



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, October 18, 2024

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2. Early Release Reports	
There are no Early Release Reports.	
3. Confidential Reports Authorized for Release	
There are no Confidential Reports.	
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There is no Staff Correspondence.	
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There are no Durham Municipalities Correspondence.	
6. Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions	
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Resolution Campaign for the Province to recognize the physician shortage in Ontario

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- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on October 8, 2024, in support of the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) Recommendations for Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence.

8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

8.1 Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART) minutes 47

- September 26, 2024

8.2 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) minutes 54

- October 3, 2024

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: Chief Administrative Officer
Report: #2024-INFO-66
Date: October 18, 2024

Subject:

Region's Submission to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regarding Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) application for a licence to construct a reactor facility for its Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP), Part 2 Hearing.

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide Regional Council with an update on the Region's participation in the upcoming Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hearing for the Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP).

2. Background

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

2.2 The CNSC is holding a public hearing beginning January 8, 2025, as part of the regulatory process for OPG's licence to construct application for the DNNP.

2.3 Four SMRs are planned at the Darlington site, however, the current application is to construct one G.E. Hitachi BWRX-300 unit as well as the shared infrastructure for the remaining planned units. OPG plans to complete construction of the first SMR by 2028, with commercial operation beginning in 2029.

2.4 Durham Region is an experienced and informed nuclear host community. From 2020 to 2021, Regional Council reconfirmed its position on a number of nuclear

sector issues (see Previous Reports and Decisions below). These positions, in particular [Durham's Nuclear Sector Strategy](#), are the basis of the Region's submission to the CNSC.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Staff will submit Durham Region's intervention (Attachment #1) to the CNSC by November 4, 2024.
- 3.2 Staff will continue to monitor the approval process and will report back on new developments related to the DNNP as appropriate.

4. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 4.1 The following Regional staff reports related to the nuclear sector and DNNP have been approved by Regional Council:
 - a. Report #[2010-J-29](#), Update on Durham Nuclear Issues and Response to the Joint Review Panel on the New Nuclear Darlington Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Application for Licence to Prepare Site
 - b. Report #[2011-J-29](#), Darlington New Nuclear Project Update and Request for Funding for Provision of Consulting Services to Complete a Regional Economic Impact Assessment
 - c. Report #[2011-J-41](#), New Nuclear Darlington Project Update – Results of the Joint Review Panel
 - d. Report #[2020-EDT-9](#), Natural Resources Canada Small Nuclear Reactor Action Plan 2020
 - e. Report #[2021-COW-8](#), Region's Submission to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) renewal application for the Power Reactor Site Preparation Licence (PRSL) for the Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP) and Council's position on nuclear sector issues
 - f. Report #[2021-COW-9](#), Response to the Canadian Radioactive Waste Policy Review
 - g. Report #[2021-COW-37](#), Durham Region Nuclear Sector Strategy 2022-2032
 - h. Report #[2023-INFO-93](#), Region's Submission to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regarding Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) application for a licence to construct a reactor facility for its Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP).

5. Relationship to Regional Plans

6. This report aligns with [Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy](#), [Durham Region's Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan](#) and the following strategic goals and priorities in the [Durham Region Strategic Plan](#):
- a. Under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, Priority 1.1 is to accelerate the adoption of green technologies and clean energy solutions through strategic partnerships and investment.
 - b. Under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, Priority 1.1 is to demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.
 - c. Under the goal of Economic Prosperity, Priority 3.4 is to capitalize on Durham's strengths in key economic sectors to attract high-quality jobs.

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: The Regional Municipality of Durham submission regarding Ontario Power Generation's application for a licence to construct a reactor facility for its Darlington New Nuclear Project

Prepared by: Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, in collaboration with the Nuclear Sector Working Group including staff from the CAO's Office, Planning and Economic Development, Finance, Works, Social Services and Health Departments and input from staff from the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Pickering.

Approved by: Sandra Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Submission regarding Ontario Power Generation's application for a licence to construct a reactor facility for its Darlington New Nuclear Project

October 2024

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Glossary of Acronyms

AAZ	Automatic Action Zone
EA	Environmental Assessment
EPREV	Emergency Preparedness Review
CNSC	Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
DPZ	Detailed Planning Zone
DNHC	Durham Nuclear Health Committee
DNNP	Darlington New Nuclear Project
DRPS	Durham Regional Police Service
GTA	Greater Toronto Area
JRP	Joint Review Panel
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ITER	International Thermo-nuclear Energy Reactor
KI	Potassium Iodide
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NRCan	Natural Resources Canada
NSCA	Nuclear Safety and Control Act
NWMO	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
OPG	Ontario Power Generation
PPE	Plant Parameter Envelope
ROP	Regional Official Plan
SMR	Small Modular Reactor

Message from the Regional Chair

Dear President Tremblay and Independent Members of the Commission,

On behalf of Durham Region, I am writing to reaffirm our support for Ontario Power Generation (OPG) in its application for a licence to construct the first BWRX-300 small modular reactor (SMR) at Darlington Nuclear Generating Station.

This project represents a significant advancement in the clean energy industry, offering both exciting opportunities and substantial economic potential for the nuclear sector across Canada. OPG's leadership in SMR technology positions Durham Region at the forefront of this emerging global industry, aligning with our transition to a low-carbon economy and our commitment to achieving greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions targets as outlined in the Durham Community Energy Plan.

As the Clean Energy Capital of Canada, Durham Region takes pride in our role as a nuclear host community. Our active involvement in the Canadian Nuclear Host Communities Association (CANHC), Canada's SMR Roadmap and our dedicated nuclear sector strategy demonstrate our commitment to the nuclear sector. We continue to work in close partnership with key stakeholders, including OPG, toward our shared objectives.

As the world's first grid-connected SMR, this project presents an unparalleled opportunity for Durham Region and Canada to solidify our position as global leaders in clean energy. The success of this endeavour, however, relies heavily on a balanced approach to governance and resource allocation. As we outline in this submission, the current multi-level governance structure of the nuclear sector presents significant challenges for host communities like Durham Region. We bear considerable responsibilities related to nuclear operations, often without commensurate resources. We believe that addressing these structural imbalances is crucial for the long-term sustainability and success of Canada's nuclear sector, including innovative projects like the SMR at Darlington. We look forward to working collaboratively with the CNSC, OPG, and the province to ensure that the burdens and benefits of nuclear energy are distributed equitably, strengthening the foundation for future advancements in clean energy. Our experience and expertise can serve as a model for host communities worldwide, fostering partnerships and contributing to climate change goals.

As we face the global challenge of decarbonizing our communities, Durham Region remains committed to playing a leadership role in Canada's nuclear sector. We look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts.

Sincerely,

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

Acknowledgement

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

While this intervention focuses on the impacts of being a nuclear host community from a municipal perspective, the nuclear sector has broader social, economic and environmental implications. Policies, practices and discriminatory laws have degraded Indigenous rights and created longstanding negative impacts on Indigenous peoples. Uranium mines, processing facilities, nuclear reactors and radioactive waste have been sited on traditional territories without meaningful consultation or accommodation.

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

Introduction

In Durham Region, nuclear energy is a vital part of our story. Since the 1960s, we have been proud to be at the forefront of nuclear innovation. The nuclear facilities, supply chain, research and development capacity, and academic expertise found within our borders make Durham Region Canada's premier nuclear jurisdiction.

Durham Region is an experienced and informed nuclear host community that supports the selection of the Darlington site as the first on-grid SMR application in Canada and supports the Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP). In addition to this project, Durham is also home to two large-scale nuclear generating stations and the Port Granby Project site.

Regional Council has expressed its support of refurbishments at Pickering and Darlington, the ITER¹ Project, Canada's SMR Action Plan, and re-licensing applications for the existing stations to the CNSC through Regional Council resolutions and Regional submissions. While the Region remains ineligible for CNSC's intervenor funding and has long argued that the provincial property tax policy for nuclear generating stations

¹ International Thermo-nuclear Energy Reactor Project – in the 1990s, the site now proposed for the DNNP was the site of Canada's bid for the ITER project. The ITER bid was won by France.

has unfairly disadvantaged the Region, it is important that we participate in this hearing process and submit this intervention to demonstrate our continued commitment to the sector and support of Ontario Power Generation.

Municipalities deliver valuable programs and services to meet the needs of their residents. As a regional municipality, Durham Region is responsible for protecting the well-being of our residents and the environment and for supporting our local economy. Globally, our future depends on decarbonizing our communities. In January 2020, Regional Council declared a climate change emergency. To act on this direction, the Region is implementing programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the impacts of climate change and is striving to be a carbon-neutral community. Durham Region has been recognized as a leader in municipal efforts to address climate change. Nuclear energy could play a pivotal role in Canada's transition.

Empowering the Community: Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy

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

We are approaching the DNNP project with future generations in mind and will continue to advocate for policies that prioritize environmental stewardship and community fiscal and socio-economic well-being throughout the life cycle of nuclear facilities. This has included active participation in Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) policy development process for [Canada's Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning](#) and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) engagement on the [Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste](#).

Regional Responsibilities and Existing Funding Arrangements

The following section provides a comprehensive summary of the existing funding arrangements and responsibilities of Durham Region regarding the nuclear sector. This overview aims to clarify the financial structures and obligations that underpin the support and management of our initiatives, ensuring a clear understanding of the responsibilities.

Regional Participation in Nuclear Policy and Regulatory Affairs

Throughout the lifecycle of a nuclear facility, the CNSC requires different types of licences (e.g., licence to prepare the site, licence to construct, licence to operate, etc.). These licencing proceedings can also be subdivided into sub-hearings to address issues. The process is rigorous and involves reviewing thousands of pages of technical reports, analysis, and recommendations. Durham Region has also been required to participate in federal and provincial working groups related to nuclear facilities and international assessments (e.g., CNSC's KI Working Group, IAEA EPREV Mission). Given the practice of co-locating nuclear facilities, Durham Region faces a significant challenge staying abreast of the regulatory processes related to the six licenced facilities located in the region. Participating in these processes requires significant resources and expertise.

The importance of host community participation in these proceedings was illustrated when the Chair of the Joint Review Panel for the Darlington New Nuclear Project compelled Durham Region to participate:

“In consideration of the Region of Durham’s responsibilities and interest ...the Panel requires the Region to provide a written submission, make an oral presentation and participate actively in the public hearing...The representative(s) who appears at the hearing should be well versed with respect to the proposed project and its potential effects on the area(s) of interest to the Region and should possess the expertise necessary to answer questions from the Panel and other hearing participants” (Alan R. Graham, JRP Chair, 2010).

Through Commission hearings, the CNSC relies on host communities for information on local impacts to ensure the protection of human health, safety, security and the environment. **Host communities are currently not equipped to do so effectively.** Recently, the NWMO acknowledged this burden and included “milestone payments” throughout the licencing process in its hosting agreement with the Municipality of South Bruce and the Municipality of Ignace.

In OPG’s written submission, they highlight that the CNSC receives payments through Cost Recovery Fees Regulations. While the CNSC does allocate funding to eligible participants to offset some of the costs of participating in the regulatory process, municipalities are ineligible for funding through the program.

Emergency Management

For decades, the Region has played a leading role in nuclear emergency planning in Canada and has significant responsibilities under the Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP). Durham Region works closely with OPG and local emergency services to ensure that appropriate planning, practice and coordination are in place to respond to any emergency that may affect the Durham community. Durham Region's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for emergency management with Ontario Power Generation is currently under review. An integral part of planning is to ensure that reception centres are sufficiently staffed and resourced. Emergency Social Services is responsible for establishing a well-coordinated response structure that integrates staff and community partners to provide reception, registration and inquiry, shelter, food, clothing, and personal services for members of the public. The ESS requirements related to nuclear emergencies are critical for ensuring the safety and well-being of affected populations. However, it is important to note that these responsibilities have historically not been adequately funded. A lack of funding poses significant challenges in preparing and maintaining the necessary resources, training, and staffing levels required to effectively manage reception centres during a nuclear event.

Potassium Iodide (KI) Pill Distribution Program

Since 2014, Durham Region has been working in partnership with OPG on a potassium iodide (KI) distribution program that includes redistributing new tablets, collecting tablets nearing expiration, developing and disseminating KI educational materials, and raising awareness within the community about the availability of KI. KI tablets are distributed to all homes and businesses within the 10 km Detailed Planning Zone (DPZ) surrounding Pickering and Darlington Nuclear Generating Stations and KI tablets are available free to anyone living up to 50 km from either nuclear-generating station by ordering them online at preparetobesafe.ca. Durham Region's MOU for the KI program with Ontario Power Generation is current until December 31, 2026.

Durham Nuclear Health Committee

Durham Region was directed by the province in 1995 to establish and manage the [Durham Nuclear Health Committee \(DNHC\)](#). The DNHC is intended to be a forum for discussing and addressing potential radiation and environmental human health impacts. Membership of the DNHC consists of nine public members and up to three alternate public members from Whitby, Oshawa, Ajax, Clarington and Pickering, who are appointed by Council; two representatives of OPG; four provincial/regional government representatives and one representative from Ontario Tech University. OPG staff regularly provide educational presentations and updates on environmental monitoring. OPG funds 50% of the Secretary position of the DNHC.

Policing

The Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) has an excellent working relationship with both the Emergency Preparedness and Security program and the Emergency Services (SES) Unit within OPG. DRPS participates in security and emergency services training and exercise activities in OPG's Emergency Management Program. This includes natural, technological and human-induced (criminal) emergencies or disasters. DRPS also participates in annual "Force on Force" security exercises and training opportunities in the roles of participant, observer and evaluator. The DRPS and OPG have an MOU for Off-Site Response that provides the framework for police response.

Air and Water Quality Monitoring

Durham Region has a partnership and agreement with OPG to host air quality monitoring stations on Regional property and to share monitoring and modelling data relating to water quality.

Land Use Planning and Economic Development

Adopted by Durham Regional Council on May 17, 2023, and approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on September 3, 2024, the new Regional Official Plan (ROP) recognizes the history and the long-term opportunities related to nuclear power generation in the Region. It identifies the Region's interest in the planning and regulatory process for new nuclear development at the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station as well as the future of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station.

As requested by the CNSC and OPG, the ROP includes policies that prevent sensitive land uses within the Automatic Action Zone (AAZ) of the Darlington Nuclear Generation Station unless already designated as a permitted use by the Clarington Official Plan, which was approved by the Region in 2017.

While the presence of a large nuclear facility has the potential to attract supply chain companies, the Region has not seen the expected level of local investment. Additionally, land use restrictions that extend beyond the property of nuclear operators may have long-term economic impacts on the community.

Given that OPG operates under federal jurisdiction, it also benefits from development charge exemptions. Development charges are critical to financing the growth-related capital costs for municipal services such as roads, transit, water and sewer infrastructure and emergency services, required by production facilities located in the defined protected areas.

Tax Equity for Host Communities

Ontario Power Generation pays Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILS) to municipalities as well as a proxy property tax payment to the province. However, the Region has long

voiced that the property tax payments the Region receives do not adequately recognize the services received nor provide a fair share of property taxation for licenced facilities.

Durham's inherited landscape of nuclear facilities includes a property tax framework that was imposed by the Province of Ontario through the *Assessment Act R.S.O.1990* and the *Electricity Act 1998*. Like other non-residential properties, PILS for non-generating buildings, facilities and all lands (excluding the water intake and discharge facilities which are determined under Ont. Reg. 574/06) are set out based on the current value assessment (CVA) assigned by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) multiplied by the applicable local municipal, regional and provincial education property tax rate.

Under the *Assessment Act*, the electrical generating assets are not taxed based on their current value assessment, but rather have a statutory set assessment of \$86.11 per square meter of inside ground floor area of the generating and transformer station buildings, that is then multiplied by the regional, local municipal and education tax rate for the applicable property tax class (i.e., large industrial for the generating component). The CVA for other non-residential properties is generally reassessed on a four-year cycle to ensure the CVA reflects current market conditions. **For the generating buildings and facilities, the rate of \$86.11 has not increased since 1968 and as a result, the PILS paid on the generating buildings and facilities have significantly eroded relative to other non-residential properties.**

Estimating the amount of foregone municipal revenue with respect to the frozen rate of \$86.11 is difficult. In 2018, the Region estimated that if the \$86.11 rate was indexed annually by CPI, the rate would have increased by almost 700 percent. This represents an annual shortfall of approximately \$3.5 million for Durham Region, the City of Pickering and the Municipality of Clarington.²

OPG makes additional proxy property tax payments to the Minister of Finance through the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation (OEFC). The methodology for these payments is described within the *Electricity Act, 1998* and Ontario Regulation 423/11. It is understood that these proxy property taxes are the difference between the prescribed statutory rate for the designed facilities (\$86.11 per square meter) and what would apply if these facilities were taxed at full CVA. This redirection of property taxes from the municipal sector to the province is significant and is to be applied against the stranded debt of the former Ontario Hydro.

It is recommended that the Province, in consultation with the municipal sector, review and update the nuclear generating facility statutory rate of \$86.11, institute a process by which this rate is indexed annually, and ensure that the proxy property tax payments made by OPG to the Province through the OEFFC be redirected to the host municipalities and the Region upon retirement of the stranded debt.

² See [CMD18-H6-67](#)

Hosting equity

Other host communities and prospective host communities in Ontario receive payments and/or benefits for hosting or offering to eventually host nuclear waste through negotiated Community Benefits Agreements. For example, Kincardine received a \$5.8 million lump sum and annual payments of \$1.05 million beginning in 2005 from OPG to consider a proposed deep geological repository for low and intermediate level waste, and the NWMO has paid numerous communities grants for communications and health and well-being initiatives to consider becoming a host community. In addition to this funding, Ignace and South Bruce have recently announced hosting agreements ranging in value from \$418 million to \$170 million if chosen as the site for Canada's deep geologic repository. No parallel recognition of the hosting commitment and burden has been extended to Durham Region, the current home of more than half of Ontario's used nuclear fuel waste. In 2021, Regional Council passed a resolution calling upon the federal government to provide mechanisms to compensate nuclear host communities for hosting radioactive waste on an interim or long-term basis.³

A Call to Action: Address the Inequitable Burden on Nuclear Host Communities

The current multi-level governance structure of the nuclear sector has resulted in an untenable situation that demands immediate attention and action from the CNSC and the province. Despite their role as local governments, the province has “absolute and unfettered legal power to do with [municipalities] as it wills” and “no constitutional norms or conventions prevent a province from making changes to municipal institutions without municipal consent” (*Toronto (City) v. Ontario (Attorney General)*, 2021 SCC 34). Thus, the province has the sole authority to determine the responsibilities of municipalities. Over the years, nuclear governance responsibilities have increasingly shifted from the provincial level to municipalities without a corresponding transfer of resources. This trend has placed an undue strain on host communities like Durham Region, which now bear a significant portion of nuclear-related responsibilities, including emergency management including response activities for regional evacuation planning among police, transit and the works department, emergency social services, management of the public alerting system, public health initiatives (e.g., Durham Nuclear Health Committee, potassium iodide program), public education and awareness campaigns, and testing of drinking water for radionuclides.

Host communities have likewise been tasked by the federal government with making land use planning accommodations for nuclear facilities and participating in regulatory processes and policymaking. These responsibilities, while crucial, come at a considerable cost to Durham Region property taxpayers. For decades, Durham Region has highlighted the unique challenges that result from this multi-level governance

³ See [2021-COW-9](#).

structure including resource challenges, unfair tax treatment, expanding legislated requirements, and the need to engage in federal nuclear sector regulatory proceedings and related policymaking processes. The increasing allocation of responsibilities to the municipal level, which lacks constitutional recognition, creates a dynamic where host communities have become increasingly burdened with limited venues to address these issues nor leverage to negotiate. As a result, the benefits that come from nuclear energy such as tax revenues (approximately \$1.5 billion annually⁴) and funds from nuclear technology exports flow predominantly to federal and provincial governments, leaving host communities to manage the localized burdens. As a result of the property tax treatment and development charge exemptions, host municipality property taxpayers effectively subsidize the true cost of the nuclear sector in Ontario.

As the primary regulatory body for Canada's nuclear sector, the CNSC is uniquely positioned to address this imbalance. We commend the CNSC's previous leadership in 2018, which enabled Durham Region to secure much-needed funding for our emergency management program. However, given the current economic climate and the potential for additional nuclear facilities in our region, we urgently call upon the CNSC to take further action consistent with its responsibility to ensure the health and safety of persons and the environment per the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA):

1. Establish MOUs with host municipalities to ensure that they have the resources available to support the research and analysis associated with participating in nuclear sector regulatory processes and regulatory document reviews.⁵
2. Mandate a comprehensive review of the financial arrangements between nuclear operators, the province, and host communities as a condition of licencing.
3. Identify host community challenges as a priority for ministerial support. Encourage the federal and provincial governments to provide additional resources to nuclear host communities commensurate with their responsibilities.

The success of Canada's nuclear sector, including Canada's SMR Action Plan and the nation's net-zero by 2050 target, hinges on the continued cooperation and support of host communities. As stated in the Nuclear Communities Global Partnership [declaration](#) of March 21, 2024, it is crucial for all levels of government to actively listen to local communities, engage in early dialogue, provide resources for participation, and establish genuine partnerships throughout all phases of nuclear projects. The CNSC has the authority and the responsibility to relieve the burdens of the nuclear sector on host municipalities. By taking action to address the current inequities, the CNSC can

4 Natural Resources Canada, 2024. <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/energy-sources-distribution/nuclear-energy-uranium/nuclear-energy/the-canadian-nuclear-energy-technology/7713>

5 Section 21(1)(a) of the NSCA empowers the CNSC to enter into arrangements with any regulatory agency or department of a government or any international agency.

protect federal interests by ensuring the long-term sustainability of Canada's nuclear sector and set a global standard for responsible nuclear governance.

We urge the CNSC to recognize that there can be no thriving nuclear industry in Canada without the support of nuclear host communities. By addressing these issues now, we can create a more equitable, sustainable, and successful future for Canada's nuclear sector.

Conclusion

Durham Region is pleased to be at the forefront of SMR deployment in Canada. The Region, in its position as an experienced and informed nuclear host community, is a willing and supportive host for OPG's DNNP project. The Region understands that four small modular reactors (SMR) are planned. This hearing is for a licence to construct the first G.E. Hitachi BWRX-300 unit as well as the shared infrastructure for the remaining planned units. Additional regulatory reviews and public hearings will be required for the licence to operate and to construct the remaining planned SMR units.


After undertaking a technical assessment, the Region submitted comments to the Joint Review Panel (JRP) in 2011 related to the environmental, human health, and Regional impacts of the original proposed DNNP ([2010-J-29](#); [2011-J-29](#)). Additionally, the Region recently participated in the public hearing for the [licence to prepare the site](#) and [part one hearing for the licence to construct](#).

Durham Region faces significant challenges as a nuclear host community, largely due to the shifting of governance responsibilities to the municipal level without corresponding resources. This imbalance places a considerable strain on local governments, which must manage nuclear emergency planning, public health initiatives, and regulatory participation with limited support. Despite these challenges, Durham Region remains committed to participating actively in nuclear regulatory processes and advocating for equitable treatment.

It is important to acknowledge that OPG operates within a legislative and regulatory framework established by the province and the federal government. As a result, OPG has worked in good faith with Durham Region over the years to address some of the issues raised by the Region. However, it should not fall on nuclear operators and host communities to negotiate ad hoc agreements that result in inconsistent benefits and treatment of nuclear host communities. The CNSC and province need to address the inequities created by legislation and regulations for all current and future host communities.

The call to action in this submission emphasizes the need for the CNSC to establish formal agreements with host municipalities, mandate a review of financial arrangements, and encourage additional support from federal and provincial governments. By addressing these issues, the CNSC can ensure the long-term sustainability and success of Canada's nuclear sector.

Durham Region looks forward to continuing its strong partnership with OPG to understand how we can work together to facilitate the project, attract business investment to the region, and achieve national energy and climate goals.

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



Association of
Municipalities of Ontario
VIA EMAIL:
amo@amo.on.ca

Ontario Medical Association
VIA EMAIL
info@oma.org

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

October 10, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
823 Albion Road
Etobicoke, ON
M9V 1A3
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

RE: AMO OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign for the Province to recognize the physician shortage in Ontario

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on September 3, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-268:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.9 list on the September 3, 2024 agenda meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the correspondence provided by AMO and OMA, that staff be directed to prepare correspondence accordingly.

CARRIED



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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: All Ontario Municipalities

Justine Brotherston

From: Kimberly Moran and Colin Best <amopresident@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, July 09, 2024 12:00 PM
To: Justine Brotherston
Subject: AMO/OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign



Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

155 University Ave., Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3B7
Telephone: 416.971.9856
Toll-free in Ontario: 1.877.426.6527
Fax: 416.971.6191

Ontario Medical Association

150 Bloor St. West, Suite 900
Toronto, ON M5S 3C1
Canada
TF: 1.800.268.7215
T: 416.599.2580
F: 416.533.9309
E: info@oma.org
oma.org

Dear Heads of Council and Clerks,

Communities across Ontario have been facing critical healthcare challenges, including long waitlists for primary care, shortages of doctors and other healthcare workers; and emergency room closures. These cracks in Ontario's health care system are impacting economic development, health, and well-being at the local level.

In response, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are working collaboratively to advocate for a better healthcare system for Ontario's residents and communities.

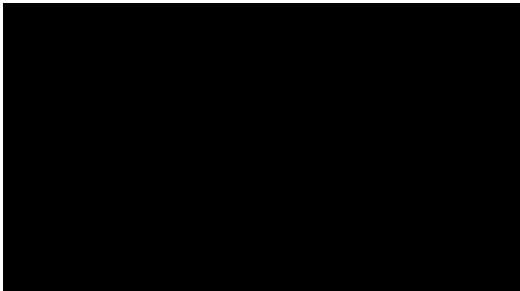
We have jointly developed the attached draft council resolution (Appendix A - Also in [PDF](#) and [Word](#) Versions), urging the provincial government to recognize the physician shortage in your municipality and the rest of Ontario. By adopting this resolution, your municipality can play a crucial role in highlighting the urgent need for more healthcare resources and support.

AMO is excited to welcome everyone to Ottawa for our annual conference from August 18-21, 2024. We are pleased to inform you that the OMA will be participating at this year's conference. Along with sponsoring the Rural Caucus Lunch on August 20, the OMA has reserved meeting room at the Fairmont Château Laurier for both August 20 and 21 to meet directly with municipal leaders. During these meetings, we would like to hear what you are seeing on the ground and discuss opportunities to work closer with you. We believe that collaboration between Ontario's doctors and all 444 municipalities is essential in addressing the healthcare needs of your community.

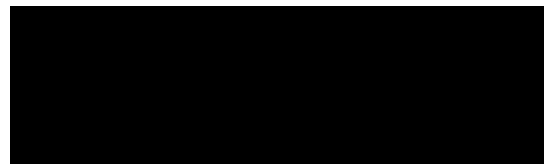
To set up a meeting with the OMA, please reach out to Tarun.Saroya@OMA.org (Senior Advisor for Government Relations and Advocacy) to book a 15-30 minute time slot at your earliest convenience.

We look forward to your positive response and to working together towards a healthier future for all Ontarians.

Yours sincerely,



Kimberly Moran
CEO, Ontario Medical Association



Colin Best
AMO President

Appendix A:

WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

WHEREAS it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years; and (Northern Ontario only)

WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine.

WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022; and

WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada, and

WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of (the name of municipality) urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in (name of municipality) and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.

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View this email [online](#).

155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

This email was sent to jbrotherston@puslinch.ca.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 11, 2024 11:27 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



Municipal Finance Officers
 Association of Ontario
 VIA EMAIL:
general@mfoa.on.ca

Association of Municipalities
 of Ontario (AMO)
amo@amo.on.ca

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

October 10, 2024

MP Ryan Williams
 Bay of Quinte
 VIA EMAIL:
ryan.williams@parl.gc.ca

Finance Minister Chrystia
 Freeland
 200-622 College Street
 Toronto, Ontario
 M6G 1B4
 VIA EMAIL:
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

MP Michael Chong
 Wellington-Halton Hills
 VIA EMAIL:
michael.chong@parl.gc.ca

RE: City of Quinte West Council resolution regarding The Canada Community-Building Fund

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on September 3, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-271:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
 Seconded by Councillor Goyda

That the Consent Agenda item 6.27 list on the September 3, 2024 agenda meeting be received for information; and

Whereas the Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution from the City of Quinte West, that Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly and that MPP Michael Chong be copied on the correspondence.



CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: All Ontario Municipalities

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



A Natural Attraction

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

Virginia LaTour, Deputy City Clerk

August 15, 2024

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

RE: Notice of Motion – Councillor Stedall – The Canada Community-Building Fund

Dear Prime Minister:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on August 14, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 24-366 – Notice of Motion - Councillor Stedall - The Canada Community-Building Fund
Moved by Councillor Stedall
Seconded by Councillor McCue

Whereas the City of Quinte West is entering into an agreement to receive Canada Community-Building Funds, which is administered by the Association of Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of the Federal government;

And whereas the funding allocations are less that 2% year over year for the next 5 years;

And whereas the amounts allocated in the past 5 years were less than 2% year over year;

And whereas non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure projects without a corresponding growth in revenue;

And whereas there is a requirement for municipalities to complete an asset management plan and a housing needs analysis;

And whereas both of these plans show the large funding gap between infrastructure and housing needs and funds available from property taxation;

And whereas The City of Quinte West has over \$1.5 billion in core infrastructure assets and, like other municipalities, its infrastructure is aging and in need of upgrades and replacement;

And whereas The City's Asset Management Plan requires \$37 million annually to maintain existing assets which, based on current available funding, is resulting in an annual infrastructure deficit of over \$17.1 million;

And whereas municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end;

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Quinte West calls on the Federal Government to provide a supplement to the allocations provided to municipalities under the AMO CBBF agreement for 2024 - 2028 for the same amount that was allocated, effectively doubling the allocation for those years;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to MFOA, AMO, MP Ryan Williams, and Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, and all Municipalities in Ontario.
Carried

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

Yours Truly,


CITY OF QUINTE WEST



Virginia LaTour,
Deputy City Clerk

cc: Donna Herridge, Executive Director, MFOA
Colin Best, President, AMO
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
All Municipalities of Ontario

Honourable Premier Doug Ford
Doug.Fordco@pc.ola.org

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 10, 2024 12:05 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Sent via electronic mail

October 4, 2024

Dear Honourable Premier Doug Ford

At its Regular meeting on October 2, 2024, the Township of Springwater's Council passed resolution C506-2024 endorsing the AMO and OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign.

Resolution C506-2024

Moved by: Garwood

Seconded by: Fisher

Whereas the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.5 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being derostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

Whereas it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and,

Whereas Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine; and,

Whereas the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77% in 2008 to 65% in 2022; and,

Whereas per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada; and,

Whereas a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the Province; and,

Whereas these cracks in Ontario's health care system are impacting economic development, health, and well-being at the local level; and,

Whereas in response, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are working collaboratively to advocate for a better healthcare system for Ontario residents and communities.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That, Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in Springwater and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care; and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Hon. Doug Ford; Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte Member of Provincial Parliament, Hon. Doug Downey, the Minister of Health, Hon. Sylvia Jones, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities.

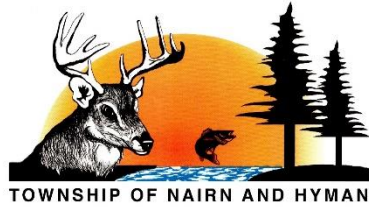
Carried

I can be reached via email at jennifer.coughlin@springwater.ca or by phone at 705-728-4784, Ext. 2020.

Regards,

Jennifer Coughlin
Mayor, Township of Springwater


cc: Hon. Minister of Health Sylvia Jones
Hon. MPP Doug Shipley
Ontario Medical Association
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



October 11, 2024

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

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

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 11, 2024 11:30 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Opposition to the Transportation and Deposition of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) and Mine Tailings from the Former Beaucage Mine and Waste Site

On behalf of the Councils of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin, we are formally submitting the attached joint resolution regarding our serious concerns over the proposed transportation and deposition of radioactive naturally occurring materials (NORM) to the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA).

Our Councils recently convened a Joint Emergency Meeting on October 2, 2024, to discuss this matter in response to information presented at a Town Hall Meeting on September 11, 2024, by the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Transportation, and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. During our deliberations, it became evident that the materials slated for transport are not correctly categorized as NORM, but rather as mine tailings containing not only radioactive substances like niobium and uranium but also other hazardous heavy metals.

We are gravely concerned about the potential environmental and health impacts this project may have, particularly on Agnew Lake—a critical drinking water source for our communities. Our position is that ALTMA should be remediated using clean materials to mitigate existing contamination rather than accepting additional hazardous materials that could exacerbate environmental harm.

This joint resolution calls upon your government and relevant ministries to halt any further actions related to the transportation of this hazardous product to the ALTMA site. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION # 2024-EM2-12
DATED: October 2, 2024
MOVED BY: Vern Gorham
SECONDED BY: Jason Cote

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin convened a Joint Emergency Meeting on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 to discuss the proposed plan to transport and deposit radioactive naturally occurring materials (NORM) at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA); and

WHEREAS the Councils reviewed information received from the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Transportation and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission regarding this proposed plan at the Town Hall Meeting dated September 11, 2024; and

WHEREAS the Councils strongly agree that the materials that are planned to be deposited are not correctly defined as naturally occurring radioactive materials but rather mine tailings that contain not only the radioactive substance Niobium and uranium but also contain heavy metals that pose significant environmental and health risks; and

WHEREAS there are significant concerns regarding the potential contamination of drinking water sources, particularly Agnew Lake, which many residents rely on for safe drinking water; and

WHEREAS the Councils agree that the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA) needs to be remediated using clean materials to mitigate the existing environmental impacts, rather than being used for the deposition of additional hazardous materials; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin formally oppose the transportation and deposition of these materials from the former Beaucage Mine and Waste Site, Nipissing First Nations lands and adjacent lands operated by the Ministry of Transportation to the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin respectfully demand that the Province of Ontario, the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Transportation, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission provide answers to our questions and that the municipalities receive notification of all forward movements of this project; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable George Pirie, the Minister of Mines; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; Chief Toulouse and Sagamok Anishnawbek Council Members; Chief Nootchtai and Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Council Members; Chief Rodney Nahwegahbow and the Whitefish River First Nation Council Members; Chief Patsy Corbiere and the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Council Members; the United Chiefs and Council of Mnidoo Mnising; Ontario Ombudsman; the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission; the Canadian Environmental Law Association; MP Carol Hughes; MPP Michael Mantha; the Association of Ontario Municipalities and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

We respectfully request your immediate attention to this matter and urge the Province of Ontario to prioritize the protection of our community's health, safety, and environmental integrity.

For more information regarding this matter, please contact our municipal office by email at belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca or by phone at (705) 869-4232.

Yours truly,



Belinda Ketchabaw
CAO Clerk Treasurer
Township of Nairn and Hyman

Cc:

Honourable George Pirie, the Minister of Mines
Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Chief Toulouse and the Sagamok Anishnawbek Council Members
Chief Nootchtai and the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Council Members

Chief Rodney Nahwegahbow and the Whitefish River First Nation Council Members
Chief Patsy Corbiere and the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Council Members
The United Chiefs and Council of Mniidoo Mnising
Ontario Ombudsman
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
Canadian Environmental Law Association
MP Carol Hughes
MPP Michael Mantha
Association of Ontario Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities

October 10, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Re: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, October 7, 2024, adopted Resolution No. 2024-0168 regarding Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act.


Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2024-0168.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

- cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Minister of Education
- Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
- Minister of Finance
- Halton MPPs
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
- All Ontario Municipalities

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 11, 2024 11:03 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2024-0168

Title: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

Date: October 7, 2024

Moved by: Councillor A. Hilson

Seconded by: Mayor A. Lawlor

Item No. 12.1

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 Council for the Town of Halton Hills 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 FURTHER THAT this resolution 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 Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, Halton MPPs, AMO and AMCTO.



Mayor Ann Lawlor

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 15, 2024 9:23 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

October 11, 2024

Minister of Transportation
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
Email: minister.mto@ontario.ca

MPP Oxford
Ernie Hardeman
Email: Ernie.Hardeman@pc.ola.org

SCOR EDC
Email: do@scorregion.com

Re: Continued Funding Support - Southwest Community Transit

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

Resolution # 2024-474

Moved By: Councillor Luciani

Seconded By: Councillor Spencer

Whereas the County of Brant, Middlesex County, Municipality of Strathroy Caradoc, Norfolk County, Municipality of East Zorra Tavistock, Grey County, Perth County, City of Stratford, Municipality of Lambton Shores, and Wellington County have successfully utilized government funding to create and sustain local community transit through Southwest Community Transit; and

Whereas 85,000 riders have utilized the Southwest Community Transit services in the first half of 2024 alone, demonstrating significant community reliance on these services; and

Whereas the economic impact of this transit system is estimated to be \$748,800,000 annually, largely due to its role in providing transportation to employment opportunities; and

Whereas the current funding for this critical small urban and rural



inter-community transit service is set to expire in March 2025, putting the sustainability of the service at risk:

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Tillsonburg council urges the provincial government to continue funding Southwest Community Transit beyond March 2025 to ensure the ongoing viability of this essential service for small urban and rural Ontario

Be it further resolved that this resolution be circulated to the County of Brant, Elgin County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Oxford County, Municipality of Strathroy Caradoc, Municipality of East Zorra Tavistock, Perth County, City of Stratford, Municipality of Lambton Shores, Wellington County, Bruce County, Municipality of Bayham, Municipality of Thames Centre and other relevant stakeholders for their support and advocacy.

Carried

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


Sincerely,



Laura Pickersgill
Executive Assistant
Town of Tillsonburg

Cc: All Ontario municipalities



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 15, 2024 2:56 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

October 15, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – AMCTO Recommendations for Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

At its meeting of October 9, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-184, regarding the AMCTO Recommendations for Updates to the Municipal Elections Act, as follows:

“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;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge 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 FURTHER THAT 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; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; AMCTO; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

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

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

Yours truly,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk




SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

October 15, 2024

Minister Paul Calandra
Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street
College Park 17th Floor,
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister.mah@ontario.ca

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 15, 2024 4:01 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

sent via email

Dear Minister Calandra:

I am writing to you as the Town Clerk at the Town of Smiths Falls and as the municipal officer responsible for the administration of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* in support of [AMCTO's recommendations](#) calling for the comprehensive changes to *MEA*.

AMCTO members, as municipal leaders, support the interests and well-being of 235,000 municipal employees across all municipalities in this Province.

Local election administrators care about running fair and accessible elections. We care about ensuring that candidates, voters, and third-party advertisers understand their responsibilities. We care that those that may knowingly break the rules are held to account. We care that the *MEA* and the accompanying *Education Act* and *Assessment Act* are complicated pieces of legislation on their own, and more so read together.

That is why AMCTO reviews the *Act* after every local election and why the Province should be making the necessary changes to make election administration easier and the *Act* clearer to follow for candidates and voters within the timelines AMCTO has set out.

Never has there been a more important moment to ensure the *Act* is working well, closes gaps and provides the right enforcement tools and mechanisms to safeguard our local electoral processes from threats of foreign interference, misinformation and bad actors. Local clerks need support and guidance on how to manage these threats and deal with potential events especially considering the federal government's recent legislation on foreign interference (Bill C-70).

AMCTO convened a group of municipal staff with experience and expertise in administering local elections to present you with several recommendations for making improvements to *MEA* and calling for an overhaul of the *Act* in the long-term.



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

I support AMCTO's recommendations and call on you to update the *MEA* with priority and secondary recommendations by mid 2025 ahead of the 2026 election so that I can make the necessary adjustments for planning and implementation well ahead of statutory timelines imposed upon me to administer an election.

There is a provincial interest in ensuring the health of local democracy and the time to act is now – proactively instead of reactively. Election administrators face several uncertainties as we look ahead to 2026. We observe that in other jurisdictions with elections there is an increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI) and other technology to spread misinformation. There are increased levels of electoral interference. Even in Canada, we are seeing reports of more candidates and elected officials stepping back from public life because of concerns for their safety and reputations.

There also is a provincial interest for reducing administrative and operational burdens to help free up staff time to focus on other critical statutory and operational tasks such as those related to planning and development processes, municipal governance, as well as service innovation, in support of provincial priorities.

I look forward to seeing legislation introduced to update the *MEA* in the coming months to address current challenges, streamline processes, and make legislation easier to understand and administer.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and/or concerns.

Yours truly,

Kerry Costello
Town Clerk

cc: Paul Shipway, President, AMCTO president@amcto.com
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
martha.greenberg@ontario.ca
All Municipalities in Ontario
Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister of Education minister.edu@ontario.ca
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and
Procurement todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance Minister.fin@ontario.ca
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Premier@ontario.ca
Honourable John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston John.jordan@pc.ola.org

Attachment: Resolution



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

Resolution passed October 7, 2024: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

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.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Smiths Falls 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, our local MPP and AMCTO.



Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 16, 2024 8:26 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

October 8, 2024

Resolution No. 310/2024

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY
P.O. BOX 99,
VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0**

MOVED BY 

SECONDED BY 

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 WHERAS 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 McGarry 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)

Defeated _____ / Carried _____
 Mayor Mayor

Recorded Vote	Requested by _____	
	YES	NO
Mayor Bonita Culhane	_____	_____
Councillor Louanne Caza	_____	_____
Councillor Elaine Fic	_____	_____
Councillor Annie Keft	_____	_____
Councillor Francine Plante	_____	_____

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ANTI-RACISM TASKFORCE

Thursday, September 26, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce was held on Thursday, September 26, 2024 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:04 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment

Chair Samuel read the following land acknowledgement:

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

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

2. Roll Call

Present: PG Case, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Vice-Chair
R. Coelho, Community Member
A. Frempong, Community Member
B. Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Councillor Lee, Regional Council
B. Nelson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
C. Oyeniran, Community Member
N. Samuel, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Chair
Councillor Shahid, Regional Council attended a portion of the meeting
K. Vieneer, Community Member
J. Williamson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative
G. Wilson-Beier, Community Member
*** all Members participated electronically**

Absent: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Bookal, Community Member
T. Hancock, Community Member
J. Munawa, Community Member

Staff

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

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by PG Case, Seconded by A. Frempong,
That the minutes of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting
held on Thursday, June 27, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

6. Presentations

There were no presentations to be heard.

7. Information Items

A) Awareness Building – Emergency Services

A. Frempong stated that through discussions with Durham Region Paramedics it has been observed that many new residents to the Region, many of whom are newcomers to Canada, are not familiar with the emergency services available across the Region. She suggested that an emergency services awareness event would be a great way to bring awareness of these services and proposed the Committee organizes such an event which would include paramedics, fire services, and police who could provide overviews of the services they each provide.

Detailed discussion ensued with regards to organizing an emergency services awareness event including topics to cover; whether to include representation of fire services from all local area municipalities; appropriate venues to host the event; potentially forming a subcommittee to lead the event organization; ways to include the northern area municipalities in the event; the arrangement of drop-in sessions or a mobile awareness campaign to reach more residents; a timeline for organizing the event; who the event will be geared towards; and how to effectively reach different groups of people.

B) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Healthy Democracy Forum

H. Mohammed stated that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is hosting a Healthy Democracy Forum in Toronto on October 19th and 20th. She advised that the forum will include topics relating to diversity in elected officials, the need for more diverse voices in politics, engaging youth in civic responsibilities, and inspiring residents about elections and the democratic process.

H. Mohammed stated that the forum is open to anyone to register to attend and advised that the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Division will cover the registration costs for any DRART Members wishing to register.

C) Accessible Taxi Survey

P. Hines stated that the Accessibility Coordinators from each of the lower area municipalities meet monthly to discuss successes and concerns relating to accessible services and spaces across the Region. She advised that while Durham Region Transit (DRT) buses have been upgraded to be fully accessible to accommodate mobility devices, a shortage of accessible taxis in the Region has been identified as an area of concern.

P. Hines stated that the Accessibility Coordinators have developed a survey to help identify where service gaps exist and what challenges are being experienced in relation to accessibility across the Region. She further stated that the survey has already launched and will remain open until October 31st. She advised that all members of the public are welcome to contribute responses and encouraged Committee members to share the survey with their networks.

8. Discussion Items

A) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Strategy Development

A. Sharma stated that the Region has partnered with management consultancy, Ediseed, to develop a DEI strategy for the Region. She further stated that the strategy development involves six (6) different phases consisting of the following:

- Phase 1(a): Discovery

- Phase 1(b): Communication
- Phase 2: Best Practices Environmental Scan
 - Global Best Practices
 - Municipalities' Best Practices
- Phase 3: Program Review
 - Internal
 - External – July 15th – August 2nd
- Phase 4: Consultations
- Phase 5: Develop Key Findings and Analysis Report
- Phase 6: Develop DEI Strategy

A. Sharma advised that the project is currently in Phase 4 and shared ideas for increasing engagement among residents.

A. Sharma welcomed feedback from Committee members regarding the overall DEI strategy development process and additional ways to increase engagement among residents through the consultation phase.

A. Sharma responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether the consultant accounted for changes that have occurred in the DEI landscape in recent years in their methodology; requirements for mandatory training in unionized environments; and the achieved response rates to date.

B) Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce Website

H. Mohammed stated the Region's communications team will provide supports for the DRART website by publishing content to the website and issuing monthly social media posts. She advised that there is an opportunity for Committee members to curate content for the website.

Discussion ensued regarding whether any Committee members have communications experience to assist with developing content for the website; drafting social media content for future posts; and how to best organize and utilize sorting filters for web content.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether there is an ability to monitor traffic to the site; and whether quarterly traffic reports for the website can be provided to the Committee to track the traffic flow to the website.

C) Sub-Working Group Updates

1. DRPS Working Group

Councillor Lee provided an update on behalf of the DRPS Working Group and stated that the group is continuing with the development of a public resource that outlines the process for reporting hate crimes. This work is being done in consultation with DRPS.

Councillor Lee further stated that the working group has met with Stan McLellan, the CAO for DRPS, and is working towards scheduling a meeting with D. Peden to continue the discussion regarding diversity, equity and inclusion initiated with V. Chavannes earlier in the year.

Councillor Lee advised that DRPS has hired a consultant for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive review and evaluation of the DEI practices of DRPS and upon completion a report is expected to be presented to DRPS and later to Regional Council. He further advised that the working group met with the consultant and expressed concerns relating to hate crime reporting and the lack of racialized officers in DRPS.

Councillor Lee responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether the consultant's report will be publicly available; when the responses to the questions posed to V. Chavannes will be made available for Committee members; and whether it can be arranged to invite D. Peden to present to the Committee at a future meeting.

2. Education Working Group

A. Hector-Alexander provided an update on behalf of the Education Working Group and stated that a date has been set for the Region's Municipal DEI Symposium which is taking place on October 26, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and welcomed all members of the Committee to attend the event.

Discussion ensued regarding inviting DRPS' Diversity Advisory Group (DAC) to attend the event.

3. EDI Working Group

R. Coelho provided an update on behalf of the EDI Working Group and stated that the group has been reviewing legislation and researching other municipalities as preliminary steps to creating an anti-hate by-law for the Region, but that the development of an anti-hate by-law may not be feasible. She advised that the working group is re-directing its focus on sharing the information learned with the community.

P. Hines stated that the working group is considering ways to collaborate with the Education Working Group to share learning with the community through educational activities.

N. Samuel stated that the working group is also considering the feasibility of developing an anti-discrimination campaign that emulates the City of Toronto's "Toronto for All" campaign.

Discussion ensued with regards to the development of a campaign; and the DRART's role in community outreach.

4. School Board Working Group

G. Wilson-Beier provided an update on behalf of the School Board Working Group and stated that the group held its second meeting with the school boards, with four out of the six school boards in attendance. She further stated that the school boards provided a high-level overview of the data received from their climate surveys and advised that a Ministry mandated survey that examines demographics will be conducted later this year. G. Wilson-Beier stated that the working group will request the results of that survey once available.

G. Wilson-Beier responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the working group's next steps; and whether there is an opportunity for the working group to collaborate with any of the school boards on future initiatives.

9. **Other Business**

A) Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART) Report to Council

A. Hector-Alexander stated that as the term is nearing the midway point, the DRART is required to submit a report to council highlighting the activities and achievements of the Committee to date. She advised that a further discussion regarding items to be included in the report will take place at the October meeting.

B) Member Resignation from DRART

K. Vieneer stated that he is resigning as a member of the DRART effective immediately as he has accepted a position at the Region and no longer meets the eligibility requirements for the Committee.

C) Letter of Support for Asylum Seekers

Staff responded to a question from the Committee regarding the anticipated timeline for the DRART letter of support for asylum seekers to be shared with Regional Council.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the complexities surrounding refugee and asylum claimants; the costs incurred by the Region in supporting asylum seekers; whether the Region has recovered those incurred expenses; the process of lobbying various levels of government; and what is expected to happen to the individuals currently in the program if the Region discontinues its funding at the end of this year.

A. Hector-Alexander responded to a question from the Committee with respect to when it is anticipated that Regional Council will deliver its decision regarding future regional funding for asylum seekers.

A. Hector-Alexander advised that a short presentation that outlines more details of the situation will be shared at the next meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room 1A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

11. Adjournment

Moved by A. Frempong, Seconded by G. Wilson-Beier,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM

Respectfully submitted,

N. Samuel, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 3, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, October 3, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Call to Order & Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

V. Walker read the following land acknowledgement:

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

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

2 Roll Call

Present: R. Lalonde, Whitby, Chair
B. Astley, Oshawa
M. Gibbons, Scugog attended the meeting at 7:01 PM
A. Heywood*, Pickering
C. Houston, Clarington, Vice-Chair
K. Mirani, Brock
Councillor Shahid (alternate)
P. Smith*, Uxbridge
T. Van Helsdingen*, Ajax attended the meeting at 7:03 PM
*** denotes Members participating electronically**

Absent: Councillor Kerr

Staff

Present: A. Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
D. Culp*, Project Planner, Transportation Planning
C. Goodchild*, Director of Planning

R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Kemp*, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations
C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning
A. Spencer*, Project Manager, Traffic Safety & Operations
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
* **denotes staff participating electronically**

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by C. Houston, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee
meeting held on June 14, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Lalita Thakali, Transportation Engineer, Town of Whitby, re Active
Transportation Projects in Whitby

Lalita Thakali, Transportation Engineer, Town of Whitby, provided a
PowerPoint presentation with regards to Active Transportation Projects in
Whitby.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Multi-Use Path Centerline Pavement Marking Project
- Pedestrian Crossover Program
- Garden Street Multi-Use Path (MUP) (North of Mary Street)
- Cochrane Street Cycle Track
- Sidewalk Prioritization Plan
- Micromobility Public Engagement
- Future Projects

L. Thakali responded to questions from the Committee regarding the
anticipated timeline for implementing pedestrian crossovers in Whitby;
whether the sidewalk prioritization plan will prioritize constructing sidewalks
in residential areas; the current stage of the sidewalk prioritization plan;
whether there is a plan to add street lighting over multi-use paths (MUPs)
that do not currently contain overhead lighting; and whether the Town takes
into account the locations of active transportation networks when reviewing
construction and road occupancy permit applications to avoid obstruction of
MUPs.

B) Steven Kemp, Manager, Traffic Engineering and Operations, Durham Region, re: Vision Zero Updates

Steven Kemp, Manager, Traffic Engineering and Operations, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Vision Zero Updates.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Background
- Vision Zero Principles
- The Data
- Fatal Collisions
- Intersection Related Collisions
- Pedestrian Related Collisions
- Cyclist Related Collisions
- 2024 Durham Vision Zero (DVZ) Program
- Targeted Active Transportation Initiatives
 - Planned Pedestrian Crossovers (PXO)
 - Planned Pedestrian Signals (IPS or MPS)
 - Midblock Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Operations and Safety Study
 - Uncontrolled Crossings Study (Phase 2)
- Next Chapter
- Network Screening – Top Pedestrian Collisions
- Network Screening – Top Cyclist Collisions
- Eco-Counter
- Next Steps

S. Kemp responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether there has been a reduction in accidents at locations where red-light cameras and speed cameras have been installed; whether consideration has been given to issuing educational materials to residents to promote safe driving and deter reckless driving; the anticipated timeline for installing intersection pedestrian signals (IPS) along the hydro corridor in Whitby; whether the reported collision data accounts for fatalities and collisions in all of the Region or is specific to Regional roads; and whether consideration could be given to enhancing trail crossings with visual indicators such as road painting or symbols for trail crossings that don't meet the traffic volumes to require a formal pedestrian crossing.

C) Danielle Culp, Project Planner, Durham Region, re: Signage & Wayfinding Strategy

Danielle Culp, Project Planner, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Signage & Wayfinding Strategy.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Project Progress Update
 - Project Timeline
 - What We Heard
- Strategy Outline
 - Durham Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy Outline
- Chapter Highlights
 - Chapter 5 – Destinations
 - Chapter 5 – Sign Family
 - Chapter 6 – Design Concept
 - Chapter 7 – Implementation and Maintenance
- Next Steps
 - Present Final Strategy
 - Implementation

6. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

7. Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

R. Lalonde introduced Chris Leitch as the Region’s new Manager of Transportation Planning in the Planning Division.

8. Information Items

A) DATC Subcommittee: Bike Friendly Communities Award Program (Connor Houston)

C. Houston provided an update on behalf of the Bike Friendly Communities Award Status subcommittee and stated that the application for the Bike Friendly Communities Award Program is nearing completion with only a few items that remain outstanding. He advised that the application will be submitted ahead of the October 11, 2024 deadline.

B) North Durham Trail Update (Ron Lalonde)

R. Lalonde provided an update with respect to the ongoing maintenance on the North Durham TransCanada Rail Trail. He highlighted the following work that has been completed on the Trail to date:

- March 2024: Trail assessment completed
- April 2024: Local contractors identified
- May 2024: Stop signs installed at 14 intersections
- June 2024: Grass cut along 21km corridor
- July 24: Ruts and holes repaired
- August 2024: User etiquette signs installed
- August 2024: New bike repair station installed

R. Lalonde advised that the user etiquette signs installed in August were incorrect and have since been updated with the correct signage. He stated that the bike repair station was installed at the Blackwater Junction by the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority.

R. Lalonde further stated that the next steps consist of bridge deck repairs east of the Blackwater Junction, windfall removal, and pothole repairs. He advised that contractors have been selected and estimates for the work are being prepared, with an anticipated completion date for the work being the end of this year.

C) Rouge National Urban Park Year in Review (2023)

A link to the Year in Review (2023) from Rouge National Urban Park was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received for information.

9. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

11. Adjournment

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

R. Lalonde, Chair
Durham Active Transportation
Committee

V. Walker, Committee Clerk