are crucial in working to address opioid-related drug toxicity overdoses and deaths. A key benefit of the dashboard is that it provides health and social service providers with local, up to date information they can use for service planning.

Health Policy & Equity

HPE staff participates on the Durham Welcome Centre Associate Partners’ Committee. The aim of this committee is to address and support the complex, changing needs of newcomers by providing integrated services through community alliance. Newcomers are often unfamiliar with Ontario’s immunization schedule, vaccines offered and the diseases they protect against. Recognizing this barrier, members from the Pickering Welcome Centre collaborated with HPE staff and the Immunization program to host a mobile immunization clinic on February 16 for school aged children. DRHD was able to immunize **10** clients with a total of **26** vaccines at the Pickering Welcome Centre.

HPE staff provided support to Social Services Department with the promotion of income tax filing as a financial empowerment strategy. Promotion included re-sharing social media messages, distributing posters and pamphlets for use at clinics, with community partners and clients, and sending a general email message to DRHD staff about the supports available.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



Health Protection

Report for January – March 2024

Emergency Management

DRHD, in collaboration with Durham Emergency Management and other Regional Departments and municipal partners, has been participating in planning activities for the upcoming Regional exercise that will take place on May 7 and 8. DRHD's objectives for the exercise include testing the capabilities of a new virtual HOC environment, enabling HOC members to practice their roles and responsibilities in the Incident Management System, and assessing interoperability and communications with other Regional Departments and organizations, as well as external communications with stakeholders.

The revised [Emergency Management Guideline, 2024](#), requires BOHs to conduct an annual exercise if no lived experience in the last 12 months. Exercises provide training and learning opportunities for BOH staff and foster a culture of continuous organizational self-improvement as well as testing assumptions and identifying areas for improvement.

Potassium Iodide Tablet Program

DRHD launched its first KI campaign in January. The campaign promoted the availability of KI tablets to help keep residents safe in the highly unlikely event of a nuclear accident. Anyone living or working within 50 kilometres of Pickering or Darlington nuclear generating stations can order their free supply of KI tablets from preparetobesafe.ca.

DRHD continues to pre-distribute KI tablets to institutions (LTCH, hospitals, schools, CCC and youth detention centres) and first responders located within the DPZ (formerly known as the primary zone). The DPZ is a 10 kilometre radius around each of the Darlington and Pickering nuclear generating stations.

Food Safety

Staff has been working diligently on completing food safety inspections as per the [Food Safety Protocol, 2019](#). Between January 1 to March 31, staff completed **608** high-risk inspections, **800** moderate-risk inspections, and **444** low-risk inspections. A total of **342** re-inspections were completed, and **60** inspections/re-inspections were completed,

generated by complaints. Staff is on track to complete **100 per cent** of required inspections in the subsequent round for all high-risk and moderate-risk premises.

Staff processed **91** special events and farmers' market vendor applications. Using the risk assessment tool and updated special events procedure, staff inspected **two** special events and farmers' markets that were deemed higher risk.

Work is underway to create a vlog on home canning, a process that has gained popularity over the last few years, both at home and in food premises. The script and storyboard have been completed and staff members volunteering as actors are polishing their delivery ahead of an April film shoot. The finished product will be disseminated for viewing across multiple social media platforms and durham.ca ahead of the summer special events season.

Healthy Environments

Cold Warning and Information System

DRHD provides notification of cold events between November 15 to March 31. Cold alerts are issued daily when Environment and Climate Change Canada forecasts a temperature of -15°C or colder, and/or a wind chill of -20°C or colder. DRHD provides early notification to community partners to help service agencies better prepare for the cold event and implement their cold response plans. Issuing cold alerts is crucial to safeguarding the health of Durham Region's most at-risk populations such as the elderly, children and those experiencing homelessness through increased access to resources and support services that can prevent cold-related illnesses and injuries during cold events.

Solar Eclipse

On April 8, 2024, between 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Ontario experienced a total solar eclipse. To help ensure the safety of residents for this celestial event, DRHD developed a communication plan to raise public awareness of the total solar eclipse and amplify public health and safety messaging. A social media campaign and webpage were launched to provide information and guidance about safely viewing the eclipse and recommended preparedness activities. Information was also shared with community partners such as CCC, LTCH, institutions, and other community service agencies, to provide education and guidance on how to protect those in their care during the solar eclipse.

DRHD also participated in provincial planning meetings with various ministry and municipal partners.

Part 8 OBC (Sewage Systems)

From January to March, HPD conducted the following activities related to Part 8 of the OBC: received **43** building permit applications for sewage systems, processed **18**

building addition applications, reviewed **16** planning applications, and investigated **nine** complaints related to private sewage systems.

A total of **81** inspections related to sewage system building permits and installations and **one** inspection related to planning applications and activities were conducted. Staff also attended pre-consultation meetings in each municipality regarding planning applications. From January to March, staff attended or provided comments for **20** pre-consultation meetings. Staff also responded to questions from the public and sewage system installers regarding sewage systems and planning applications.

HPD has been preparing for the 2024 summer maintenance inspections of private sewage systems on properties within 100 metres of the Lake Simcoe watershed. HPD is contracted by the region's **three** northern municipalities to complete these inspections. These inspections ensure that malfunctioning sewage systems are identified and that the sewage systems are repaired/replaced. Malfunctioning sewage systems can negatively impact the health of the lake and put the public at risk who use the lake for recreation and/or a drinking water source. Contracts are now in place with all three municipalities, and staff is liaising with their Chief Building Officials to send notices to all property owners that are due for an inspection this year.

The Part 8 OBC program held an information session on March 20 with professional sewage system installers who conduct work in the region, which was attended by **58** of the **65** invited companies. This session was very well received, and HPD has received requests to conduct these annually to ensure an understanding of requirements and increase efficiency for the building permit application and inspection processes. The Part 8 program has also started planning for its social media campaign including a vlog regarding private sewage systems directed at property owners to provide general information and to educate owners on the importance of maintenance. The vlog will be filmed when the weather permits.

Safe Water

Bathing Beach Monitoring Program

As per the [Operational Approaches for Recreational Water Guideline](#), HPD collects bacteriological water samples from public beaches to determine if they are safe for swimming in accordance with the [Recreational Water Protocol, 2019](#). The Beach Monitoring Program will restart in June 2024 and the beach water results will be posted weekly throughout the season on durham.ca.

Drinking Water

On March 25, HPD received a request from the MOH that was distributed to all local public health agencies. The MOH advised that the OAGO will be conducting a performance audit related to non-municipal drinking water (including small drinking water systems and private well water). The audit request was for various reports to be provided to the OAGO including inventories of drinking water systems, notifications,

directives, adverse drinking water incident responses, credentials of staff, compliance and performance indicators, educational materials, and epidemiological data analysis. DRHD's response was submitted to the OAGO on April 8, 2024.

As part of ongoing program priorities identified for 2024, staff are continuing to enhance DRHD's safe water public website experience with additional social media content to remind residents of the importance of private well water and safe drinking water supplies.

HPD has been releasing content strategically, such as the recently posted [Private Well Water Manual](#), directed to homeowners to increase their awareness and knowledge of well water topics including interpretation of well water results, water sampling, well types, shock chlorination and water treatment content and operation.

Recreational Water

HPD is on track to meet all mandatory recreational water inspection targets in accordance with the [Recreational Water Protocol, 2019](#) for this quarter. To date, staff has conducted **110** routine recreational water inspections as required by the MOH, and issued **14** Section 13 Orders under the [Health Protection and Promotion Act](#) to close the facility due to the presence of health hazards.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro

Director, Health Protection Division



Healthy Families

Report for January – March 2024

Durham Health Connection Line

DHCL provides access to public health information to the community. PHN provide assessment, health education, counselling, and referrals to community services for residents or those looking for services in Durham Region. Inquiries are addressed on the telephone or through email. From January to March, DHCL responded to **4,434** inquiries.

Healthy Babies Healthy Children

Within the field of infant development, attachment refers to the bond that forms in primary caregiver-infant relationships. The attachment bond has several key elements:

- An attachment bond is an enduring emotional relationship with a specific person.
- The relationship brings safety, comfort, soothing and pleasure.
- Loss or threat of loss of the person evokes intense distress.

An infant's potential for normal bonding and attachments requires predictable, responsive, nurturing, and sensory-enriched caregiving. Without this, the brain systems responsible for healthy emotional relationships will not develop in an optimal way and later learning, behavior and health may be impacted. Consistent and enriched experiences in early childhood are important in supporting motor, language, social and cognitive development.

PHN in the HBHC program provide assessment and interventions to support clients in understanding the importance of timely positive interactions with their infants. PHN assess the infant-caregiver relationship using an evidence-based PCIS which examines an interaction between caregiver and infant. Utilizing the results of the assessment, PHN plan interventions and provide education for families to increase their understanding of how their infant communicates and how they as caregivers can respond to support their development in positive ways.

Between January 1 and March 24, **130** PCIS assessments were conducted with clients in the HBHC program. Of these scales, **34** were repeat assessments with a **44 per cent** score improvement rate.

Infant & Child Development Program

The ICD program is a voluntary service that partners with families to promote the healthy growth and development of children between the ages of birth to school entry and who have a developmental concern.

Between January and March, the ICD program offered service to **524** children and provided **964** appointments to support modeling, parent coaching, and family education.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer



Healthy Living

Report from January – March 2024

Healthy Living

National Non-Smoking Week

NNSW was held from January 21 to 27, promoting the theme "Every attempt brings you one step closer to quitting for good."

NNSW has been observed across Canada for over 40 years. This annual event aims to raise awareness about the hazards of smoking and encourage smoking cessation. During NNSW, DRHD promoted messages highlighting that it is never too late to quit smoking.

To address youth vaping, NNSW expanded its campaign to reach young individuals to inform them about the dangers of e-cigarettes. Additionally, a cannabis-related post was shared on social media for Weedless Wednesday on January 23. This digital promotion reached a total of **24,578** individuals through social media platforms, resulting in **450** interactions.

Nutrition Month

The month of March marks NM, which is a pivotal time for DRHD to raise awareness about importance of healthy eating within the context of rising food costs. Local data indicate the average cost to feed a family of four in Durham Region has increased to **\$1,173** per month.

DRHD launched its NM campaign promoting resources available to support healthy eating while being mindful of the rising cost of food. Campaign metrics indicate that NM social media messaging through DRHDs social media platforms reached **38,035** social media accounts.

In addition, DRHD created a new [Food and Eating](#) homepage. This webpage functions as a central hub for residents to access resources and receive support for all aspects of healthy eating. The webpages include strategies, lower-cost meal ideas and food storage tips. Additionally, there is information on accessing food programs and services

across the region. Since the launch, the web traffic for the new landing page is **795** views.

DRHD also provides ongoing support to residents through initiatives aimed at promoting healthy eating. These initiatives include partnering with community agencies to offer food literacy train the trainer programs and implementing food programming within schools.

Opioids

Over the past decade, the rate of substance-related toxicity deaths has increased significantly, representing a major contributor to the rise in working age mortality; particularly among individuals aged 25 to 44 years. Preliminary data show there were approximately **57** opioid-related deaths in Durham Region residents from January to October 2023 and **75** opioid-related deaths from January to December 2022. A progressively toxic drug supply is having an impact on the increased number of opioid-related deaths in Durham Region and across the province.

In accordance with the OPHS, DRHD must fulfill requirements under the [Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction Guideline, 2018](#). To accomplish this work, DRHD staff partners with numerous community agencies and service providers to address opioid related overdoses in Durham Region. One important aspect of this work is to increase awareness of the local impact this crisis is having, identify emerging threats as well as potential solutions.

On March 6, staff presented information at a symposium hosted by Ontario Tech University, entitled Finding Real Solutions to Address the Opioid Crisis. During this event, panel discussions and presentations included:

- Supported Solutions and Services for Those Affected by Opioids
- Fighting the Opioid Crisis with Legislation: Opportunities and Challenges
- The Next Chapter: How to Deal with Emerging Threats as the Opioid Crisis Continues.

During the symposium, staff provided an overview of local statistics and information about the Opioid Task Force including work that is currently underway. As well, information was shared about the toxic drug supply, which is an emerging threat to addressing this crisis.

As part of DRHD's mandate, staff routinely monitors paramedic service calls and issues drug alerts when a statistically significant increase in paramedic calls or opioid related deaths has occurred. DRHD may also issue drug alerts when new information on risks related to the local toxic drug supply become available. Accordingly, between January and March, DRHD issued **three** drug alerts to community partners and local service providers:

- January 7 to 12: statistically significant increase in suspected drug related deaths.
- January 29 to February 4: statistically significant increase in the number of paramedic calls related to suspected opioid overdose.
- March 11: Durham Regional Police Service drug sample return indicated that Protonitazepyne was detected in samples seized in 2023. This new substance has the potential to be present in the local drug supply.

STOP on the Net 2024 Campaign

In 2022, **10.9 per cent** of Canadians aged 15 and older smoked cigarettes, amounting to over three million people nationally. A study conducted in the same year revealed that among daily smokers in this age group, **34.9 per cent** had attempted to quit for at least 24 hours.

DRHD partners with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health to support the delivery of a free web-based program for nicotine cessation titled STOP on the Net targeting adults aged 19 and older. Adults interested in quitting can register and receive free nicotine replacement therapy patches and gum/lozenges mailed to their address.

DRHD received a \$1,000 grant to help implement a social media campaign that ran December 2023 to the end of January 2024. The social media campaign reached **9,593** people. In January, **368** eligible enrollees from Durham Region participated in the program.

Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017

TEO re-initiated youth test shopping surveillance for the 2024 season. All tobacco and vapour product vendors are test shopped during the year by a student under the age of 19 who attempts to purchase products. If the vendor sells tobacco or vapour products to the minor, the operator and owner of the store are subsequently charged with selling or supplying tobacco or vapour products to a person who is less than 19 years old. Two or more convictions may lead to an AP, issued by the MOH, where the vendor is prohibited from selling tobacco products for a minimum of six months.

TEO respond to all complaints received with respect to smoking/vaping in all enclosed workplaces and other prohibited areas that are covered under the SFOA and the [Smoking and Vaping By-law #28-2019](#) such as multi-unit dwellings, schools, hospitals, outdoor recreation playground areas and hookah lounges.

From January to March, **344** youth test shopper inspections for tobacco were conducted, resulting in a **96 per cent** compliance rate as TEO issued **13** charges and **nine** warnings for supplying tobacco to minors under the SFOA. Durham Region applied for and received **four** APs from the MOH for tobacco vendors in Durham Region.

TEO also conducted **130** youth test shopper inspections for vapour products, resulting in a **100 per cent** compliance rate.

TEO conducted **220** compliance inspections for display and promotion for tobacco retailers and **220** display and promotion compliance inspections for vapour product retailers. TEO conducted **57** inspections in enclosed workplaces and other prohibited areas.

TEO continue to respond to complaints regarding students vaping on school property. This year, TEO have investigated **26** complaints, issued **21** warning letters and served **five** charges to students vaping on school property. In addition, TEO have issued **one** charge to a student smoking cannabis on school property, issued **two** warnings for smoking tobacco and **two** warnings for smoking cannabis on school property.

Specialty vape stores and tobacconist stores continue to operate in Durham Region. As of March 31, there are **67** registered specialty vape stores and **four** tobacconist stores.

The Durham Region Smoking and Vaping By-law #28-2019 has been in effect since June 24, 2019, and in February 2023 an application made by an operator of a hookah lounge to quash the by-law was dismissed by the Ontario Superior Court. In February 2024, the Court of Appeal for Ontario also dismissed the application to quash the by-law, which is articulated in the [Court of Appeal for Ontario outcome](#). TEO continue to enforce the Smoking and Vaping By-law within prohibited facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro
Director, Health Protection Division



Infectious Diseases

Report for January – March 2024

Infectious Diseases Prevention & Control

Child Care Centres

Between January and March, **200** inspections were completed in CCC. The Child Care Inter-Program Coordination Committee started and had its first meeting on February 1. The wee care newsletter will be sent out in mid-April.

Diseases of Public Health Significance

HPD is responsible for the management of cases and contacts of DPHS, as per the [OPHS](#) and [O. Reg. 135/18](#). Between January and March, **859** DPHS were reported to HPD. These include: influenza (**765**), salmonella (**44**), campylobacter (**11**), giardiasis (**nine**), Lyme disease (**four**), cryptosporidiosis (**four**), legionellosis (**three**), yersiniosis (**three**), shigellosis (**three**), cyclosporiasis (**two**), food poisoning, all causes (**two**), Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (**two**), Verotoxin-producing *E. coli* (**two**), and **one** each of carbapenemase-producing enterobacteriaceae, typhoid fever, amebiasis, hepatitis A, and paratyphoid fever. HPD had **two** hepatitis A contacts that required investigation and vaccine distribution.

Infection Prevention and Control Lapses

Between January to March, there were **10** IPAC lapse investigations. Regulated health facilities were part of **five** investigations. A medical clinic was noted to have an IPAC lapse due to reprocessing issues. An IPAC lapse report was posted and a referral was made to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

Measles Preparedness

A post-pandemic surge of measles cases is occurring in every region of the world due to global travel and low vaccination rates. Increased measles activity has been reported across the United States, and the World Health Organization European Region reported a 30-fold rise of measles cases in 2023. The COVID-19 pandemic caused significant disruptions to the delivery of routine immunizations. The global increase in measles

activity is an important reminder of the risk of measles and the importance of vaccination in preventing infection.

Between January to March, no cases of measles were reported in Durham Region. During this time, DRHD staff focused on preparing for potential measles activity within the region. On March 8, DRHD launched the [Measles Case and Contact Information Hub](#) webpage. The hub provides information to residents and HCP and includes fact sheets, self-isolation instructions, exposures, risks and vaccination information. A new 'Fax About' on measles exposure was also developed to provide public health recommendations for clients who have been identified as contacts of measles.

To ensure community HCP are prepared, **two** Fax Abouts were distributed with a focus on measles testing and vaccination. Additionally, DRHD engaged with partners at Lakeridge Health, Oak Valley Health, Durham Community Health Centre and other community clinics to ensure they are prepared for measles testing and the administration of post exposure prophylaxis. These partnerships strengthen the overall public health response and ensure timely detection and management of measles in the community.

To prepare internally, a virtual measles information session was held on March 21, with **125** DRHD staff in attendance. This session provided a forum to share information on provincial measles activity and DRHD preparedness for measles cases.

Outbreak Summary

Outbreaks are investigated in accordance with the OPHS.

Between January to March, **122** outbreak investigations were conducted; **52** of these were COVID-19 related (**18** LTCH, **21** RH, **seven** congregate living settings, and **six** hospitals). The other **72** outbreaks were respiratory (**41**) and enteric (**31**). The number of outbreaks by type of facility is **28** in LTCH, **25** enteric in CCC, **10** in hospitals, **six** in RH as well as **3** suspect foodborne illness outbreaks. Some confirmed causative agents identified included: coronavirus (non-COVID-19), enterovirus, influenza A, metapneumovirus, norovirus, parainfluenza, rhinovirus, rotavirus, and respiratory syncytial virus.

Personal Services Settings

Between January and March, **234** inspections were completed in PSS. For PSS, common infractions included improper cleaning and disinfection, single-use items not discarded after use, and items not in good repair. New devices and services being offered continue to involve more staff resources. DRHD issued **zero** charges for repeat violations of [O. Reg. 136/18](#), and issued **six** Section 13 orders.

Rabies Prevention and Control

From January to March, DRHD investigated **329** animal bite reports, which is a slight increase from **286** reports investigated for the same period in 2023. During this time,

DRHD provided **26** local residents with anti-rabies treatment, many of whom were exposed while travelling overseas.

DRHD submitted **21** animals involved in a human exposure for testing and none were positive for rabies.

From January to March, DRHD issued **three** charges to animal owners for failing to immunize their pets against rabies, pursuant to [Reg. 567: Rabies Immunization](#).

DRHD updated the [Rabies in Durham Region](#) infographic which captures rabies program related data from 2019 to 2023. The updated infographic is now posted on [durham.ca/rabies](#).

Vector-Borne Diseases

The WNV prevention and control program completed seasonal activities in late September 2023. The program included weekly surveillance of potential breeding sites for WNV vector mosquitoes which resulted in **5,758** site visits. Regional roadside catch basins were larvicided **four** times over the summer which resulted in a total of **255,619** catch basins being treated. An extra round was completed in 2023 compared to 2022 due to the warmer temperatures forecasted for the early fall. In addition, **88** private backyard catch basins and **412** catch basins on Regionally-owned properties were also treated. Over the season, **7,700** adult mosquitoes were trapped and tested for WNV. Of the **595** pools collected, **16** positive pools were identified. The positive pools were located in Ajax, Clarington, Oshawa, Pickering and Uxbridge.

There was **one** confirmed and **one** probable human case of WNV reported in the Region.

Communication was sent out to community partners throughout the 2023 season, including regular media releases, a variety of social media messaging on various platforms, as well as posting a [weekly summary report](#) of WNV mosquito testing results on [durham.ca](#).

For the 2023 season, there were **110** confirmed and **15** probable human cases of Lyme disease in Durham Region residents.

Durham Region residents can have ticks identified by submitting a photo to [www.eTick.ca](#). This website is a free online service where professionals identify ticks using photographs sent in by members of the public.

For 2024, a new Tick-Borne Disease sign will be distributed to the local area municipalities and owners/operators of greenspaces, parks, and conservation areas. The sign advises members of the public to keep safe when outdoors and includes a QR code linking to [durham.ca/ticks](#), for more information.

Updated [Lyme Disease in Durham Region](#) and [West Nile Virus in Durham Region](#) infographics are posted on [durham.ca](#) and include data from 2019 to 2023. Additionally,

a Vector-Borne Diseases program summary infographic will be posted soon on durham.ca which highlights 2023 program activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro
Director, Health Protection Division



Report for January – March 2024

Administration

During this quarter, RDPS released an external job posting for one Program Assistant, which has received interest from 27 applicants.

RDPS is coordinating process improvements between management and the Abilities Team for Workplace Safety and Insurance the day of injury.

Community Paramedicine

During this quarter, RDPS onboarded **179** new clients into the CP program and onboarded **four** new paramedics to backfill the CP program and PCOP.

The PCOP began administering suboxone to unsheltered residents in Durham Region, RDPS continued to administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines to the infirmed, and **48** CP clients were put on remote patient monitoring software.

During this quarter, RDPS also collaborated with the Ontario Health Team and community partners to improve availability and collaboration of homecare for vulnerable individuals. The program began with LH where Community Paramedics support post-surgical patients at home. The goal is for early release with community paramedic support. The Province performed an informal audit of RDPS programs and was extremely impressed with RDPS CP initiatives and results to date.

Logistics

Public Safety Radio Network upgrades to RDPS bases have been completed through the last quarter of 2023 and commissioning checks are ongoing through this quarter with switchover to the new system to follow once all checks are completed.

With the implementation of the new non-assigned vehicle model in December 2023, RDPS Logistics has been able to implement a new, more robust PM program which will result in increased reliability across RDPS equipment. This quarter, **one** full PM cycle has been completed with the new PM system.

RDPS continues with forecasting and planning of inventory with a target of ensuring 90 days of inventory on-hand. This provides some protection against shortages and manufacturer delays.

Between January and March, RDPS successfully commissioned and deployed **seven** new (replacement) ambulances. Delays in the vehicle supply chain continue to be a challenge with an approximate 15-month lead time for a new ambulance.

Operations

RDPS continues to work closely with LH to implement procedures aimed at reducing offload delay times and to accommodate paramedics waiting in the ED.

During this quarter, RDPS reviewed and named **seven** paramedics for Exemplary Service Medal consideration.

Three individuals were successful in the full-time Superintendent competition, and **one** individual joined the management team in an Acting Superintendent role.

Quality & Development

During this quarter, RDPS completed ambulance call report reviews.

RDPS facilitated return-to-practice education for **four** paramedics returning from extended leaves of absence and delivered spring CE content in March on **12** days continuing into April. RDPS coordinated and assisted CEPCP education for PCP AIV certification for **eight** paramedics, developed educational content for the Fall 2024 CE session, and attended **nine** community outreach events.

During this quarter, RDPS conducted recruitment screening and assessment of over **200** applicants to the external paramedic posting. RDPS successfully recruited **one** full-time ACP, **two** part-time ACPs and **45** part-time PCPs, and planned and developed onboarding/orientation education for new hires.

RDPS monitored field placement for **43** PCP students from **six** neighbouring Community Colleges and rostered over **90** clients with Home and Community Support Services for the Palliative Treat and Refer program.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Troy Cheseboro
Chief/Director

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-31
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

Public Health Program Planning, Accountability & Reporting

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the Durham Region Health Department's (DRHD) program planning process, accountability requirements and reporting processes.
- 1.2 To respond to the results of the Board of Health Self-Evaluation Survey which identified a need share more information about DRHD's planning process and annual reports.

2. Background

- 2.1 Regional Council is Durham Region's Board of Health (BOH). The duties of BOHs are articulated in the [Health Protection and Promotion Act](#) (HPPA). BOHs are required to "superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board" (section 4, clause a, HPPA).
- 2.2 The [Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability](#) (OPHS) are published as the public health standards for the provision of mandatory health programs and services by the Minister of Health, pursuant to Section 7 of the HPPA.

- 2.3 The Province provides grants to the BOH under the HPPA pursuant to section 76 of the HPPA for delivery of mandatory and related public health programs and services that meet the OPHS and HPPA.
- 2.4 Provincial funding for delivery of mandatory public health and related programs is set out in the Public Health Funding and Accountability Agreement (PHFAA).
- 2.5 In accordance with the Organizational Requirements of the OPHS, the BOH must operate in a transparent and accountable manner and is required to produce an annual financial and performance report to the general public.
- 2.6 Additionally, the BOH must ensure a culture of quality and continuous improvement and demonstrate transparency and accountability to clients, the public and other stakeholders, which may include the use of external peer reviews, such as accreditation.
- 2.7 With oversight by Regional Council as the BOH, DRHD implements and operationalizes provincially mandated requirements.
- 2.8 Key resources and background information to support Regional Council in fulfilling its duties as Durham Region's BOH are available on the [Board of Health Manual](#) webpage.

3. Public Health Program Planning

- 3.1 DRHD's Planning and Evaluation policy articulates its strategic and operational planning process, including its planning cycle. In accordance with the policy, all DRHD programs are established through a strategic and operational planning process, while ensuring compliance with the OPHS and HPPA.
- 3.2 DRHD's program plans are documented using its program logic model (PLM) template. DRHD's program planning process and tools were updated in 2017 based on best practices, policy documents, published tools, and key informant interviews with DRHD staff.
- 3.3 The revised PLM was developed to ensure transparency, compliance with the OPHS, and alignment with Ministry of Health (MOH) reporting requirements. Using a PLM for program planning purposes is well supported in the literature as PLMs are seen as effective tools for planning, evaluation and accountability.
- 3.4 In the PLMs, each program is required to provide a summary of the key data and information that demonstrates the communities' needs for the program as well as information on priority populations if available. PLMs document all program activities and objectives, linkages to the OPHS requirements, relevant community partners and level of engagement, performance indicators, mid-year and year-end updates and key accomplishments.

3.5 Each program selects up to three priorities, from all the activities and objectives planned for the year, to highlight and report on for the calendar year. Managers present progress on their priorities internally through management meetings and through public reporting.

4. Accountability and Reporting

4.1 Since 2017, DRHD has been accredited by Accreditation Canada. Accreditation is an ongoing process of assessing health care and social services organizations against national and international standards of excellence to identify areas for improvement to their services.

4.2 DRHD's accreditation status requires review every four years. DRHD's most recent review occurred in December 2022.

4.3 The accreditation process demonstrates DRHD's commitment to continuous quality improvement and helps to ensure that DRHD is providing the highest quality of services. The process also helps to ensure DRHD is meeting organizational standards and requirements as mandated by the Province.

4.4 DRHD publicly reports program priorities in its annual Health Plan available on durham.ca on the [Health Check-Up! Reports and Health Plans](#) webpage. The Health Plan includes only those program priorities identified by Program Managers to highlight each year. It does not include the full scope of activities and objectives implemented across all programs.

4.5 In accordance with the OPHS and to ensure transparency, DRHD is required to produce an annual performance report to share with the public. The annual Health Check-Up!, also available on the [Health Check-Up! Reports and Health Plans](#) webpage, summarizes DRHD's accomplishments by program and highlights key achievements through data, infographics and descriptive stories.

4.6 DRHD provides regular updates to Regional Council on its programs and services through quarterly program reports in the Council Information Package (CIP). Program specific updates are also provided to Health & Social Services Committee through presentations, as needed.

4.7 The annual Advocacy, Engagement & Partnerships Report (AEP) highlights the groups/partners that DRHD collaborates with to deliver programs and services. The AEP is available to Regional Council on the [Board of Health Manual](#) webpage.

4.8 DRHD is required to provide detailed program plans and program budgets in its Annual Service Plan & Budget (ASPB) submission to the MOH. The ASPB requires that all program plans align with programs as articulated in the OPHS and detailed program budgets.

- 4.9 In accordance with the OPHS and the PHFAA, DRHD is required to submit an Annual Report and Attestation to the MOH. The Annual Report and Attestation requires BOHs to:
- a. Provide a year-end summary report on program achievements, finances, identify any changes to planned program activities and demonstrate compliance with program and financial requirements.
 - b. Describe the activities undertaken for one-time initiatives funded by the MOH and any related outcomes achieved.
 - c. Attest to compliance with the Organizational Requirements in the OPHS as well as some program specific requirements.
- 4.10 DRHD is also required to submit quarterly program activity reports to the MOH, in accordance with the PHFAA. Quarterly program activity reports include program data and information that are used and collected as part of the MOH's oversight role of on-going monitoring of public health programs and services.
- 4.11 Annually, DRHD is also required to report on any high risks it is managing including any controls and processes in place to minimize the risks identified.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goal and priority in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 5: Service Excellence: 5.3: Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 DRHD Programs review and confirm their program plans following Regional Council approval of DRHD's Business Plans & Budgets.
- 6.2 The annual Health Plan reports DRHD's program priorities.
- 6.3 DRHD reports year-end accomplishments in its annual Health Check-Up!
- 6.4 Updates on program activities are provided to Regional Council through quarterly Program Reports included in the CIP.
- 6.5 Ongoing DRHD updates are provided to HSSC and Regional Council, as required.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

From: Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2024-INFO-32
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

Confirmation of the Region's Triple "A" Credit Rating by Moody's Investors Service

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Council of the confirmation of the Region's Triple "A" Credit Rating by Moody's Investors Service.

2. Background

2.1 On February 1, 2024, Regional staff met with representatives of Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) to review the credit fundamentals of the Regional Municipality of Durham and their impact on the Region's Triple "A" credit rating.

2.2 Moody's affirmed the Region's Triple "A" credit rating with a stable outlook in a report released on April 4, 2024. According to Moody's, Durham's Triple "A" credit strengths continue to reflect Durham's exceptional liquidity, very low debt levels, strong population growth within a diversified economy, stable and predictable revenues and conservative fiscal management. Durham Region is one of eight municipalities in Canada currently maintaining a Triple "A" credit rating with Moody's.

3. Highlights of Durham's Major Credit Strengths

3.1 According to Moody's, Durham's baseline credit assessment reflects exceptional liquidity stemming from sufficient reserves and reserve funds and very low debt levels. These credit fundamentals help mitigate fiscal challenges arising from slower economic growth and increasing capital spending:

“The region maintains financial flexibility from a substantial liquidity cushion given exceptional levels of cash and investments.”

“While the majority of reserves are earmarked for specific purposes, these levels provide significant debenture holder security... ..”

“Durham also benefits from additional financial flexibility due to very low current levels of debt as a result of a multi-year effort to fund capital projects through pay-as-you-go financing instead of issuing public debt.”

- *Moody’s Investors Service,
April 2024*

- 3.2 Moody’s continues to recognize Durham’s strong population and economic growth and diversified economy as major credit strength. Program challenges associated with population growth can be addressed by the Region through its adherence to multi-year financial planning:

“Durham’s credit profile is supported by an affluent tax base and strong long-term growth from a diversified economy, which leads to high levels of wealth and high tax- and rate-supported revenues. The economy has diversified over the last two decades as a decline in manufacturing has been offset by growth of other sectors including retail and wholesale trade, finance and professional services, education, health and social services. Durham has historically outperformed Ontario on several economic and labor market indicators, with favourable employment statistics, strong GDP growth and high GDP per capita.”

- *Moody’s Investors Service,
April 2024*

- 3.4 Moody's also assesses Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Issuer Profile (IPS) and Credit Impact Scores (CIS) for municipally rated entities. The scores are part of Moody's ongoing commitment to demonstrate the systematic and transparent incorporation of material ESG issues into credit ratings:

“Durham displays very strong governance and management characteristics, similar to other highly rated municipalities in Canada. The region utilizes multi-year operating and capital planning, including annual budgets, a 10-year capital plan which is updated annually, and master plans for major program areas, including a transportation master plan. The region also incorporates environmental, social and governance (ESG) analysis, including carbon transition, green initiatives and climate adaptation into its long-term planning.”

*- Moody's Investors Service,
April 2024*

- 3.5 Durham's fiscal environment is earmarked by elevated expenditures arising from higher levels of capital and social spending and provincial legislative changes that continue to present governance challenges. Given this, Moody's cautions that a combination of declining liquidity levels, rising debt and interest burden that coincides with a sustained period of economic contraction may place downward pressure on the Region's Triple "A" credit rating:

“The region's need for increased services to support a growing population, including social and emergency services, will continue to put upward pressure on expenses. Growth remains robust driven by the region's prime location in the Greater Toronto Area and continued growth in international immigration. Social expenditures (social services and housing) and emergency services (including police and paramedic) will be necessary to address social pressures, and will continue to weigh on the total expenditures of the region.”

“Concurrently, the region's continued need to fund growth and maintenance infrastructure will retain pressure on capital spending and on securing funding. Continued population growth over the next decade – supported by rising federal immigration targets - will be a key driver of infrastructure spending in the coming decade.”

“The legislative changes to municipalities also included a review of several two-tier regional governments within the province, including Durham, to assess the division of roles and responsibilities between the different tiers of government. While we do not expect that the province will alter the two-tier structure of the region, the outcome of the review remains uncertain, and any material change in the regional structure or the region's

financial responsibilities could have material implications on our credit assessment of Durham.”

*- Moody's Investors Service,
April 2024*

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Maintaining a Triple “A” credit rating is an important achievement for the Region. This accreditation reflects Regional Council's position to uphold key ratings factors as determined by Moody's, including conservative fiscal management, very strong budgetary performance, and low and manageable debt burden.
- 4.2 The Region's exemplary fiscal results are achieved and maintained through Regional Council's long-standing commitment to long-term financial planning. The disciplined approach to long-term financial planning are guided by the principles of fiscal sustainability, financial flexibility and taxpayer affordability. These principles assist the Region in retaining financial flexibility to maintain adequate funding for risk mitigation, unforeseen expenditures and maintain manageable property tax and revenue-based rate increases.
- 4.3 The Region's Business Planning and Budget process will reflect the continued support of the credit principles that are fundamental to the Region's Triple “A” credit rating.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance



The Regional
Municipality of
Durham

Works Department

Memorandum

Date: April 26, 2024

To: Regional Chair Henry and Members of Regional Council

From: Ramesh Jagannathan, M.B.A, M. Eng., P.Eng., P.T.O.E.
Commissioner of Works

Copy: Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
Andrew Evans, M.A.Sc., P.Eng., Director, Waste
Management Services

Subject: Durham York Energy Centre
Quarterly (Q4 – 2023-2024) Long-Term Sampling System
Report

The attached report for the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023 to 2024 provides details with respect to data related to the Long-Term Sampling System (LTSS) at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC), referred to as the AMESA system.

This report includes AMESA data collected from October 6, 2023, to January 23, 2024 and is structured as follows:

1. Sections 1 and 2 provide background,
2. Sections 3 to 8 provide specific quarterly AMESA data,
3. Section 9 provides ambient air data for the same time period.

End of Memo

Attachment: DYEC LTSS Quarterly (Q4 – 2023-2024) Report
(October 6, 2023, to January 23, 2024)



Durham York Energy Centre
Long-Term Sampling System
Quarterly (Q4) Report
October 2023-January 2024

Prepared by

The Regional Municipality of Durham

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1. Introduction

This report provides additional details with respect to the reporting of operational data related to the AMESA Long-Term Sampling System (LTSS) for dioxins and furans at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC).

This report covers the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023 and includes AMESA data collected from October 6, 2023, to January 23, 2024.

2. Background

To meet the requirements of Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) Condition 7(3), a continuous sampling system (the Adsorption Method for Sampling dioxins and furans (AMESA) LTSS), is installed on each of the two boiler units at the DYEC to sample dioxins and furans.

The operation of the AMESA system was initiated in 2015 and has been maintained in accordance with current guidance from the AMESA manufacturer, the North American vendor ENVEA, and the AMESA Technical Manual.

The AMESA system is used only for the purpose stated in ECA Condition 7(3), which relates to dioxins and furans emissions trend analysis and evaluation of Air Pollution Control equipment performance. The AMESA results themselves do not constitute a compliance point for the facility operations.

ECA Condition 7(3), Testing, Monitoring and Auditing Long-Term Sampling for dioxins and furans, states:

- a) The Owner shall develop, install, maintain, and update as necessary a long-term sampling system, with a minimum monthly sampling frequency, to measure the concentration of dioxins and furans in the Undiluted Gases leaving the Air Pollution Control (APC) Equipment associated with each boiler.
- b) The Owner shall evaluate the performance of the long-term sampling system in determining dioxins and furans emission trends and/or fluctuations as well as demonstrating the ongoing performance of the APC Equipment associated with the boilers.

AMESA results are available at the site when requested by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and reported to the MECP as part of the Annual Report required by ECA Approval Condition 15 and posted to the DYEC website.

As the results of the LTSS AMESA sampling are reported annually as a 12-month rolling average to the MECP and contained in the Annual Report, a request from the public was suggested to provide more frequent updates. In 2021, Council issued a directive to enhance the frequency of updates. Hence, verified, and calculated results for every AMESA sampling run across both boiler units are prepared quarterly. These reports are prepared for the Council and subsequently published on the website.

3. Cartridge Replacement Schedule

The AMESA sampling cartridge duration is approximately 30 days before it is removed and sent to the laboratory for analysis. As each boiler unit is independent, the duration may differ due to such things as alternating maintenance activities.

Table 1: AMESA Cartridge Replacement Schedule

Unit #	Run #	Start Date	End Date	Duration (days)
1	89	6-Oct-23	3-Nov-23	21
2	89	17-Oct-23	3-Nov-23	11
1	90*			
2	90	27-Nov-23	15-Dec-23	16
1	91*			
2	91	18-Dec-23	23-Jan-24	26

Note 1:The cartridge duration times may differ even though the start and end dates are the same for both boiler units.

*** Note 2:** There is no result for boiler unit #1 for Runs #90 and 91 due to malfunction of AMESA unit #1.

4. Laboratory Analysis

There were no issues identified with the AMESA sample cartridges or the analysis at the laboratory; however, the laboratory continues to experience delays in analysis and reporting.

5. Durham and York Regions and Covanta Monthly Data and Operations Review

Regional staff meet with Covanta both weekly and monthly on an established schedule to discuss facility operations, and to review environmental monitoring results, trends

and calculations where required for all monitoring programs, and the available AMESA results.

6. Oversight of AMESA Results

The Regional Municipality of Durham and the Regional Municipality of York Region staff and Covanta meet with the MECP on a quarterly basis to discuss all items pertinent to the ECA and the Environmental Monitoring Programs and facility operations. Any concerns which are not determined to be reportable incidents in accordance with the ECA are discussed along with day-to-day operations and monitoring.

Any events which the ECA deems reportable are done in accordance with the appropriate ECA condition.

Results of the AMESA LTSS are reported to the MECP in the DYEC Annual Reports and posted to the DYEC website. AMESA trends of validated data are presented as a 12-month rolling average together with an analysis to demonstrate the ongoing performance of the APC Equipment. The MECP had no concerns with the AMESA results detailed in the [2022 Annual Report](#) as posted via this link: [MECP Review of the DYEC 2022 Annual Report](#). [The 2023 Annual Report](#) has been posted to the website.

7. AMESA Performance

The measured concentrations for each of the 17 dioxins and furans congeners identified in the laboratory certificate of analysis are applied to established computations to obtain a result. These calculations quantify the dioxins and furans per cubic metre of gas at reference conditions. Additionally, standard temperature, pressure and oxygen correction factors are also applied to the measured concentration to obtain a value for regulatory comparison. Finally, each of the 17 dioxins and furans congeners are multiplied by their respective toxic equivalency factor (TEF) and added together to obtain a total dioxins and furans total toxic equivalence (TEQ). The ECA for the DYEC specifies the use of the NATO classification scheme for dioxins and furans and therefore the NATO TEF factors are applied to obtain the TEQ calculation. Table 2 shows each of the AMESA sampling runs, the start and end time the cartridge was in-situ for each boiler unit, and the calculated result.

Table 2: AMESA Calculated Results

Unit #	Run #	Start Date	End Date	Calculated Result (pg TEQ/Rm ³)
1	89	6-Oct-23	3-Nov-23	4.665
2	89	17-Oct-23	3-Nov-23	1.567
1	90*			
2	90	27-Nov-23	15-Dec-23	1.872
1	91*			
2	91	18-Dec-23	23-Jan-24	1.662

***Note 1: There is no result for boiler unit #1 for Runs #90 and 91 due to malfunction of AMESA unit #1.**

While AMESA has no regulatory limit associated for compliance as it is used to supplement source testing, the ECA directs that, “The Owner shall evaluate the performance of the long-term sampling system in determining dioxins and furans emission trends and/or fluctuations as well as demonstrating the ongoing performance of the APC Equipment associated with the boilers.” The Regions, their Engineering and Air Emissions oversight consultants and Covanta will continue to monitor DYEC performance as it relates to AMESA results and trends. Figure 2 displays the results of the AMESA sampling runs conducted in the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023.

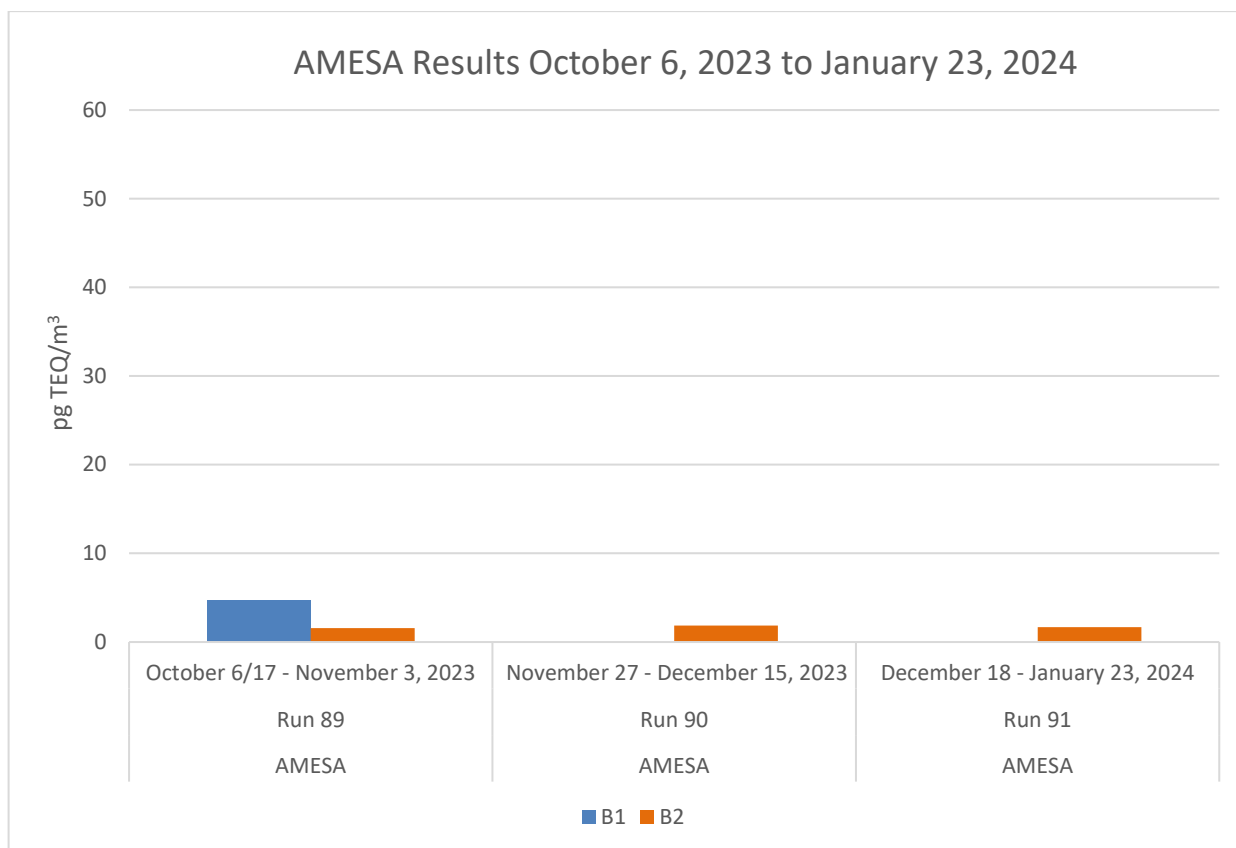


Figure 1: AMESA Results October 6, 2023, to January 23, 2024

7.1 Investigation

During the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023, the AMESA Investigation Checklist did not yield any formal triggers, as outlined in the AMESA workplan. However, AMESA system errors were noted on November 27, 2023 on Boiler #1 . Ultimately on-site manufacturer support was required with several system components being serviced and or replaced to restore function.

8. AMESA relative to most current Source Testing Dioxins and Furans Results

AMESA is not used to assess compliance and should not be evaluated against Ministry standards, such as the dioxins and furans source testing limit. The testing methodology for AMESA and source testing sampling and analysis are different and are set out within their prescribed sampling method and manufacturer guidelines.

The AMESA results are presented in Figure 2 to show how the Q4 calculated values compare to the most current source testing results. The source test compliance limit for dioxins and furans is 60 pgTEQ/m³. The chart below shows the AMESA Q4, 2023

results as compared to the 2023 September source test results. Results from the September source test also indicated the dioxins and furans result is below the regulatory compliance limit.

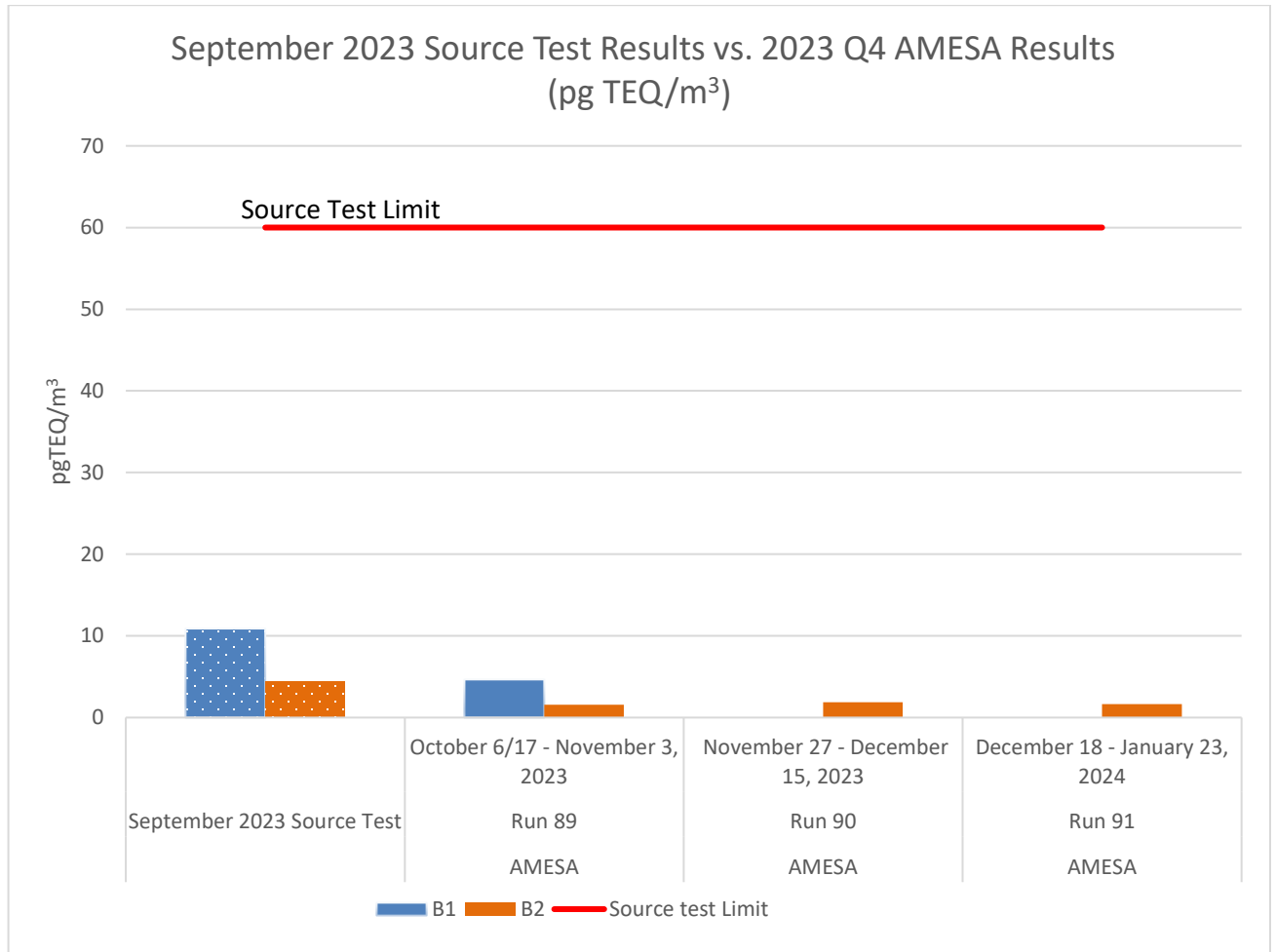


Figure 2: September 2023 Source Test Results vs. 2023 Q4 AMESA Results (pg TEQ/m³)

9. Ambient Air Dioxins and Furans Results –Fourth Quarter (Q4) 2023

The ambient air monitoring program samples for dioxins and furans. The sampling methodology, units of measurement and reporting limits are prescribed differently and cannot be compared directly to the source testing or AMESA results. The ambient air monitoring program does not measure point source emissions, but it does provide an indication of local air quality. The monitoring equipment collects air samples, capturing ambient air emissions originating from various sources within the vicinity. The results from the ambient air monitoring provide insights into local air quality and may indicate potential factors influenced by meteorological conditions, including wind speed and direction.

Figure 3 illustrates the results of the fourth quarter (Q4), at the two ambient air stations near the DYEC. The dioxins and furans levels consistently remain below the Ontario Ambient Air Quality Criteria of 0.1 picogram Toxic Equivalency per cubic meter (pgTEQ/m³).

Of additional note, the Ontario Ambient Air Quality Criteria is 10 times lower than the Ontario Regulation 419 Upper Risk Threshold of 1 pgTEQ/m³ for dioxins and furans.

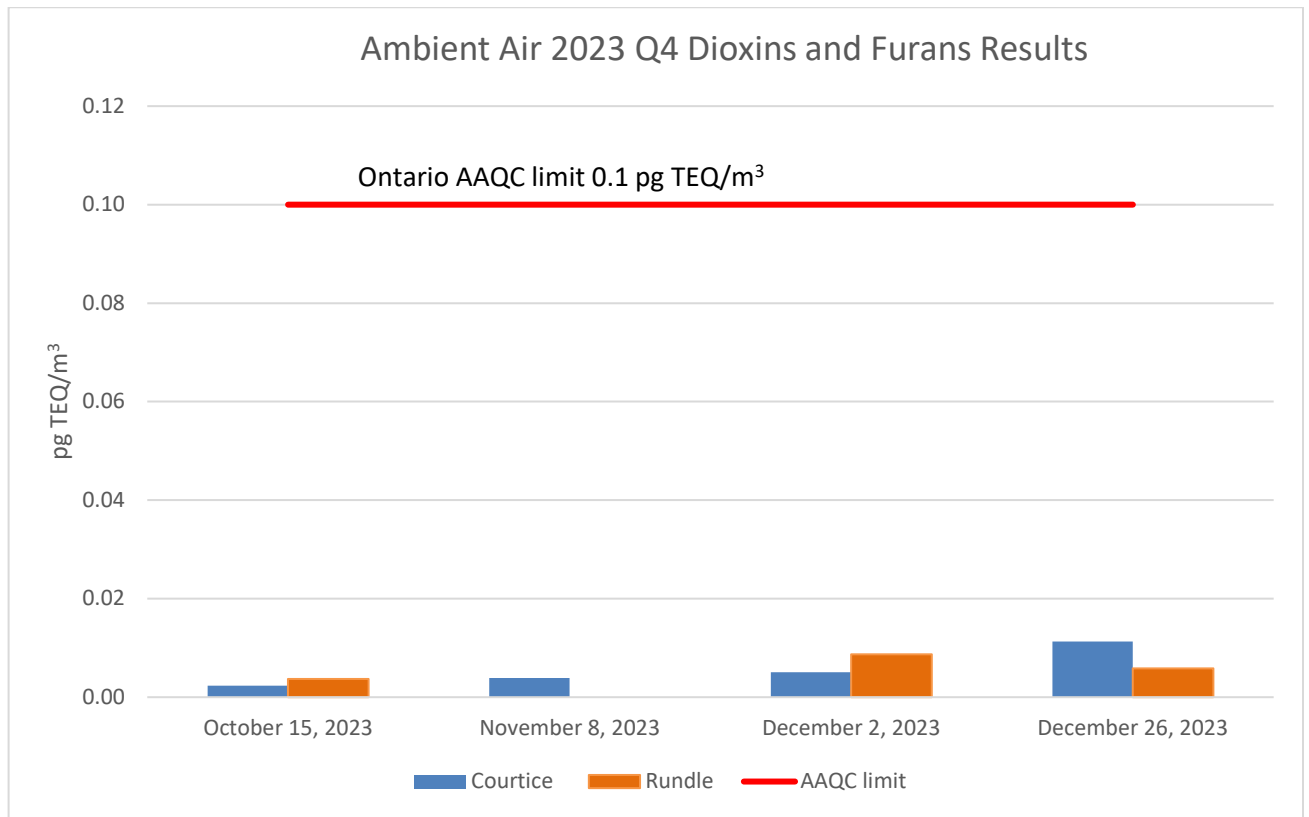


Figure 3: Ambient Air 2023 Q4 Dioxins and Furan Results
Note: The Rundle station does not have a reading for November due to equipment malfunction.

End of Report

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 4:13 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



181 Perry Street, PO Box 780
 Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7
 Phone: 905-985-7346
 Fax: 905-985-9917
 scugog.ca

Sent Via Email to: premier@ontario.ca

April 18, 2024

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

The Honourable Michale D. Ford
 Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
 14th Floor, 56 Wellesley Street
 Toronto, ON
 M7A 2E7

RE: 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 Township of Scugog, at its Regular Council meeting on March 25, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the Town of Cobourg 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:

1. **THAT** the Council of the Township of Scugog authorize the Mayor to 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 deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030;
2. **AND THAT** Council direct staff to forward this resolution to all 443 municipalities in Ontario seeking support of the ACO correspondence.

Attached please find a copy of the Architectural Conservancy Ontario correspondence dated February 8, 2024.



181 Perry Street, PO Box 780
Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7
Phone: 905-985-7346
Fax: 905-985-9917
scugog.ca

I know that you value the history and heritage of our province and the contributions made to our society of those who came before us. By preserving our architectural and built heritage, we honour those contributions and the historical foundations of our communities.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wilma Wotten".

Wilma Wotten
Mayor, Township of Scugog
/cr

Enclosure

CC All Ontario Municipalities



PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 · www.portcolborne.ca

T 905.228.8031 F 905.834.5746


E saima.tufail@portcolborne.ca

March 20, 2024

Via email: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

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

Dear Honourable Todd McCarthy:

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 3:07 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Re: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that, at its meeting of January 23, 2024 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the correspondence item received from the Township of Clearview regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support be supported.

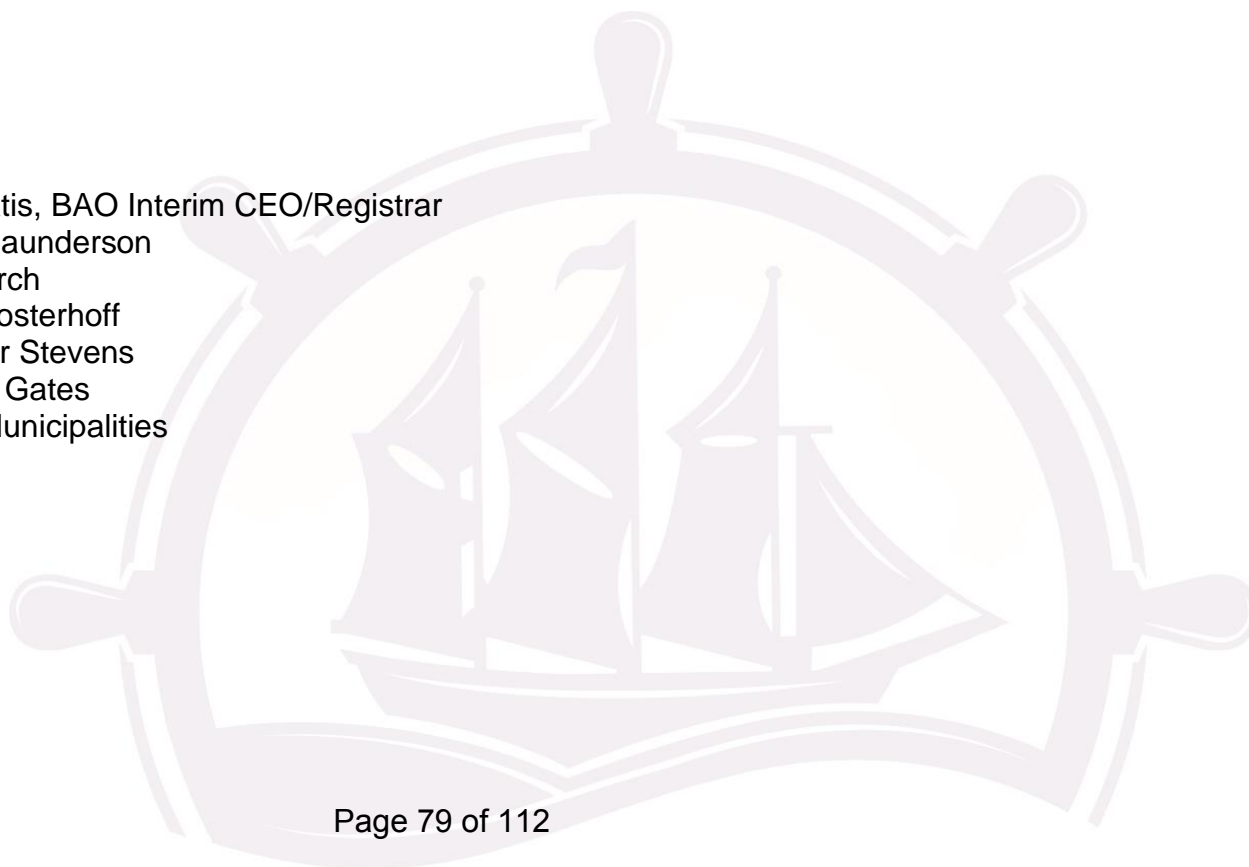
A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,



Saima Tufail
Acting City Clerk

- cc. Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
- MPP Brian Saunderson
- MPP Jeff Burch
- MPP Sam Oosterhoff
- MPP Jennifer Stevens
- MPP Wayne Gates
- All 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



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Resolution # RC24048	Meeting Order: 9
Moved by:	Seconded by:
[Redacted]	

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Wawa, having considered the 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', support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

AND FURTHER, THAT that a copy of the resolution be sent 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.

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
[Redacted]	

This document is available in alternate formats.




April 17th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Ministry of Legislative Affairs
Main Legislative Building
Room 223
111 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Ben Lobb, MP
30 Victoria Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2R6

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 17, 2024 2:36 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford, Hon. Paul Calandra, & MP Ben Lobb

Dear Premier Ford, Hon. Paul Calandra, & MP Benn Lobb:

RE: Resolution – Return to combined ROMA and OGRA Conferences

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held March 26th, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Kelso

Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution from the Town of Goderich regarding the return to combined ROMA and OGRA conferences;

AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MP Ben Lobb and be circulated to the Mayor of Mississippi Mills as the Zone 8 Representative on the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) board of directors, and the Municipalities of Ontario.

Resolved



Sincerely,



Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. Christa Lowry, Mayor of Mississippi Mills & Zone 8 Representative on the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) board of directors
All Ontario Municipalities



Office of the Warden, C.A.O. & Clerk
Hastings County

235 Pinnacle St. Postal Bag 4400,
Belleville ON K8N 3A9

Tel: (613) 966-1311

Fax: (613) 966-2574

www.hastingscounty.com


April 17, 2024

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:	April 17, 2024 3:09 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Hastings County Motion regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

Please be advised that Hastings County Council, at its meeting held on March 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario’s small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries;

WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

WHEREAS the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario’s large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

WHEREAS small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

WHEREAS it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Hastings County call on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities;

AND THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group that includes a member of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma;


AND FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington; MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Cathy Bradley
Director of Legislative Services

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 24, 2024 8:51 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

April 23, 2024

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

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

**Re: Provincial Regulations Needed to Restrict Keeping of Non-native ("exotic") Wild Animals
 Our File 35.11.2**

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting held on April 8, 2024, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS Ontario has more private non-native ("exotic") wild animal keepers, roadside zoos, mobile zoos, wildlife exhibits and other captive wildlife operations than any other province; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has of yet not developed regulations to prohibit or restrict animal possession, breeding, or use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals in captivity; and

WHEREAS non-native ("exotic") wild animals can pose very serious human health and safety risks, and attacks causing human injury and death have occurred in the province; and

WHEREAS the keeping of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can cause poor animal welfare and suffering, and poses risks to local environments and wildlife; and

WHEREAS owners of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can move from one community to another even after their operations have been shut down due to animal welfare or public health and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS municipalities have struggled, often for months or years, to deal with non-native ("exotic") wild animal issues and have experienced substantive regulatory, administrative, enforcement and financial challenges; and

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) and the Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association (MLEOA) have indicated their support for World Animal Protection's campaign for provincial regulations of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and roadside zoos in letters to the Ontario Solicitor General and Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines hereby petitions the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding, and use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and license zoos in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario's citizens and the non-native ("exotic") wild animal population; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support, the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Solicitor General, Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry, MPP Jennie Stevens, MPP Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Jeff Burch, AMO, AMCTO, and MLEAO.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Kristen Sullivan, City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
:av

cc: The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Local MPPs
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association of Ontario (MLEAO)
All Municipalities of Ontario



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 3:35 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

April 18, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Request for Provincial Support for Cemetery Operations

At its meeting of April 10, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-066, regarding Request for Provincial Support for Cemetery Operations, as follows:

“WHEREAS under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, 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 the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge 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 operations:

1. That the Province of Ontario provide annual funding (equitably allocated based on the operating costs of cemeteries) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

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

2. Provide free training opportunities and resources for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
3. 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 Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario CEO/Registrar, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

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

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

Yours truly,



Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 4:02 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

April 18, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Correspondence from Muskoka Domestic Abuse Review Team, dated January 2024, regarding Declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic

At its meeting of April 10, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-068, regarding Declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic, as follows:

“WHEREAS in June 2022 the Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam Inquest was held to investigate the circumstances surrounding the deaths of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam, all of whom were killed by the same perpetrator on September 22, 2015;

AND WHEREAS the jury returned eighty-six (86) powerful recommendations, the first calling on the Ontario Government to declare of Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic;

AND WHEREAS on August 16th, 2023, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Arif Virani described Gender-Based Violence as “an epidemic” in the federal government’s formal response to a coroner’s inquest, also stating that his government is committed to ending the Gender-Based Violence epidemic “in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response”;

AND WHEREAS the incidences of Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence has not kept pace;

AND WHEREAS by declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic, the Town of Bracebridge can join the growing number of municipalities in Ontario demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge declares Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to declare Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

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

AND FURTHER THAT that this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity; Attorney General; Solicitor General; Minister of Health; Member of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); Muskoka Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

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

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

Yours truly,



Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



**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

April 23, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Andrea Fisher, Clerk
The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5

Dear: Clerk Fisher,

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 24, 2024 8:49 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Town of Goderich Resolution – 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 April 15, 2024, passed, and endorsed the following resolution:

Moved: Councillor Korstanje

Seconded: Councillor DiFlavio

Resolved that the Town of Goderich's resolution regarding a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program financial assistance rates be received and endorsed.

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

Regards,



Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Premier Doug Ford
Hon. Paul Calandra
MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron–Bruce
Hon. Sylvia Jones
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
Ontario Municipalities

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Catalina Blumenberg
Clerk
Prince Edward County
332 Picton Main Street
Picton, Ontario
K0K 2T0

SENT VIA EMAIL: clerks@pecounty.on.ca

RE: Town of Goderich Resolution – Review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates

Dear C. Blumenberg,

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, March 18, 2024, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Segeren

Seconded By: Councillor Kelly

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 percent 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 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 Town of Goderich requests the Provincial Government to urgently:

1. 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”;
2. Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;
3. 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, Huron County Social and Property Services, the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

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
Hon. Sylvia Jones Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association dball@omssa.com
Huron County Social and Property Services
Western Ontario Wardens Caucus
Ontario Municipalities



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 3:10 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Resolution # RC24085	Meeting Order: 8
M: [REDACTED]	S: [REDACTED]

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Wawa supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND FURHTERMORE THAT, the Municipality of Wawa calls 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;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, MPP John Yakabuski, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and all Ontario Municipalities.”

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input 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.



Council Resolution Form

Date: 21 Mar 2024 No: Resolution No.63-24
 Moved By: Councillor Tripp Disposition: CARRIED.
Seconded by Councillor Popkie
 Item No: 12.3

Description: Funding for the 2024 Municipal Equipment Operator Course

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Township of Greater Madawaska supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....n/a.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

_____ Page 1 of 2 _____
MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: n/a..... Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote

AND THAT, the Township of Greater Madawaska calls 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;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, MPP John Yakabuski, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Recorded Vote Requested by:

.....n/a.....

	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	_____	_____
T. Popkie	_____	_____
L. Thomson	_____	_____
R. Tripp	_____	_____
R. Weir	_____	_____

_____  _____
MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

.....n/a.....

Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 18, 2024 4:21 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Resolution # RC24087	Meeting Order: 10
Mo	[Redacted]

WHEREAS the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

AND WHEREAS Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

AND WHEREAS at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

AND WHEREAS the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

AND WHEREAS people with disabilities and advocates, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Wawa is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

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The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa Council strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modelled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

AND FURTHER THAT that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Table with 4 columns: RESOLUTION RESULT, RECORDED VOTE, YES, NO. Rows include CARRIED, DEFEATED, TABLED, RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT), PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED, and WITHDRAWN.

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: _____

Table with 2 columns: MAYOR - MELANIE PILON, CLERK - MAURU O'NEILL

March 28, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 26, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for 'a call to action' to meet the deadline of an Accessible Ontario by 2025 was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-151

DATE: March 26, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor MacNaughton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Pennell

WHEREAS the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

WHEREAS Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

WHEREAS at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

WHEREAS the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

WHEREAS people with disabilities and advocates, including Prince Edward County's Accessibility Advisory Committee, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

WHEREAS Prince Edward County is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA

standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor write a letter in support of this resolution to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton, Councillor Pennell, and Marcia Wallace, CAO

