



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, September 27, 2024

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7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

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8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

There are no Advisory/Other Committee Minutes

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

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2024-INFO-58
Date: September 27, 2024

Subject:

Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessments; Extreme Heat Report

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on Durham Region Health Department's (DRHD's) Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessments (CCHVAs).

2. Background

2.1 DRHD is mandated to conduct health vulnerability assessments under the [Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability](#) (OPHS).

2.2 The [Healthy Environments and Climate Change Guideline](#) of the OPHS requires DRHD to assess health impacts related to climate change.

2.3 DRHD is completing the following seven reports in a special CCHVA series called Understanding the Local Health Impacts of Climate Change:

- a. A [background primer on climate change and health](#) in Durham Region, which was released on August 12, 2024, followed by six CCHVAs on:
 - Extreme heat
 - Solar UV radiation
 - Vector-borne disease
 - Food and water impacts
 - Extreme weather

- Air quality

2.4 The report series aims to:

- a. Improve understanding of the links between climate change and health.
- b. Assess the risks of local climate hazards and associated health impacts.
- c. Prioritize health equity and priority populations.
- d. Establish a baseline for future analysis.

2.5 The extreme heat CCHVA entitled [Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Extreme Heat](#) was released on September 23, 2024.

2.6 Reviews and feedback on the report were provided by the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and Regional Sustainability staff of the Office of the CAO.

2.7 The report, along with an executive summary are available at www.durham.ca/ClimateAndHealth.

3. Report Highlights

3.1 The report explores current and future health impacts of extreme heat in Durham Region.

3.2 It establishes an equity-focused framework for assessing and addressing factors of heat vulnerability based on extreme heat exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity.

3.3 It provides a knowledge base to support diverse strategies to prepare and protect residents, particularly those worst affected and least protected from extreme heat.

3.4 Key findings of the report:

- a. Durham Region should be prepared for increasing frequency and intensity of extreme heat events due to climate change.
 - Extreme heat events in Durham Region are expected to more than double in the coming decades.
- b. Health impacts may be severe but are also preventable:
 - Extreme heat events are the deadliest weather-related events in Canada and are associated with severe illness, pregnancy complications, hospitalization and death.
 - Extreme heat can overwhelm and disrupt health systems.
 - Durham Region data demonstrate increased health burden and emergency room visits associated with temperatures above 30° C.

- It is possible to prevent local heat-related illness and death by reducing heat exposure, prioritizing those most sensitive to negative health impacts and supporting local capacity for taking protective measures.
- c. Not everyone is affected equally and there is strong evidence of a social gradient of heat-related health impacts. There is a need to prioritize residents who are worst affected and least protected, including:
- Durham Region's large and rapidly growing older adult population.
 - People living in Durham's seven priority neighbourhoods due to the convergence of multiple risk factors within these settings.
 - People living in urban heat islands and hot buildings who may be exposed to even higher than forecasted temperatures.
 - People living in places at greater risk of high indoor temperatures.
- d. As residents experience the strain of increasing extreme heat, so will the natural environment.
- Deforestation and land-use change have contributed to extreme heat vulnerability in the Region.
 - Heat tolerant, nature-based solutions can cool neighborhoods and increase heat resilience.
- e. Increasing heat resilience requires addressing key knowledge gaps such as:
- Data and information about residents without cooling systems and their heat coping barriers and needs.
 - Methods for identifying and reaching isolated individuals during heat waves.
 - Data on the distribution, accessibility, and use of cooling centres.
 - Identification of community spaces with high need for shade/green space.
- f. Local strengths to protect Durham Region residents from extreme heat include:
- Existing forests, wetlands, and grasslands crucial to heat mitigation.
 - DRHD's Heat Warning and Information System.
 - The Region-wide Durham Greener Homes Program.
 - The Region's energy efficiency and resilience strategy for the Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation multi-unit seniors building portfolio that includes in-home cooling.
 - Tree planting such as Regional collaboration with local municipalities to promote and subsidize the LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) backyard tree planting program.
 - Strong shade policies in some municipalities.

4. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability

- 1.4: Demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

b. 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.
- 2.5: Build a healthy, inclusive, age-friendly community where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The extreme heat report will be disseminated and promoted to municipal and community partners. The communication plan includes a news release and social media messages to build public awareness of extreme heat as one of the six climate hazards of concern for communities as well as the link between extreme heat and health.

5.2 The remaining reports of the CCHVA series will be completed, published and promoted in sequence.

5.3 The next report entitled, Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Solar Ultraviolet Radiation, is expected in the winter of 2024.

5.4 The report development process will continue to integrate the review and feedback of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and Regional Sustainability staff.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The CCHVA report series is intended to help decision-makers better understand the health risks that Durham Region residents will face in the coming years.

6.2 It will help guide equity-focused adaptation plans to protect residents, especially those who are most affected and least protected.

6.3 The CCHVA report series will help support municipalities, community organizations and residents respond to the growing impacts of climate change.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2024-INFO-59
Date: September 27, 2024

Subject:

Update on Durham Region's Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update from February to August 2024 on the progress and achievements of the Durham Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan.
- 1.2 The Action Plan was designed to address the complex challenges faced by individuals experiencing homelessness and to improve the effectiveness of services and support systems.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) acts as the Service System Manager, legislated by the province, and as the Community Entity, designated by the federal government, and is responsible for the planning and coordination of the homelessness support system across Durham.
 - a. Development, oversight and ongoing improvement of the homelessness support system is included in this role with the goal to reduce and ultimately end chronic homelessness in Durham.
 - b. Despite ongoing efforts to address homelessness in Durham, the number of individuals who are unhoused continues to rise. This increase is attributed to the growing complexities within the population including mental health challenges, and a lack of affordable housing options. The Region's By-Name List has reached 786 individuals based on [August 2024 Built for Zero Report Card](#).

- c. In 2024, a total of 225 individuals were successfully housed from the By-Name List (BNL), while 58 individuals transitioned into public institutions such as jail, hospitals, or treatment facilities, as formally recognized by the governing body.

2.2 The [Durham Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan](#) identifies the following five strategic goals and corresponding strategic priorities:

- a. Implement System Integration, Planning and Management
 - Demonstrate leadership in homelessness prevention and response
 - Collaborate across sectors to ensure value for investments and quality services
 - Engage community members with lived experience to inform system planning
 - Increase data management capacity
- b. Improve System Capacity and Service Levels
 - Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services
 - Collaborate for a seamless service experience
 - Develop service responses to meet needs through collaboration and evidence-informed decision making
 - Enhance service quality and accountability
 - Expand homelessness prevention initiatives
- c. Expand Social and Community Investment
 - Ensure system design and investments provide service access
 - Create strategies to respond to service gaps
 - Invest in housing as a solution to homelessness
- d. Achieve System Excellence
 - Leverage community assets to ensure service delivery and quality
 - Enhance communication to increase public awareness of needs and access to services
 - Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and accountability
- e. Boost System Growth of Housing Supply
 - Increase number of affordable housing units
 - Increase number of transitional and supportive housing units

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 [Presentation: January 2024 – Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan](#)
- 3.2 [2023-INFO-11: A Review and Renewed Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System for Durham Region](#)
- 3.3 [2023-SS-6: Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System Update](#)
- 3.4 [2023-SS-9: A Second Update on Durham Region’s Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System](#)
- 3.5 [2024-INFO-40: Update on Durham Region’s Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan](#)

4. Implement System Integration Planning and Management

- 4.1 The following outcomes have been achieved, aligning with this strategic goal:
 - a. Since May 2024, over 40 information sessions, workshops and presentations were given to libraries, local colleges, local municipal area by-law teams, the Lakeridge Health hospital locations and various other community supports including local businesses.
 - b. The Region partnered with OrgCode Consulting Inc. to review and revise Shelter Standards in collaboration with sector agencies. This effort focused on promoting a more dignified approach and ensuring consistency across the sector.
 - c. The Region’s Transitional Support Program and the Christian Faith Outreach Centre Patron Relations Advocate team have collaborated to provide wraparound housing readiness supports to patrons at the regional shelter located at 1635 Dundas. This includes assistance with essential life skills, navigating rental processes, securing necessary documentation, and offering guidance on maintaining long-term housing stability.
 - d. The Region collaborated with Tim Welch Consulting Inc. to develop an encampment strategy that clarifies and respects the approaches of local municipalities, addresses the needs of individuals affected by homelessness, and incorporates input from service providers and other relevant community partners. The information gathered at engagement sessions, research and public policy is the foundation of the draft strategy. Relevant community partners will have opportunities to provide input on the draft before it is finalized and presented to Council for endorsement.
 - e. The Region has coordinated the Point-in-Time (PiT) Count for Durham Region as part of a national effort to measure homelessness across Canada. This count includes both sheltered and unsheltered individuals and helps provide a snapshot of homelessness in Durham. The data collected from this count is crucial for understanding the scope of homelessness and for planning and allocating resources to address it effectively. This effort is done in partnership with the Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness and

other agencies supporting homelessness in the community, including Indigenous partners in Durham Region.

- The PiT count is scheduled to be completed in November 2024 with a final report due back to the Federal Government in January 2025.

5. Improve System Capacity and Service Levels

5.1 The Region aims to create a more resilient and responsive system that empowers individuals to transition out of homelessness and achieve sustainable housing stability.

5.2 The Region has effectively increased system capacity by:

- a. Expanding the Region's Street Outreach program to enhance support for the unsheltered population involves increasing the number of trained outreach workers, improving access to essential resources, and strengthening community partnerships.
 - The Street Outreach program has helped to facilitate over 6,808 interactions in the community.
- b. Coordinating Winter Warming Centres for the unsheltered population across Durham Region for Winter 2024/2025, with a focus on available space around the Region.

Service Provider				
Dedicated Advocacy Resource Support (DARS)	-18 years + -All genders -Pets welcome	Pickering	Peace Lutheran Church 928 Liverpool Rd, Pickering	25 Cots
Christian Faith Outreach Centre (CFOC)	-18 years + -All gender	Whitby	Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church 928 Liverpool Rd, Pickering	25 Cots
Do Unto Other (DUO)	-18 years + -All genders -Pets welcome	Oshawa	Cornerstone Gym 133 Simcoe St S Oshawa	20/30 Cots

Back Door Misson (BDM)	-18 years + -All genders -Medically vulnerable	Oshawa	Back Door Misson 66, Simcoe St S, Oshawa	15 Cots
Continuous planning with Clarington				
Continuous planning with North Durham				

c. The Learning Exchange Network continues to meet monthly with internal and external agencies to address complex cases involving the highly vulnerable population.

- The Learning Exchange Network supports all aspects of the outreach continuum, the attendees consist of outreach staff who engage with unsheltered individuals to connect them with service providers and housing first workers who provide intensive case management to secure and maintain permanent housing. Participants provide agency updates regarding program developments to ensure the system has the most up-to-date information which supports successful system navigation. This space is used to present and discuss theories on best practices to support vulnerable populations. To highlight our position as being a housing-first community, the group examines one of five housing-first principles each month and discuss ways partnering agencies can incorporate these into their service delivery. The Region collaborates, brainstorms, and shares resources to assist each other in removing barriers to support individuals with complex needs. Organically, referrals across the outreach continuum materialize and service providers can tap into others' networks and resources.

d. Continue to increase access points for the unsheltered population access the By-name list as the systems continues to address gaps.

- John Howard Society in Bowmanville was recently added to support the Clarington unsheltered population as a [community access point](#) for the By Name List.

6. Expand Social and Community Investment

6.1 Expanding social and community investments is vital to ensure a wide range of services and support are available and accessible to those who need them, thus preventing individuals from being left behind.

- 6.2 The Region has demonstrated its commitment to expanding support for homelessness through the following actions:
- a. Facilitating monthly meetings with local area municipality staff and the Homelessness team to discuss best practices and enhance strategies for addressing homelessness within each community.
 - b. Developed a partnership between local healthcare providers and the Street Outreach Team to enhance support for the unsheltered population, facilitating improved navigation and access to the health system. This collaboration aims to provide assistance and ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness receive timely and effective healthcare services.
 - c. The Regional Street Outreach and Homelessness System teams, Durham Regional Police Service, and Victim Services of Durham Region, collaborated to host a drop-in program for women experiencing homelessness and who are also victims of human trafficking or participate in survival sex work.
 - d. The Community Resource Centre located on the upper level of 200 John Street West in the City of Oshawa offers a drop-in space for individuals seeking support with system navigation, workshops (i.e., Life skills) and computer access. It also provides a safe daytime space for those experiencing homelessness, with access to seating and washroom facilities.

7. Achieve System Excellence

- 7.1 Achieving system excellence requires a collaborative effort involving all levels of government, community, and private sector. This entails substantial investment in infrastructure, resources, and expertise.
- 7.2 The Region continues to achieve excellence through various strategies:
- a. Partnering with the GAP committee to support 5 community events, ensuring that the voices of the unsheltered remain central to decision-making.
 - b. The Region continues to advocate at the federal and provincial levels for increased funding to support the services required to support and house the unsheltered population in Durham.
 - c. Monthly meetings continue with the Community Liaison Committee to discuss strengthened partnerships between the community and the patrons at who reside at 1635 Dundas.
 - d. The Region collaborated with the Durham Workforce Authority to generate a comprehensive report on compensation in the sector, aiming to gain a deeper understanding of disparities in terms of professional credentials, equitable compensation, and fairness within the Homelessness System. The report will be available to be shared by the end of October 2024.
 - e. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe is responsible for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings across Europe. In partnership with Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), they are hosting a simulation exercise in Vicenza, Italy in October 2024. This Mediterranean Regional Simulation will take place on the premises of the CoESPU in

Vicenza. It will involve trainees from Italy, Malta, Spain, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and Egypt. Canada has been invited to participate and will be sending two representatives from Durham Region to assist with the simulation, participate as members of the Team and share best practices and knowledge on Durham's local response to human trafficking. Karly Church, Human Trafficking team lead from Victim Services of Durham Region, and Jocelyn Siciliano, Area Manager in the Income, Employment and Homelessness Supports Division from Durham Region Social Services will be attending.

8. Boosting System Growth of Housing Supply

8.1 Implementing a sustained increase in the supply of housing units across the Region is crucial for boosting system growth and addressing housing needs.

8.2 The Homelessness System has demonstrated this through:

- a. Regional staff are actively working on the second phase of the engagement plan for the development of housing options at 1635 Dundas, which was presented to the [Regional Council](#) on June 26, 2024.
- b. The Community Development of Council Durham (CDCD), Opening Doors Program has expanded its initiatives to foster better landlord engagement. To date, CDCD has onboarded 35 new landlords, secured 47 units and housed 113 individuals. This program will continue to increase the availability of housing options in the Homelessness System.

9. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

- a. Goal 2: Community Vitality – To foster an exceptional quality of life with services that contribute to strong neighbourhoods, vibrant and diverse communities, and influence our safety and well-being.
- b. Goal 4: Social Investment – to ensure a range of programs, services and supports are available and accessible to those in need so that no individual is left behind.
- c. Goal 5: Service Excellence – To provide exceptional value to Durham taxpayers through responsive, effective, and fiscally sustainable service delivery.

10. Conclusion

10.1 The Region's homelessness system remains dedicated to addressing and bridging the existing gaps in the system while striving to meet the objectives outlined in the Homelessness System Action Plan.

10.2 Despite the continuous progress made, the numbers of people experiencing chronic homelessness continues to rise it is evident that sustained and meaningful impact can only be achieved through robust partnerships and increased funding.

10.3 By working collaboratively and securing the necessary resources, Durham can ensure that the efforts translate into tangible improvements in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. Together, we can build a more inclusive and supportive community for all.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services

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



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
Report: #2023-EDT-12
Date: September 5, 2023

Subject:

Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development – Closed matter regarding a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board as it relates to bringing the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) into the Regional Corporation

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee Recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the responsibility for the delivery of programs and services currently delivered by the Business Advisory Centre Durham Inc. (BACD) be assumed by the Regional Municipality of Durham, to be a new Section housed within the Economic Development and Tourism Division, subject to the satisfaction of the following three conditions:
- i) A funding agreement is executed with the Province of Ontario for the Region to assume the annual core funding for these services in the approximate amount of \$191,000 per year;
 - ii) An agreement is reached with BACD for the dissolution of the not-for-profit corporation 'Business Advisory Centre Durham Inc.' with all liabilities assumed by BACD, and assumption by the Region of responsibility for the programs and services;

- iii) Current permanent BACD personnel are appointed to roles at the Region in a permanent capacity, including the assessment of roles and satisfaction of the Region's obligations under its collective agreements, if applicable;
 - iv) The current lease at 3000 Garden Street, Suite 300 is successfully terminated;
- B) That three new permanent full-time positions, and one new permanent part-time position be created, and that staff be directed to pursue the integration of all current permanent BACD employees into these new permanent, full-time and part-time Region of Durham positions;
- C) That the CAO be authorized to execute such agreements as may be necessary to implement this integration, subject to the satisfaction of the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Finance;
- D) That the Region's fees and charges schedule be amended at a date to be determined, to include the fee schedule for the services to be provided, as included in Appendix A;
- E) That the cost and revenue associated with the Region providing the programs and services of the BACD be incorporated into future Region of Durham Business Plans and Budgets pending the successful integration;
- F) That at the appropriate time, the Board of Directors of the BACD be thanked for their contributions over the years to support and grow entrepreneurship in Durham Region, and that the Directors be invited to join an ad hoc informal advisory group to provide ongoing advice concerning the BACD strategic plan; and
- G) That at the appropriate time, the closed session confidentiality of this report may be waived by Regional Staff in order to make this report available to BACD, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (MEDJCT), Durham Area Municipalities and the public.
-

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that the programs and services of Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) be brought into the Regional Municipality of Durham subject to securing a satisfactory co-funding agreement with the province.

2. Background

- 2.1 BACD was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in May of 1999, as Durham Region's Small Business Enterprise Centre (SBEC). It was created as the result of an agreement between the Region of Durham and the Provincial Ministry now operating as the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (MEDJCT), to serve small businesses and budding entrepreneurs through the delivery of skills, knowledge, tools and resources required to start and grow successful small businesses.
- 2.2 BACD is overseen by a Board of Directors and operates under the leadership of a CEO tasked with managing the operations, delivering on the strategic plan, and fulfilling the funding obligations to the Province and Region. The Board of Directors includes one ex officio position for each of the primary funders, being the Region of Durham's Director of Economic Development & Tourism, and the MEDJCT Regional Advisor. Additionally, the Board has one member appointed by Regional Council, and a number of other at-large positions. The current Council representative on the BACD Board of Directors is Councillor Sterling Lee. The BACD team currently operates out of 3000 Garden Street, Suite 200 and consists of three full-time permanent employees, one part-time employee, and one contract service provider.
- 2.3 The Mission of BACD is for every served entrepreneur to build a successful business.
- 2.4 BACD has been delivering business planning workshops and programs for 24 years in Durham Region. They have worked with over 17,500 entrepreneurs in the community, delivering assistance to build the skills and knowledge needed to thrive and be successful in their business objectives. BACD has helped start over 2,000 businesses and delivered 2,500 workshops since inception.
- 2.5 BACD has certified business advisors with extensive experience as entrepreneurs and business owners. They are passionate about supporting the local businesses to become successful, create jobs, and contribute to a thriving community around them.

Provincial Small Business Enterprise Centres (SBEC) Program

- 2.6 The Province of Ontario, through MEDJCT, funds a network of 54 SBECs. These 54 centres offer deep local expertise pertaining to small business success. Many of these centres are managed and run by individuals who have had previous success

running their own small business, and these centres employ staff who have substantial business experience and a wealth of volunteer knowledge.

- 2.7 Collectively, the SBEC network delivers services in French and English through over 35,000 one-on-one business consultations per year, as well as through focused events on topics such as financials, accounting, bookkeeping, financial literacy for business, business planning, marketing, sales strategy, networking, business modelling, business sustainability and operations. The Provincial SBEC network supports 10,000 businesses and creates over 6,000 jobs each year.
- 2.8 The SBECs receive annual core funding from the Province through MEDJCT (in southern Ontario) and the Ministry of Northern Development (in northern Ontario), as well as matched funding from their respective municipalities.
- 2.9 In addition to small business advisory services, the SBECs are responsible for running the Starter Company Plus program (since 2014) and the Summer Company program. The provincial SBEC program has existed for 25 years, and these groups are an integral component of the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Ontario. They serve businesses in all industry sectors and all stages of the business life cycle, and to diverse audiences in both official languages.

BACD Funding Sources

- 2.10 BACD has been funded through annual core funding agreements with both the Province and Region since 1999. BACD currently receives annual funding from the Province in the amount of \$191,000 and from the Region of Durham in the total amount of \$244,222 (comprised of \$163,200 for BACD operating costs and \$81,022 for the leased office space and facility costs). BACD also receives revenue collected from event registration fees, sponsorships, and other program services delivered. The projected amount of this revenue for 2023 is \$35,000.

Jurisdictional Scan

- 2.11 Of the 54 SBECs in the provincial network, only four are independent non-profit organizations, being: BACD, London Small Business Centre, Guelph Business Centre, and Nipissing Parry Sound Business Centre.
- 2.12 The remaining 50 SBECs are housed within the local economic development organization or within the economic development department of the municipal government for that geography.

Ready Set Future: Five Year Economic Development and Tourism Strategy

2.13 In 2022, Council endorsed Ready Set Future, the Region's new five year economic development and tourism strategy. Through engagement with over 80 leaders from the Region's municipal, business, academic, and innovation communities, it was identified that there may be benefits and opportunities associated with the integration of BACD into the Region's Economic Development and Tourism Division, and that this should be explored. Action Item 3.4.6 was created, to 'Explore bringing the BACD into the Regional Corporation' in 2023.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

3.1 This is the first report recommending that BACD be brought in-house.

3.2 #2022-EDT-15 – Ready Set Future: Five Year Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan.

4. Analysis and Integration Plan

4.1 The prospect of dissolving the BACD and incorporating its functions within the Region's Economic Development and Tourism Division has been carefully considered by Regional staff from various departments, namely: Planning and Economic Development, Corporate Services (HR), Finance, and CAO's Office (Legal). Staff have determined that there would be several advantages to such a governance change, including:

- i) Improved ability to deliver services with broad geographic reach across all areas in Durham more inclusively. This would be achieved through leveraging the relationships between the Economic Development and Tourism Division and area municipal economic development staff through the Durham Economic Development Partnership (DEDP).
- ii) A more integrated approach, which will place Durham in a better position to achieve Goal 3.1 of Ready Set Future, to strengthen the innovation community and support start-ups.
- iii) Capture economies of scope by using the existing Regional Headquarters and the shared meeting rooms of that and other Regional facilities for seminars and workshops, as well as through avoided costs such as external accounting and audit fees.

- iv) Improved services delivery to entrepreneurs in the priority clusters identified in Ready Set Future: Creative Industries, Next Gen Mobility, Clean Energy, Applied Digital Tech, and Agri-Food. Since existing Regional staff have sector experience and expertise in these clusters, integration is expected to result in more valuable advice and a higher relevance of programming.
 - v) Improved service delivery through oversight by the Region's Director of Economic Development and Tourism and through the ongoing direction of Committee and Regional Council.
 - vi) Experienced Economic Development staff within the same team to help contribute to, collaborate with, and guide the long-range planning of small business initiatives.
 - vii) Renewed and strengthened partnership between the Region and the entrepreneurship community, small business community, and with MEDJCT.
 - viii) Greater public profile of the organization which may, in turn, provide opportunities to generate new revenue through corporate sponsorships (presently collected by BACD).
 - ix) Opportunity for the Region to become a recognized leader in Ontario for small business development and leverage the small business services to improve attraction of small businesses and talented entrepreneurs.
- 4.2 There were minor disadvantages identified with this proposed governance change. There is a level of autonomy and independence that would be lost affecting nimbleness and potentially flexibility. The dissolution of the Board of Directors could eliminate a source of valuable guidance from successful entrepreneurs; however, this could be mitigated by maintaining an informal advisory group comprised of successful entrepreneurs.
- 4.3 The idea of bringing BACD in-house is supported by its current CEO who ideally would stay on as a Regional employee to manage the new Section.
- 4.4 Further explained under Section 5 Financial Implications, it is projected that there could be a modest increase in Regional funding above the 2023 budgeted contribution. This financial projection is dependent on the Region securing a funding agreement with the Province, not renewing the current lease at the end of its term, and maintaining the required level of program and sponsorship revenues. In addition, by bringing the BACD services in-house at Regional headquarters the

Regional funding provided for lease costs and facility maintenance can now be redirected to core service delivery and support for small businesses. Additional details on the financial implications of this proposal are located in Section 5 of this report.

- 4.5 Importantly, the business case is entirely dependent on approval by MEDJCT to redirect the annual core operating funding from BACD to the Region of Durham, which amounted to \$191,647 in 2023. If this commitment cannot be secured, the integration will not proceed. However, it is expected that approval will be granted since Durham would be adopting the prevailing service delivery model for SBEC services in Ontario, and given the province's general support for small business and entrepreneurship.
- 4.6 Additionally, many advantages listed are dependent on the appointment of current BACD employees to equivalent positions within the Region. Their experience, expertise, and knowledge are critical to the continuity of service delivery and value to the entrepreneurship community.

Integration Plan

- 4.7 Staff have determined a recommended sequence of activities.
- 4.8 If approved by Council, the first activity will be engaging in discussions with MEDJCT and BACD. The Region and BACD will jointly notify MEDJCT of the Region's intent to assume the responsibility for small business services and programming, and request to enter into a funding agreement or take assignment of the existing funding agreement.
- 4.9 Upon successful negotiations of a funding agreement with MEDJCT, four new permanent positions will be created and assessed:
- i) Manager, Entrepreneurship Centre (reporting to the Director of Economic Development and Tourism) (full-time)
 - ii) Business Start-Up Advisor (full-time)
 - iii) Program Assistant (full-time)
 - iv) Administrator (part-time)
- 4.10 The Region will determine which, if any, of the new positions would be covered by a collective agreement and, if required, reach terms satisfactory to any applicable union to bring the current employees of BACD into the equivalent new Regional positions.

- 4.11 Upon execution of all necessary agreements, the BACD Board of Directors will be requested to wind up the not-for-profit corporation, terminating all agreements, including employment agreements, and draw on their cash reserves as necessary to satisfy all liabilities and obligations under applicable law. As part of this process the Region will work with the BACD and its Directors to negotiate the transfer of any remaining assets of interest to the Region post integration.
- 4.12 Regional staff will provide the required notice to end the lease agreement at its completion date of August 31, 2024.
- 4.13 Immediately upon successful wind-up of the corporation and subject to successfully entering into the agreements identified above, the individuals previously under the employ of BACD will be appointed to the newly created equivalent Regional positions.
- 4.14 The name 'Business Advisory Centre Durham / BACD', and the BACD brand, will become the property of Durham Region, and will continue to be used, and will be amended or refreshed from time to time.
- 4.15 The new Small Business Advisory Section will report in to the Planning and Economic Development Committee through the Economic Development and Tourism Division, and be based in Regional Headquarters.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Included as Appendix B is a proforma budget showing current revenues and expenses and projections for the two scenarios considered, business-as-usual and integrating BACD into the Region.
- 5.2 In 2023, the Region of Durham budgeted funding totaling \$244,222 for BACD core operations and facilities. BACD also receives core funding from the Province of Ontario in the amount of \$191,647 and has additional program and sponsorship revenues of approximately \$35,000, for total annual revenues of \$470,869. Budget annual expenses for 2023 including lease and facility costs are \$507,920, projecting a deficit of \$37,051 which would be drawn from BACD's reserve fund.
- 5.3 Once fully integrated into the Region of Durham, there are projected total annual expenses of \$501,598. If the Provincial contribution remained \$191,647, and BACD collects \$26,780 in sponsorships and other revenue (conservative estimate), the Region's share may increase. The Region would continue to look for opportunities

for additional efficiencies, cost savings, and revenue enhancements to reduce the overall financial impact.

6. Relationship to Strategic Plan

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

- i) Goal 3: Economic Prosperity - To build a strong and resilient economy that maximizes opportunities for business and employment growth, innovation and partnership.
 - Item 3.1 Position Durham Region as the location of choice for business
 - Item 3.2 Leverage Durham's prime geography, social infrastructure, and strong partnerships to foster economic growth
- ii) Goal 5: Service Excellence - To provide exceptional value to Durham taxpayers through responsive, effective and fiscally sustainable service delivery.
 - Item 5.1 Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 BACD delivers critical and valuable services to the entrepreneurship and small business community. In the process of developing Ready Set Future, the Region's new five-year economic development strategy, an opportunity was identified to explore bringing the valuable services of BACD into the Regional Corporation due to potential advantages.
- 7.2 Staff have carefully considered this governance change, and have determined that there would be several advantages, including improved service delivery, improved collaboration with Regional economic development staff, renewed and strengthened partnerships with the Province, and improved potential to deliver small business services throughout the entire geographic area of the Region.
- 7.3 The Finance and Corporate Services Departments and the CAO – Legal Division have reviewed this report and concur with the recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

Original signed by

Elaine Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A – Fee Schedule

Fee Schedule	Resident of Durham Region	Outside Durham Region
Business Advisory Session for Business partners / teams using Growth Wheel tool	75.00	300.00
Business Advisory Session for additional advisory sessions above 8 hours and/or if you are outside the Durham Region	50.00	200.00
Smart Start Coaching Program	240.00	750.00
Business Plan / Cash Flow Projections Review Reviewing your business plan with you including editing and suggestions for content.	150.00	600.00
BN / HST / Payroll Registration Walking you through registering for your CRA accounts.	75.00	300.00
Sole Proprietorship Registration/Service Walking you through the registration process to register your business.	25.00	100.00

Fee Schedule	Resident of Durham Region	Outside Durham Region
Google Business Profile / Directory Listing Registration	50.00	200.00
Events & Workshops 30 - 90 minutes 90 - 3 hours Half Day Full Day	25.00 45.00 60.00 75.00	
Advertise on Newsletter / Event Update Advertising on BACD's newsletter – 9,000 subscribers.	50.00	N/A
Sponsorship opportunities DIID Partner Level DIID Community Partner DIID Premier Level Event - Named	750.00 1500.00 2000.00 3500.00	

Appendix B – Proforma Budget

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget Business as Usual	2024 Budget Transition Year	2025 Budget Business as Usual*	2025 Budget BACD Integration*
EXPENSES					
Personnel (salary, salary burdens, contract services, WSIB, etc.)	360,017	357,600	439,684	368,328	460,512
Governance and Directors Insurance	2,900	2,900	-	2,987	-
Marketing, Promotion, Travel	18,988	18,250	18,000	18,540	18,540
Event and Program Delivery	9,100	9,250	9,000	9,270	9,270
Overhead, Office, Hardware, Software, General	25,676	20,700	10,890	21,321	11,216
Prof. Services, Legal, Accounting, Audit	10,217	11,000	2,000	11,330	2,060
Lease and Facility Costs	81,022	81,022	54,014	83,452	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	507,920	500,722	533,588	515,228	501,598
INCOME/SOURCE OF FUNDS					
Province of Ontario Funding	191,647	191,647	191,647	191,647	191,647
Other Income (Registration and Program Fees, Sponsorships)	35,000	34,000	26,000	35,020	26,780
Subtotal – Non- Regional Funding	226,647	225,647	217,647	226,667	218,427
Region of Durham – Core Funding	163,200	163,200	190,208	163,200	283,171
Region of Durham – Facility Funding	81,022	81,022	54,014	83,452	-
Subtotal – Region of Durham Funding	244,222	244,222	244,222	246,652	283,171
TOTAL INCOME	470,869	469,869	461,869	473,319	501,598
NET INCOME-Surplus/(Deficit)	(37,051)	(30,853)	(71,719)	(41,909)	-
Contribution from BACD reserves	37,051	30,853	71,719	41,909	

*2025 budget amounts assume inflationary increases, however some amounts, including the lease, may require negotiation.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3540.



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Regional Council
From: Commissioner of Works and Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2024-COW-40
Date: September 25, 2024

Subject:

Confidential Report of the Commissioners of Works and Finance – as it relates to information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them regarding Infrastructure Funding Agreement with the Province of Ontario

Recommendations:

That it be recommended to Regional Council:

- A) That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund Transfer Payment Agreement for the one-time Provincial grant funding in the amount of \$34.91 million approved for Durham Region’s Housing-Enabling Water System Fund project;
- B) That the by-law attached as Attachment #1 to this report to permit the Regional Municipality of Durham to enter into the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund Transfer Payment Agreement be passed at the time this report is approved and that the by-law remain confidential until its effective date as defined in the by-law;
- C) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute any necessary related agreements; and
- D) That the Regional Clerk be authorized to publicly release Report #2024-COW-40 and the requisite by-law upon confirmation of the official announcement by the Province of Ontario.

Report:**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Council of the Province of Ontario's (Province) approval of the Regional Municipality of Durham's (Region) Housing-Enabling Water System Fund (HEWSF) funding application for \$34.91 million and to seek approval for the Regional Chair and Clerk to execute the HEWSF Transfer Payment Agreement and for the necessary by-law to be approved by Regional Council.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Provincial Government established the HEWSF in the 2023 Fall Economic Statement and committed \$200 million over three years for the repair, rehabilitation, and expansion of core water infrastructure to protect communities and enable new housing development.
- 2.2 On March 21, 2024, as part of the provincial budget, the Province announced an additional \$625 million for the HEWSF.
- 2.3 The objectives for the grant are to:
- a. Enable growth and housing opportunities;
 - b. Increase access to potable water; and
 - c. Increase treatment and/or management of wastewater and stormwater.
- 2.4 The program complements the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Building Faster Fund.
- 2.5 The Region completed a full review of all current water supply and sanitary sewerage projects against the eligible criteria outlined in the program guidelines. The Oshawa Water Supply Plant (WSP) Structural Rehabilitation, Equipment Replacement, and System Redundancy Improvements that support Regional System Expansion met the criteria set out in the guidelines, including mandated construction commencement and completion dates.

- 2.6 The Region submitted its application for the Oshawa WSP project on Tuesday, April 10, 2024. The Ontario Minister of Infrastructure notified the Region on July 31, 2024, that the Region’s HEWSF application was successful.
- 2.7 All phases of construction for this project will be awarded through the Region’s competitive bid process as required by the HEWSF.

3. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 3.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
 - a. Service Excellence Goal #5.1: Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value; and
 - b. Service Excellence Goal #5.2: Collaborate for a seamless service experience.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 It is recommended that the one-time Provincial grant funding in the amount of \$34.91 million approved for Durham Region’s Housing-Enabling Water System Fund project be accepted and that the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund Transfer Payment Agreement and any other necessary documentation, including the necessary by-law to permit the Regional Municipality of Durham to enter into the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund Transfer Payment Agreement;
- 4.2 This report has been reviewed by Corporate Services – Legislative Services.
- 4.3 For additional information, contact: Mike Hubble, Director, Environmental Services, at 905-668-7711 ext. 3460.

5. Attachments

Attachment #1: By-Law (to execute the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund (Ontario) Transfer Payment Agreement)

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

Ramesh Jagannathan, MBA, M.Eng., P.Eng., PTOE
Commissioner of Works

Original signed by:

Nancy Taylor, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance/Treasurer

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by:

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

By-law # 2024-xx
of The Regional Municipality of Durham

Being a by-law to authorize the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk to execute the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund (Ontario) Transfer Payment Agreement.

Whereas the Provincial government of Ontario has approved a one-time Provincial grant funding in the amount of \$34,912,064 to be provided for Durham Region's Housing-Enabling Water System Fund project;

Now therefore, the Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham hereby enacts as follows:

That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Housing-Enabling Water System Fund (Ontario) Transfer Payment Agreement and any other necessary documents with the Province of Ontario to receive the committed funding.

That this by-law be passed as Attachment #1 to Confidential Report #2024-COW-40 and become public on the effective date.

This By-law Read and Passed on the 25th day of September 2024 and become effective on the date to be specified in the public release of this bylaw, the effective date being the date that the Province of Ontario has publicly announced the funding.

J. Henry, Regional Chair and CEO

A. Harras, Regional Clerk



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: September 27, 2024

To: Health & Social Services Committee

From: Dr. Robert Kyle

Subject: Health Information Update – September 22, 2024

Health
Department

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

*“Service Excellence
for our Communities*

UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
September 22, 2024

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/m9pfs8fe

- Expanded RSV Program Eligibility (Sep 10)

tinyurl.com/mrr5h6rh

- KI tablets available for all area residents living near generating stations (Sep 16)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/mr6jfm6v

- EU and Canada launch Health Policy Dialogue to advance Health Priorities (Sep 9)

tinyurl.com/4utvwb7

- Federal government launches new ad campaign for the Canadian Dental Care Plan, close to 650,000 Canadians have received care (Sep 9)

Global Affairs Canada

tinyurl.com/44hrthum

- Canada announces vaccines in support of the mpox outbreak in Africa (Sep 13)

tinyurl.com/3n9nabvh

- Canada announces new support for global polio eradication efforts (Sep 20)

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

tinyurl.com/mvt55f9y

- Government of Canada announces support for over 6,900 top-tier researchers, projects and infrastructure across the country (Sep 13)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/mwnabpat

- Message from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – FASD Awareness Day (Sep 9)

tinyurl.com/n2renzm5

- Message from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – World Suicide Prevention Day (Sep 10)

tinyurl.com/bde7m6sj

- Joint Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Special Advisory Committee on Toxic Drug Poisonings – Latest National Data on Substance-Related Harms (Sep 13)

tinyurl.com/2p8bzexk

- Statement from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on the Overdose Crisis (Sep 13)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Ministry of Health

tinyurl.com/4m9z6774

- Ontario Enhancing Tools to Help People Prepare for Respiratory Illness Season (Sep 10)

tinyurl.com/24v2jnwb

- Ontario Connecting People to Faster Emergency Care (Sep 12)

tinyurl.com/3bms5ark

- Ontario Government and Ontario Medical Association Reach Agreement to Increase Access to Primary Care (Sep 12)

tinyurl.com/48rrutbw

- Ontario Expanding Access to Palliative Care (Sep 17)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Canada Health Infoway

tinyurl.com/34kzea95

- Canada Health Infoway, Canadian Medical Association Survey Shows Physicians are Embracing Connected Care Solutions (Sep 12)

Canadian Climate Institute

tinyurl.com/3sdnz6cf

- Experts estimate modest drop in 2023 emissions, with big differences across Canada (Sep 19)

Canadian Medical Association

tinyurl.com/y5j3epd8

- New health funding analysis sparks call for Chief Health Accountability Officer (Sep 9)

tinyurl.com/3ukuc3e9

- CMA apologizes to Indigenous Peoples for harms caused by medical profession (Sep 19)

Canadian Partnership Against Cancer

tinyurl.com/cv534jfm

- CPAC-HEC program to support at-home palliative care by paramedics saved money, time and trips to emergency rooms (Sep 10)

Feed Ontario

tinyurl.com/3ujzb377

- Ontarians are Drowning Amid Surging Affordability Crisis (Sep 10)

GlaxoSmithKline Inc.

tinyurl.com/yc4b33v4

- New survey reveals widespread lack of awareness about Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) among older Canadians, despite health risks for this population (Sep 9)

Kids Help Phone

tinyurl.com/yyddr2fx

- Kids Help Phone Launches Canada's only National Digital Platform to Connect Youth with Trusted Mental Health and Wellbeing Services (Sep 19)

Lakeridge Health

tinyurl.com/564xzc5v

- Interim Helipad Opens in Bowmanville, a Major Step in the Bowmanville Hospital Redevelopment Journey (Sep 4)

Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences

tinyurl.com/w94wxaa8

- Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences introduces free pharmacogenetic testing to improve outcomes for eligible patients (Sep 16)

World Health Organization

tinyurl.com/y6m5d5pj

- WHO updates influenza care guidelines, includes recommendations for viruses with pandemic potential (Sep 13)

tinyurl.com/nhczxr3v

- "Get it right, make it safe!": WHO highlights safe diagnosis during global campaign for patient safety (Sep 17)



The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Sent by E-Mail

September 18, 2024

Re: Provincial Regulations Needed to Restrict Keeping of Non-Native ('Exotic') Wild Animals

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on September 16, 2024:

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;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Ajax Council calls on the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding, and use of non-native (“exotic”) wild animals and license zoos 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
2. This resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Solicitor General, Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry, Region of Durham MPPs, all Durham Region municipalities, AMO, AMCTO, and MLEOA.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6329 or Jaclyn.Grossi@ajax.ca

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi
Municipal Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor M. Crawford
Councillor N. Henry
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Ontario Solicitor General
Hon. Graydon Smith, Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry
Region of Durham MPPs
All Durham Region municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers’ Association of Ontario



The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Sent by E-Mail

September 18, 2024

Re: Support for the ‘Solve the Crisis’ Campaign and Requesting Action to Address the Growing Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness Crisis

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on September 16, 2024:

WHEREAS a humanitarian crisis unfolding in communities across Ontario requires immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province;

AND WHEREAS the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023, an estimated 234,000 Ontarians experiencing homelessness and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023;

AND WHEREAS according to Regional Report #2024-INFO-40, ‘Update on Durham Region’s Integrated Homelessness System Action Plan’, from May 31, 2024, the Durham By-Name List reported a total of 1045 individuals experiencing homelessness in 2023;

AND WHEREAS while the provincial government has provided additional funding for mental health, addictions and homelessness programs, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to develop and implement community-specific solutions, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity and resources needed to address these increasingly complex healthcare and housing issues alone;

AND WHEREAS mental health, addictions and homelessness is primarily a healthcare challenge that falls squarely within provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund community programs;

AND WHEREAS there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Ajax Council confirms support of the Solve the Crisis Campaign and calls on Ajax residents to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca; and
2. Ajax Council asks that:
 - a. the provincial and federal governments commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially; and
 - b. the province appoint a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports; and
 - c. the province strike a task force with broad sector representatives, including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry, to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan and to review proven successful programs in communities to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively; and
 - d. the province establish adequate and sustainable funding to equip municipalities with the tools and resources required to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted; and
3. A copy of this motion be sent to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, all Durham Region MPs, all Durham Region MPPs, John Henry, Durham Regional Chair, all Durham Region municipalities, and Ontario's Big City Mayors.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6329 or Jaclyn.Grossi@ajax.ca


Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi
Municipal Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor S. Lee
Mayor S. Collier

Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Hon Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
All Durham Region MPs
All Durham Region MPPs
John Henry, Durham Regional Chair
All Durham Region municipalities
Ontario's Big City Mayors

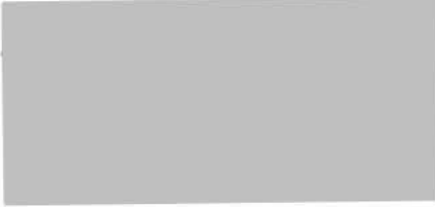
 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 19, 2024 1:20 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



Resolution # 2024- 106

Date: September 18, 2024

Moved by:



Seconded by:

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of Hilliard received correspondence from the Municipality of Tweed dated June 17, 2024 regarding a request for the government to implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of Hilliard does hereby endorse the letter from the Municipality of Tweed and request the Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities and;

FURTHERMORE that a copy of the resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Councillor	For	Against
Bolesworth, Laurie	✓	
Lane, Dan	A	
Veley, Phil	✓	
Peckover, Karen	✓	
Carleton, Betty	✓	
Carried	✓	
Defeated		

[Redacted Signature]

Reeve

[Redacted Signature]

Clerk

Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting



Resolution No. 229
Title: Councillor P. Valiquette
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Moved by P. Valiquette
Seconded by J. Palmateer

WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario Government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario; AND WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, bridges, water/ wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets;

AND WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources;

AND 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;

AND WHEREAS in 2015 the provincial government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract J.P.P. (5.1) locations;

AND 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; and \$534 million to Ottawa for the repatriation of Hwy 174;

AND WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million;

AND WHEREAS this annual cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Express Way, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the Province overall;

AND WHEREAS this will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs while having a minimal impact on the provincial budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Municipality of Tweed call on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct staff to circulate this resolution to Premier Doug Ford (premier@ontario.ca), Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca) and all Municipalities in Ontario.


Carried



AMANDA FUSCO
 Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk
 Corporate Services Department
 Kitchener City Hall, 2nd Floor
 200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118
 Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7
 Phone: 519.741.2200 x 7809 Fax: 519.741.2705
amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca
 TTY: 519-741-2385

September 19, 2024

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

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 20, 2024 8:52 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on August 26, 2024, passed the following resolution regarding Renovictions and Safe and Adequate Housing:

"WHEREAS the City of Kitchener adopted the resolution, “‘Renovictions’ - Safe and Adequate Housing” on October 18, 2021, advocating to the Province of Ontario to take additional and meaningful steps to address the ever-increasing problem of Renovictions;

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener is taking meaningful steps to help address the issue with the legislated tools available to municipalities including adopting Inclusionary Zoning By-law and a Rental Replacement By-law;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to urge the Province of Ontario to proclaim and bring into force all regulations pertaining to Bill 97, Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023,

THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to request to the Province of Ontario to amend the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, and/or related regulations to:

- a. reintroduce vacancy control legislation which ties rents to residential units rather than tenancies;
- b. introduce rent control to cover units first occupied after November 15, 2018;
- c. require landlords of residential units to be responsible for finding temporary accommodation or provide sufficient relocation assistance for their tenants for the duration of the renovations if tenants intend to return post - repair/renovation;

- d. require landlords to obtain a building permit before issuing an N13 notice of termination, provide a copy of the applicable permit to tenants together with any N13 notice of termination, require evidence that the permit was delivered with the N13 notice of termination as part of any L2 application to end a tenancy filed on that basis, and require the approved permit be provided to the LTB as part of any L2 application to end a tenancy filed on the basis of an N13 notice of termination;
- e. provide the same rights and compensation afforded to tenants in buildings with five (5) or more units to those in buildings with less than five (5) units;
- f. increase the required compensation for tenants in no-fault evictions;
- g. remove ex parte eviction orders for breached repayment agreements;
- h. require landlords to attach a plain-language tenants' rights information package to N13 eviction notices;
- i. regulate N11s and buy-out agreements; and
- j. amend Above Guideline Increase (AGI) rules to eliminate the eligibility of capital expenditures that constitute general repair and maintenance of the property; add a new subsection requiring landlords to save 10 percent of rental income to be accessed for capital expenditures; and require landlords to notify tenants of the decrease in advance of the date when rent is required to be reduced as specified in an order permitting an AGI related to eligible capital expenses;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to urge to the province of Ontario to make the following operational changes to the Landlord Tenant Tribunal (LTB):

- a. allow tenants the right to in-person LTB hearings to eliminate technological barriers for individuals who do not have access to digital devices or reliable internet connection;
- b. simplify LTB notices with plain language so they are easily understood and ensure all forms include a tracking number that is linked to a public registry; and
- c. establish a provincial rental registry that tracks building ownership, rental rates, AGIs and their expiry dates, and LTB eviction filings and their outcomes; and monitor data on N12 and N13 evictions.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing, all other municipalities within Ontario, the Region of Waterloo and other Municipalities for their consideration and possible endorsement.”

Yours truly,



A. Fusco
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Cc: Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and
Housing
Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities Ontario
Will Short, Clerk, Region of Waterloo
Ontario Municipalities
Sloane Sweazey, Senior Policy Advisor, City of Kitchener




374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

September 18, 2024

AMCTO Advocacy Team
2680 Skymark Ave, Suite 610
Mississauga, ON L4W 5L6

Senty by Email to: advocacy@amcto.com

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 23, 2024 10:51 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Re: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

At its regular meeting of Council held on September 18, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

Resolution #: 3

Moved by: G. Little

Seconded by: B. Metzger

WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections.

WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process,

WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026.

WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the *Assessment Act, 1990* and the *Education Act, 1990* also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario.

WHEREAS with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the *MEA* containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill.

WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce.

WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges.

WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities.

WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration.

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Township of Amaranth calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

And Be It Further Resolved that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca), the Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca), the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery (todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca), Minister of Finance (Minister.fin@ontario.ca) the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca), Sylvia Jones MPP (sylvia.jones@ontario.ca) and AMCTO (advocacy@amcto.com)

CARRIED

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

Yours truly,

Original signed by

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

cc. All Ontario Municipalities

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca)

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery (todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)

Minister of Finance (Minister.fin@ontario.ca)

Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca)

Sylvia Jones MPP (sylvia.jones@ontario.ca)



MUNICIPALITÉ DE CASSELMAN
ORDRE DU JOUR
RÉUNION ORDINAIRE

Réunion Ordinaire

Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 24, 2024 11:26 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

No. du point à l'ordre du jour: 12.1.2.

No. du point 2024-220

Titre: Canton de Russell - Résolution visant à soutenir les mises à jour provinciales de l'AMCTO concernant la loi sur les élections municipales

Date: le mardi 17 septembre 2024

Proposé par: Francine Leblanc

Appuyé par: Paul Groulx

Attendu que les règles électorales doivent être claires, qu'elles doivent aider les candidats et les électeurs à participer aux élections et les administrateurs électoraux à organiser les élections; et

Attendu que la législation doit trouver un juste équilibre entre la fourniture de règles et de cadres clairs pour garantir l'intégrité du processus électoral; et

Attendu que la législation doit également réduire le fardeau administratif et opérationnel pour le personnel municipal en veillant à ce que les administrateurs électoraux locaux puissent organiser les élections d'une manière qui réponde aux circonstances uniques de leurs communautés locales; et

Attendu que la Loi de 1996 sur les élections municipales (LEM) aura 30 ans au moment des prochaines élections municipales et scolaires en 2026; et

Attendu que la LEM établit les règles pour les élections locales, que la Loi de 1990 sur l'évaluation foncière et la Loi de 1990 sur l'éducation contiennent également des dispositions ayant une incidence sur les élections locales, ce qui augmente le nombre d'endroits où les électeurs, les candidats et les administrateurs doivent chercher les règles qui régissent le processus démocratique local en Ontario; et

Attendu qu'avec des règles réparties dans trois textes législatifs, et que la Loi sur l'éducation contient un ensemble de clauses disparates, il y a des problèmes d'interprétation, des incohérences et des lacunes à combler; et

Attendu que la loi peut poser des difficultés aux électeurs, aux candidats, aux donateurs et aux annonceurs tiers qui doivent la lire, l'interpréter, s'y conformer et aux administrateurs électoraux qui doivent l'appliquer; et

Attendu que si les élections locales sont gérées aussi efficacement que possible dans le cadre législatif actuel, une modernisation et une amélioration continue sont nécessaires pour garantir que la loi réponde aux besoins d'aujourd'hui et aux défis de demain; et

Attendu que pour conserver la confiance du public et améliorer les garanties, la loi devrait être révisée en tenant compte du paysage en constante évolution qui a une incidence sur l'administration des élections, y

compris la protection de la vie privée, les menaces d'ingérence étrangère, la propagation accrue de la désinformation et l'utilisation accrue de technologies telles que l'intelligence artificielle et l'utilisation d'identités numériques; et

Attendu que « Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario » (AMCTO) a examiné la loi et a formulé plusieurs recommandations, notamment la modernisation de la législation, l'harmonisation des règles et la rationalisation et la simplification de l'administration; et

Attendu que AMCTO a formulé des recommandations de modifications avant les élections de 2026 et des recommandations de modifications à plus long terme avant les élections de 2030; par conséquent

Il est résolu que la Municipalité de Casselman demande à la province de mettre à jour la LEM avec les modifications prioritaires décrites par AMCTO avant l'été 2025 et de commencer à examiner et à réécrire la LEM avec des recommandations à plus long terme avant les élections de 2030; et qu'il soit en outre

Résolu que cette résolution soit transmise à toutes les municipalités de l'Ontario pour obtenir leur appui et que chaque appui soit ensuite transmis au ministre des Affaires municipales et du Logement, au ministre de l'Éducation, au ministre de la Prestation des services publics et commerciaux, au ministre des Finances, au premier ministre de l'Ontario, au député provincial de Glengarry-Prescott-Russell et à AMCTO.

Adoptée

Sébastien Dion



Signed with ConsignO Cloud (2024/09/18)
Verify with verifio.com or Adobe Reader.

Sébastien Dion, Greffier



**MUNICIPALITY OF CASSELMAN
AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING**

Regular Meeting

Agenda Number: 12.1.2.
Resolution Number 2024-220
Title: Russell Township - AMCTO Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Moved by: Francine Leblanc
Seconded by: Paul Groulx

Whereas elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections; and

Whereas legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process; and

Whereas the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities; and

Whereas the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026; and

Whereas the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act, 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario; and

Whereas with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the MEA containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill; and

Whereas the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce; and

Whereas while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges; and

Whereas to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities; and

Whereas the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the

Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration; and

Whereas AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections; therefore

Be it resolved that the Municipality of Casselman calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections; and be it further

Resolved that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, Minister of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, MPP of Glengarry-Prescott-Russell and AMCTO.

Sébastien Dion

Signed with ConsignO Cloud (2024/09/18)
Verify with verifio.com or Adobe Reader.




Carried


Sébastien Dion, Clerk

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE: September 17, 2024
FILE: AINA45 & LALM3
S.R.: 5898-24
MEMO TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors
FROM: R. Perry Sisson, Director, Engineering, Field Operations, and Education
SUBJECT: **Kite Concerns - Heber Down Conservation Area**

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	September 20, 2024 1:40 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform the CLOCA Board of Directors of recent issues with abandoned kite string at Heber Down Conservation Area and related safety concerns.

Background:

CLOCA staff were made aware of an incident that occurred at the Heber Down Conservation Area in August when a cyclist sustained an injury after riding into kite string. The incident occurred approximately 500m from the Heber Down (North) parking lot located at 5000 Cochrane Street, Whitby. We are uncertain if the kite string related to the incident was placed maliciously or if the string drifted onto the trail. Both CLOCA and Durham Region Police Services posted notices warning Conservation Area visitors to be aware and cautious. CLOCA staff completed a thorough inspection of the Heber Down CA trails and although the marked trails were clear, they did find kite string on an unsanctioned trail. Since the incident, a Conservation Area Trail Steward (CATS) volunteer found kite string in the meadow near the Cochrane Street entrance on August 23rd, and on September 2nd, a CATS volunteer observed kite fliers at the Maple Leaf picnic site and collected 4 fallen kites and 5 long strings on the adjacent trails. The picnic sites have not been booked on the evenings that the kite flying has occurred.

Kite Fighting:

Kite fighting is an activity where two or more participants fly kites with the aim of cutting an opponent's kite string. The losing kite and string drifts away uncontrolled. The string used for kite fighting is abrasive or chemically treated to enhance the ability to cut the opponent's string. Abandoned string is hazardous because it drifts until it becomes lodged in tree branches or other vegetation, is difficult to see, and can cut people, pets, and wildlife that become entangled in it. The string also poses a maintenance issue when entangled in mowing and trimming equipment. Kite fighting has been banned in all public and private property in Oakville and in the Town of Mono. In Toronto, a By-Law prohibits flying a kite with hazardous string and competitive kite flying in parks.

Given the safety and environmental concerns, staff recommend implementing a kite flying policy for all CLOCA lands. The policy will ban kite fighting on all CLOCA owned lands and will allow CLOCA staff to reject any day use rental applications related to kite fighting. The policy will enable CLOCA enforcement officers to stop any kite fighting activity or use of hazardous string that is encountered on our Conservation Areas.

Cont'd

Conclusion:

Our experience demonstrates that kite fighting activity results in abandoned kites and string entangled in vegetation throughout nearby natural areas. Kite fighting and/or the use of hazardous kite string poses a risk to the safety of our Conservation Area visitors, pets, and wildlife. Kite fighting or the use of hazardous string is not an appropriate activity for our Conservation Areas and should be controlled through a kite flying policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

***THAT Staff Report #5898-24 be received for information; and,
THAT staff be directed to implement a kite flying policy for all Central Lake Ontario Conservation Areas that prohibits kite fighting or the use of hazardous kite string; and,
THAT staff circulate this policy to all Durham Region Municipalities.***

ATTACH.

RPS/lv
p:\reports\2024\sr5898_24.docx

Policy for Kite Flying in Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Lands

Background:

CLOCA owns environmentally important and sensitive land to protect and conserve our watershed health. Where feasible, and without compromising environmental conditions, passive recreation opportunities may be provided for our watershed residents and visitors. Recreation activities are intended to provide environmental education and appreciation as well as physical and mental health benefits.

CLOCA has experienced kite string and kites littered in trees, meadows, and have reports of injuries from trail users that have become entangled with kite string. The string poses a safety concern to trail users and pets, and can entangle wildlife, and vegetation.

Definitions:

Kite Fighting: Kite fighting is an activity where two or more participants fly kites with the aim of cutting an opponent's kite string. The losing kite and string drifts away uncontrolled. The string used for kite fighting is abrasive or chemically treated to enhance the ability to cut the opponent's string. Abandoned string is hazardous because it drifts until it becomes lodged in tree branches or other vegetation, is difficult to see, and can cut people, pets, and wildlife that become entangled in it. The string also poses a maintenance issue when entangled in mowing and trimming equipment.

Competitive Kite Flying: Kite competitions may or may not include kite fighting, and may include competitors being judged on their performance in compulsory figures as well as a ballet-style flying using artistic interpretation of music. Performances are done as individuals, a pair of pilots, or as a team.

Hazardous Kite String: Kite string materials made of metal, wire, piano wire, fishing line or any type of nylon that can be or is chemically treated or contains glass fragments.

Policy:

1. Given the safety and environmental concerns, kite fighting and use of hazardous kite string is prohibited on all CLOCA lands.
2. Competitive kite flying that does not include kite fighting may be allowed by permit only and with strict requirements to immediately retrieve and remove all kite string and damaged kites.



Healthy watersheds for
today and tomorrow.

Permits:

1. Permits may be issued by CLOCA to allow for competitive kite flying or competitions (excluding kite fighting) on CLOCA Lands.
2. The permit holder must provide a Certificate of Insurance for no less than \$5 Million per occurrence. The Certificate of Insurance must specifically name the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority listed as additionally insured.
3. A deposit may be required for any litter (including kite string) removal required by CLOCA staff after the event. In the event no litter is found, the deposit will be returned to the permit holder.

Contravention of Policy:

Any person who contravenes the above policy may be subject to fines and prosecution under the Trespass to Property Act (RSO 1990, c T.21).

End of Policy

**Auth. Res. # 63/24
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**