



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, March 7, 2025

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

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There are no Information Reports.	
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There are no Confidential Reports.	
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6. Miscellaneous Correspondence

6.1 Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

48

- Resolution passed at their NVCA Board of Directors meeting held on February 28, 2025, in opposition to the amalgamation of the NVCA and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

6.2 Jeanette Miller, Blackstock Resident

56

- Correspondence dated March 3, 2025, regarding a request for a re-evaluation of Climate Action Plans and FCM - ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program Participation

7. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

There are no Advisory/Other Committee Minutes

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

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



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: March 7, 2025
To: Health & Social Services Committee
From: Dr. Robert Kyle
Subject: Health Information Update – March 2, 2025

Health
Department

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

*“Service Excellence
for our Communities*

UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
March 2, 2025

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/5n6wjxxb

- Dental Insurance in Durham Region (2021-2023) (Feb 27)

tinyurl.com/379k9upb

- Changes to the Ontario Cervical Screening Program (Feb 27)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Canada Border Services Agency

tinyurl.com/yc26raw4

- CBSA launches Operation Blizzard to target fentanyl and other synthetic narcotics (Feb 27)

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/msjc7kf3

- Government of Canada signs pharmacare agreement with Manitoba to improve affordable access to medications (Feb 27)

tinyurl.com/yucn892h

- Government of Canada take further action to combat fentanyl production and organized crime (Feb 28)

tinyurl.com/33bpfnttr

- Supporting community-led responses to the illegal toxic drug and overdose crisis (Feb 28)

Parks Canada

tinyurl.com/y3p6bcwa

- Government of Canada recognizes the Saskatchewan Doctors' Strike of 1962 as an event of national historical significance (Feb 19)

Prime Minister's Office

tinyurl.com/5n7vf6tf

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with premiers to discuss the Canada-U.S. relationship and Canada's fight against fentanyl (Feb 26)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/ytsh3shb

- Government of Canada purchases avian influenza vaccine to protect individuals most at risk (Feb 19)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Elections Ontario

tinyurl.com/22t6ym9c

- Unofficial results (Feb 28)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Canadian Association for Pharmacy Distribution Management

tinyurl.com/34v4zchf

- National pharmaceutical associations join forces in identifying solutions for drug shortages (Feb 27)

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

tinyurl.com/4t6fw58x

- Repetitive Strain Injuries: Take Action on February 28 (Feb 27)

Canadian Medical Association

tinyurl.com/4jmpxm7c

- Let doctors practice where they are needed: CMA (Feb 24)

Colorectal Cancer Canada

tinyurl.com/4ck72zby

- Make Your #2 Your #1 Priority: Get Screened for Colorectal Cancer (Feb 25)

Colorectal Cancer Research & Action Network

tinyurl.com/s227k4ss

- Colorectal Cancer: Screen It, Treat It, Beat It! Join CCRAN in Spreading Awareness this Month (Feb 27)

Heart and Stroke Foundation

tinyurl.com/4rs5x2mu

- Ultra-processed foods to blame for over a third of heart and stroke deaths in Canada (Feb 25)

Ontario Hospital Association

tinyurl.com/5722sr5x

- OHA Statement on Staffing Ratios at Ontario Hospitals (Feb 27)

Patented Medicine Prices Review Board Canada

tinyurl.com/2mxtbbxf

- PMPRB report shows higher-cost medicines driving a 14.1% growth in private plan drug costs in 2023 (Feb 25)

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

tinyurl.com/4ercrmru

- SOGC Statement Marking the First Federal-Provincial Agreement on Pharmacare in Canada (Feb 27)

tinyurl.com/52uywf46

- SOGC Urges Action on Endometriosis: Too Many Women Suffer in Silence (Mar 1)

World Health Organization

tinyurl.com/yw94yspw

- First ever WHO treaty marks 20 years of saving millions of lives worldwide (Feb 25)

tinyurl.com/2n4yzkzj

- WHO Director-General announces that mpox remains a public health emergency of international concern (Feb 27)

tinyurl.com/jk2rrmp8

- New WHO and ITU standard aims to prevent hearing loss among gamers (Feb 28)

tinyurl.com/ymv2aast

- Recommendations announced for influenza vaccine composition for the 2025-26 northern hemisphere influenza season (Feb 28)

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 1:47 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Sent by Email

March 3, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street,
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
pm@pm.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park Room 281
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Subject: Sharing of Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST with Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on February 24, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario collects substantial revenue from the application of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax from the sale of properties, including those in Pickering and across the province, generating significant revenue;

And Whereas the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions is not directly shared with municipalities, while the majority of infrastructure and services provided to homeowners, is the responsibility of municipalities;

And Whereas Municipalities, including the City of Pickering, do not receive a share of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax;

And Whereas the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

And Whereas redistributing a portion of the existing Provincial Land Transfer Tax and the existing GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

And Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for the residents;

And Whereas Municipalities, including the City of Pickering, do not receive a share of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. That the Provincial Government be requested to share a portion of the existing collected Provincial Land Transfer Tax with single and lower tier municipalities;
2. That the Federal Government be requested to allocate to municipalities a percentage to the GST Collected on property sales;
3. That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST be structured to provide a predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in the infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;
4. That the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering endorse the Town of Aurora's Council Resolution of November 26, 2024 Member Motion 8.9.1 – Mayor Mrakas, regarding Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding;
5. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Finance of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), in the Region of Durham; and,
6. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Aurora, all Municipalities in the Region of Durham, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel

City Clerk

SC:am


Copy: The Hon. Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Finance of Canada
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance of Ontario
The Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Hon. Mark Holland, MP Ajax
Ryan Turnbull, MP Whitby
Colin Carrie, MP Oshawa
Jamil Jivani, MP Durham
Jamie Schmale, MP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock
Jennifer O’Connell, MP Pickering Uxbridge
Robert Cerjanec, MPP Ajax
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering Uxbridge
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham
Michael de Rond, Clerk, Town of Aurora
Jaclyn Grossi, Clerk, Town of Ajax;
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington;
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby;
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock;
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge;
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa;
Blair Labelle, Clerk, Township of Scugog;
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Chief Administrative Officer

Sent by Email

March 3, 2025

Richard Robertson
Director, Research and Advocacy
B'nai Brith Canada
PO Box 77510, Sheppard Plaza
Toronto, ON M3H 6A7
richr@bnaibrith.ca

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 1:49 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Subject: Protecting Canadian Values: Ban the Nazi Swastika in Canada

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on February 24, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in recent years, Nazi iconography has resurfaced with alarming frequency in the public sphere, used by an increasing number of groups and individuals to promote hate and instill fear within Canadian society;

And Whereas, since the atrocities of WWII, the Nazi swastika, specifically the German Hakenkreuz, has become universally synonymous with systematic violence, terror and hate. These symbols and iconography represent Nazi ideology, a doctrine rooted in racism, antisemitism, and genocide. Its growing presence in our country poses a threat to every single Canadian citizen, undermining the core values of equality, diversity, and inclusion that define our nation;

And Whereas, 18 countries have already taken action to ban these symbols. It is imperative that Canada follow suit;

And Whereas, the City of Pickering Council agrees that the people of Canada are counting on the federal government to ensure a future free from hate, where every Canadian is protected, valued, and respected;

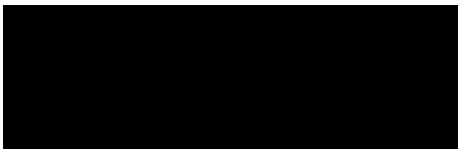
Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the CAO:

1. That the Mayor and Members of Council write a letter which supports B'Nai Brith's call to the Government of Canada to pass legislation banning the public display of Nazi symbols and iconography, including the Nazi swastika - specifically, demanding that the Government of Canada immediately:

- ban the Nazi swastika;
 - ban all variations of all Nazi symbols and iconography; and
 - condemn acts of hate and explore protocol to report hate motivated acts to human rights organizations;
2. That the Mayor and Members of Council condemn in the strongest terms possible the recent acts of antisemitism and hate felt across the Region of Durham and beyond;
 3. That the Mayor and Members of Council reiterate their support for the past National Action Summit on antisemitism which had the participation of the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments;
 4. That the City of Pickering commits to looking for ways to educate residents in combating all forms of hate including antisemitism, and the possible inclusion of antisemitism and antihate campaigns;
 5. That the City of Pickering staff report on the possibility of establishing a protocol or policy to notify various human rights organizations when hate motivated criminal acts are identified by City staff, and the intent of the policy is to assist them in the collection of empirical evidence related to hate crimes; and,
 6. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to B'nai Brith Canada, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA), Rabbi Tzali Borenstein, Jennifer O'Connell, MP Pickering-Uxbridge, The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge, the Regional Municipality of Durham, Durham District School Board, Durham Catholic District School Board, and all lower-tier Durham municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: Jennifer O'Connell, MP Pickering-Uxbridge
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Durham

Jaclyn Grossi, Clerk, Town of Ajax
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa
Blair Labelle, Clerk, Township of Scugog
Durham District School Board
Durham Catholic District School Board
Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)
Rabbi Tzali Borenstein

Chief Administrative Officer

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przewdziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail:
Sylvia.Przewdziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca

**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 25-MM26.7**

(Sent by Email)

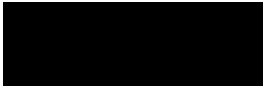
February 28, 2025

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:

**Subject: Member Motion Item 26.7
Creation of a City of Toronto "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" Campaign - by
Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie (Ward All)**

City Council on February 5, 2025, adopted [Item MM26.7](#) as amended and, in so doing, has forwarded the Item to all Ontario municipalities and encouraged them to join Toronto in a "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign.

Yours sincerely,




for City Clerk

S. Przewdziecki/mp

Attachment

c. City Manager

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 9:26 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 26

MM26.7	ACTION	Amended		Ward: All
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Creation of a City of Toronto “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” Campaign - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

City Council Decision

City Council on February 5, 2025, adopted the following:

1. City Council request the City Manager, and relevant Divisions to develop a comprehensive, multifaceted “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” campaign in response to the potential 25-percent tariffs announced by the Trump Administration, such campaign to encourage Toronto residents and businesses to join the City of Toronto's divisions and its agencies and corporations in purchasing locally made Canadian goods and services in order to protect local jobs in Toronto and Ontario where the proposed punitive tariffs would result in hundreds of thousands of job losses if imposed on Canada.
2. City Council direct the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and the City Manager, in consultation with the Chief Procurement Officer and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to accelerate the development of local procurement approaches as set out in Sidewalks to Skylines: A Ten-Year Action Plan for Toronto’s Economy to strengthen local businesses and protect local jobs.
3. City Council request the Federal Government to develop a standard recognizable label to be placed on all Canadian goods in clear, readable fonts that clearly shows percentages of Canadian content and any and all foreign content.
4. City Council forward the Item to all Ontario municipalities and encourage them to join Toronto in a “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” campaign.

City Council Decision Advice and Other Information

City Council considered the following Items together:

MM26.7 headed “Creation of a City of Toronto “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” Campaign - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie”; and

MM26.13 headed “Affirming Our Canadian Independence - by Councillor Stephen Holyday, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti”.

Summary

With recent threats from President Donald Trump to impose a 25 percent tariff on Canadian products and services, it is important that municipalities, businesses, and residents across Canada stand up for our country, our economy, and our businesses.

The City of Toronto, Canada's largest municipality, has an opportunity to encourage residents, businesses, and cities across Canada to create and participate in a "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign to ensure that we support local products, local businesses, and local growth.

This motion requests that the City Manager and relevant City Divisions develop a comprehensive "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign that will encourage spending to further develop our own local economies through the purchasing of local goods and services when available.


Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM26.7

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-252857.pdf>

Communications (City Council)

(February 2, 2025) E-mail from George Bell (MM.Supp)

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 05, 2025 1:41 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



Hon. Justin Trudeau
 Prime Minister of Canada
 VIA EMAIL:
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Hon. Doug Ford
 Premier of Ontario
 VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

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

March 5, 2025

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

Federation of Canadian
 Municipalities –
 VIA EMAIL:
resolutions@fcm.ca

RE: Resolution No. 2025-051 – Federal and Provincial Call to Action to Buy Canadian

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 20, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-051:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
 Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda items 6.8 and 6.9 listed for FEBRUARY 20, 2025 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas United States President Donald Trump, continues to indicate that he will issue executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada; and

Whereas these tariffs will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries; and

Whereas federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian; and

Whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs; and



Whereas according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario municipalities are expected to spend \$250 to \$290 billion on infrastructure in the next 10 years; and

Whereas municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services; and

Whereas municipalities can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in the procurement for capital and infrastructure programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Puslinch endorse the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian where and when possible; and

That the federal and provincial governments work with municipalities on measures to protect Canadian consumers and businesses; and

That council call on the federal and provincial government to remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for capital projects and supplies when appropriate and feasible; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

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

February 6, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via fax

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

Robin Jones, President, AMO
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
155 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7
Via email

Rebecca Bligh, President, FCM
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3
Via email

Re: United States Imposition of Tariffs on Canada

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Hanover, at their regular meeting of February 3, 2025, adopted the following resolution with respect to the above noted matter:

“Whereas United States President Donald Trump, issued executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada effective February 4, 2025; and

Whereas these tariffs will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries; and

Whereas federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian; and

Whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs; and

Whereas according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario municipalities are expected to spend \$250 to \$290 billion on infrastructure in the next 10 years; and

Whereas municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services; and

Whereas municipalities can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in the procurement for capital and infrastructure programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Hanover endorse the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian where and when possible; and

That the federal and provincial governments work with municipalities on measures to protect Canadian consumers and businesses; and

That council call on the federal and provincial government to remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for capital projects and supplies when appropriate and feasible; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Vicki McDonald
Clerk

/tp

cc: Honourable Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
All Ontario Municipalities

January 29, 2025

All Municipalities in Ontario
Via Email

Re: Sovereignty of Canada

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding Sovereignty of Canada.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0010.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0010
Title: Sovereignty of Canada
Date: January 20, 2025
Moved by: Councillor D. Keene
Seconded by: Councillor J. Brass

Item No. 12.2

WHEREAS incoming President Trump has suggested that with the use of “economic force” such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS residents of our community, known as Canada’s Most Patriotic Town, have demonstrated passion for and loyalty to our nation by opposing past "Buy America" trade measures; by celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary by simultaneously flying over 57,000 Canadian flags and along with other activities, by annually hosting popular Canada Day festivities throughout our municipality; and

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867; and

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Ford and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.




Mayor Ann Lawlor

**Resolution
Regular Council Meeting**



Agenda Number: 15.2.
Resolution Number 25-054
Title: 25-R-22 Northern Highway Safety Plan
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 9:17 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Moved by: M. Lubbock
Seconded by: S. Cote

WHEREAS THE TransCanada Highway is the road system meant to move goods and people across the country, but it is no longer equipped to do that safely in Northern Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Coleman hereby support the Northern Highway Safety Plan proposed by MPP Guy Bourgouin, MPP Lise Vaugeois and MPP John Vanthof which includes the following;

Immediate Actions:

- Require all new drivers to be tested by MTO-certified inspectors instead of third-party companies.
- Return highway maintenance operations to the MTO while working with northern contractors.
- Increase staff at inspection sites, weigh scales, and OPP traffic enforcement.
- Expedite the 2+1 highway pilot project and use excavated material to build additional rest stops and parking areas.

Short-Term Improvements:

- Mandate snow tires for all passenger vehicles in Northern Ontario.
- Ensure driving schools comply with the MELT training system and improve MELT to include winter driving training.
- Address the abuse of “self-insurance provisions” and ensure fair payment for tow truck operators and service providers.
- Require all commercial vehicles to have dash cams.
- Increase the use of traffic cameras and photo radar to reduce speeding.
- Promote rail transport to reduce commercial truck traffic on northern highways.
- Upload connecting links back to the provincial highway system for consistent maintenance.
- Upgrade and expand rest stops with heated washrooms to meet traveler needs.
- Provide compensation to municipalities for damage to local roads caused by highway detours.

Long-Term Solutions:

- Widen and pave all shoulders on Highways 11 and 17.
- Convert Highways 11 and 17 into divided four-lane highways where possible or implement a continuous three-lane system if the 2+1 project proves successful.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation; the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing; all Provincial Leaders; the Temiskaming Municipal Association; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); and all municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

Certified True Copy



Christopher W. Oslund
CAO/Clerk - Treasurer



January 24, 2025

MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugeois *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

NORTHERN HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

Introduction

Safety on the TransCanada Highways 11 and 17 continues to be the number one concern for most residents of Northern Ontario because they are our main streets. We use these highways to get to work, school, hockey, and medical appointments, but we share them with thousands of cross-country commercial trucks. As a result, Northern MPPs have had a lot to say over the years about the state of highways in the North and for good reason.

Years ago, the problem was proper and consistent winter maintenance. The Liberal government in power at the time claimed everything was fine, so MPP Vanthof's office created the Northern Road Report to show that it wasn't. The Minister of Transportation (MTO) demanded that the report be taken down, but in the end the Northern Road Report helped prove that even when contract requirements were being met, people were still being put at risk. As a result, the government of the day was forced to make changes to the system.

MPP Bourgouin introduced legislation to make maintenance standards the same across the TransCanada system, so that 11 north of North Bay would be maintained to the same standard as south. The legislation was defeated, but the government did create a separate standard for the northern portion of the TransCanada highway. MPP Bourgouin has also introduced other pieces of legislation regarding driver training and not being able to pass on double solid lines. This was defeated, but he remains committed to finding ways to solve safety issues the same as his fellow Northern MPPs. Similarly, MPP Vaugeois introduced a motion that driver testing be taken back by the MTO which would have been an effective way for the government to control the standard of drivers on the roads. All three members have been vocal in the legislature regarding highway safety throughout their careers.

We are once again facing a highway safety crisis, one that we believe requires a plan designed by Northerners for Northerners. It contains clear goals that we can push government of whatever stripe to implement for all our families.

Current Situation

Currently some poorly trained commercial vehicle drivers and the companies they work for are putting all other drivers at undue risk. Incidents have been easy to track on social media. Investigative reports on the problems in commercial truck training and licensing, and from the Auditor General of Ontario identified this problem as far back as 2018. We, Northern MPPs have mentioned this issue many times in the legislature. The response from the government has been that these are the safest roads in North America, and that they are looking into the matter.



January 25, 2025

MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugeois *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

Regardless of political stance, we hope that we can all agree that one of the basic jobs of any government is to ensure that people who are issued a driver's license are capable of safely driving the vehicle for which they are licensed. There are over a hundred companies in Ontario who recruit, train, and license their own drivers and they can issue Ontario licenses to them. These are among the worst offenders. Of course there are still good driving schools, and companies that provide excellent training programs to their new drivers, but not all of them. Change needs to happen in the immediate and long term, and we are proposing a plan to address these needs. First, there needs to be immediate action by the Ministry to ensure that only properly-trained drivers are graduating by appointing employees of the MTO to conduct driving tests for all new commercial vehicle drivers before they can receive a license.

Immediate Ask

- Have all new drivers tested by MTO certified inspectors, not third-party private companies. If their student drivers can't pass a legitimate road test, then these driving schools will be forced to change how they conduct business.

Short-Term

- Return the management of highway maintenance operations to the MTO, while working with contractors and providers throughout the North.
- Increase staffing at scales and inspection sites, as well as OPP Traffic enforcement to ensure the laws currently in place are being followed.
- Expedite the 2+1 pilot project and the construction of rest stops. Use the fill that is dug out to rebuild sections of the highway to create parking pull offs.

Medium-Term

- Make snow tires mandatory for all passenger vehicles registered in Northern Ontario.
- Ensure that driving schools comply with the current MELT training system.
- Reform issues within MELT itself and expand requirements to include winter driving training.
- Address the current abuse of "self insurance provisions" and ensure tow truck operators and other service providers can get paid for services from these schemes.
- Require that all commercial motor vehicles have dash cams.
- Increase the number of cameras and photo radar to slow down traffic.
- Emphasize rail to move goods so not as many loads must travel on the highway.
- Return connecting links to the provincial highway system so that maintenance is uniform.
- Better equip and increase the availability of rest stops with heated, maintained washrooms.
- Direct the cost of repairing damage to municipal roads caused by detour traffic from highway closures to the MTO.

Long-Term

- Widen and pave all shoulders on Highways 11 and 17.
- Make Highway 11 and 17 a divided four-lane highway wherever possible.
 - If the 2+1 pilot proves successful, a continuous three lane would be a good intermediate step. The TransCanada Highway is the road system meant to move goods and people

January 25, 2025



MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugeois *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

This plan is designed to be a living document. The goals here have been suggested by industry stakeholders, drivers, municipalities and others. We are open to suggestions, ideas, and constructive criticism. Please send us your comments. By working together, we are hoping to make the highway safer for all our families.

MPP Guy Bourgouin
MPP Lise Vaugeois
MPP John Vanthof



SEND A LETTER TO THE MINISTER

<https://win.newmode.net/mppguybourgouin/sendalettertotheministeroftransportation>



CONTACT US

gbourgouin-qp@ndp.on.ca
lvaugeois-co@ndp.on.ca
jvanthof-qp@npd.on.ca



MPP Bourgouin: 705-335-7351
MPP Vauegois: 807-345-3647
MPP Vanthof: 1-888-701-1105




PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

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

T 905.228.8031 F 905.834.5746

E charlotte.madden@portcolborne.ca

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 04, 2025 2:52 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

March 4, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

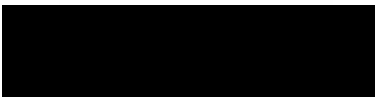
Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: City of Port Colborne Support the Town of Fort Frances Re: Sovereignty of Canada

Please be advised that, at its meeting of February 25, 2025 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne supported the resolution from the Town of Fort Frances, regarding the Sovereignty of Canada.

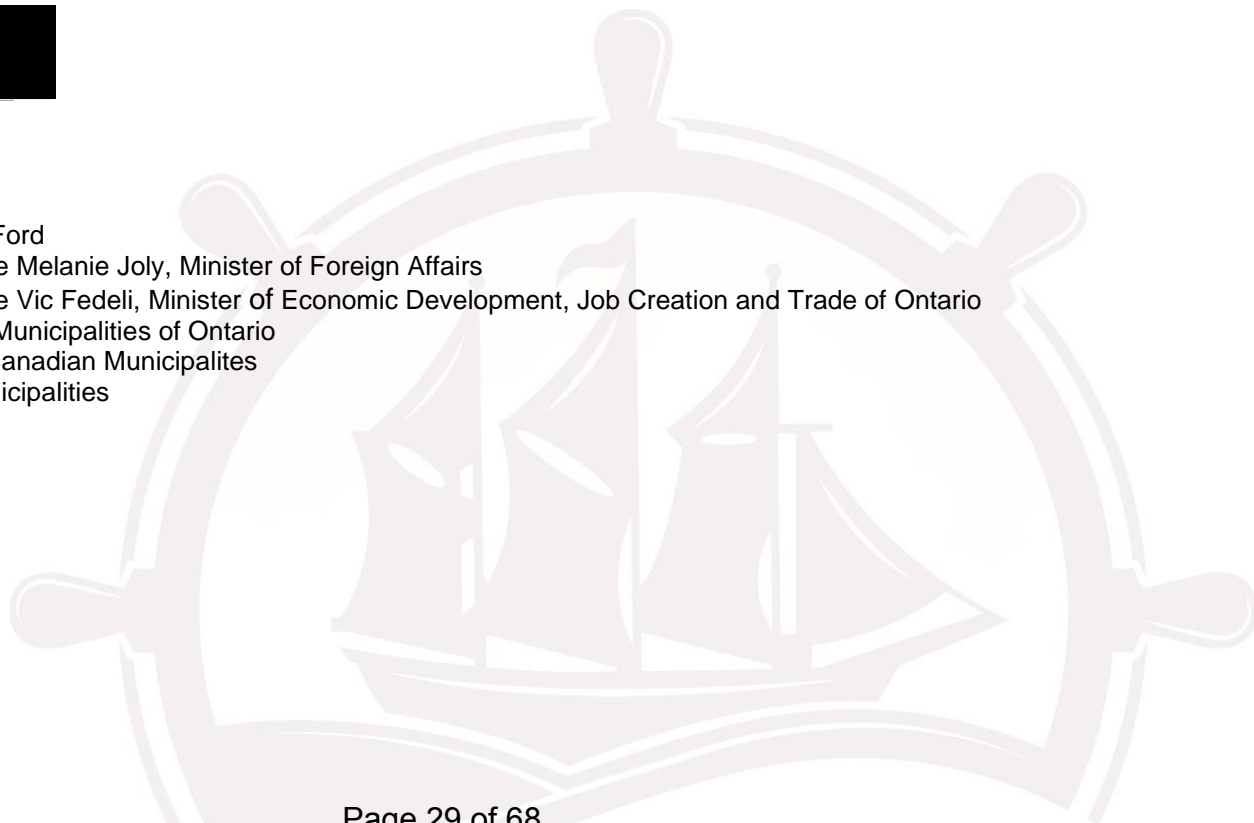
The correspondence is attached for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Madden
City Clerk

Ec: Premier Doug Ford
The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities





FORTFRANCES

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

Monday, February 10, 2025

Oral Motion

“THAT Council supports the Town of Halton Hills Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding the Sovereignty of Canada.”

Moved by Wendy Brunetta, Seconded by Steven Maki, Motion Carried by Council.

WHEREAS President Trump has suggested that with the use of “economic force” such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions, and by more than a century and a half of multicultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect, and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Fort Frances categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Fort and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.




Annette Groves
Mayor

February 25, 2025

Sent via E-Mail: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

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

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 06, 2025 8:36 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Request that the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs Release the Confidential Recommendations of the Peel Transition Board

Dear Premier Ford,

I am writing to advise that at the Town Council meeting held on February 25, 2025, Council adopted a resolution regarding the protection of agricultural lands and sustainable excess soil management practices in Ontario.

The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the Province of Ontario established a Peel Transition Board in July 2023 to advise it on the complete dissolution of the Region of Peel.

Whereas in May, 2024 the Peel Transition Board was re-tasked by the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs to examine the partial dissolution of the Region of Peel in the following areas: Roads, Waste, Water and Waste Water and to prepare recommendations that were to be confidential and to be delivered to the Minister.

Whereas the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs received the confidential recommendations of the Peel Transition Board in October 2024.

Whereas the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs introduced legislation in Provincial parliament in December 2024 to proceed with the downloading of roads and associated infrastructure based upon the confidential recommendations of the Peel Transition Board.

Whereas, if the confidential recommendations of the Peel Transition Board could be used as a "blueprint" for the changes to other regional governments in Ontario, these Regions and Municipalities should be afforded the opportunity to see the methodology used by the Peel Transition Board to justify its recommendations regarding the changes to the Region of Peel.

Whereas Town of Caledon Councillors and Town staff have not seen the confidential recommendations of the Peel Transition Board that relate to the Town of Caledon.

Whereas there has been neither any indication of the full financial impact of the downloading of Roads, Waste, Water and Wastewater to the residents of Peel Region nor the impact on the taxpayers of Caledon.



Annette Groves
Mayor

February 25, 2025

Sent via E-Mail: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Council formally asks that the confidential recommendations of the Peel Transition Board, submitted to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, be released, in full unredacted form, to the Town of Caledon and to the people of Ontario. Further, that this motion be sent to Brampton Council, Mississauga Council and Peel Region Council.

Further, that this motion be sent to the Regional Municipality of Durham, Regional Municipality of Halton, the District of Muskoka, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, and the Regional Municipality of York.

Further, that this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs and the Member of Provincial Parliament for Dufferin-Caledon upon the resumption of the legislature after the election

For more information regarding this matter, please contact Catherine Monast, Chief of Staff, directly by email at Catherine.monast@caledon.ca or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4539.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Annette Groves
Mayor



Annette Groves
Mayor

February 25, 2025

Sent via E-Mail: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Cc: paul.calandra@pc.ola.org ; sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org ; cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca ;
mayor@mississauga.ca ; stephen.dasko@mississauga.ca ; alvin.tedjo@mississauga.ca ;
chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca ; john.kovac@mississauga.ca ; natalie.hart@mississauga.ca ;
joe.horneck@mississauga.ca ; dipika.damerla@mississauga.ca ;
matt.mahoney@mississauga.ca ; martin.reid@mississauga.ca ;
sue.mcfadden@mississauga.ca ; brad.butt@mississauga.ca ; info@peelregion.ca ;
corpserv@durham.ca ; gary.carr@halton.ca ; accesshalton@halton.ca ;
jeff.lehman@districtcouncil.ca ; nancy.alcock@districtcouncil.ca ;
sandy.cairns@districtcouncil.ca ; peter.cooper@districtcouncil.ca ;
allen.edwards@districtcouncil.ca ; robert.lacroix@districtcouncil.ca ;
ruth.nishikawa@districtcouncil.ca ; don.smith@districtcouncil.ca ; terry.glover@districtcouncil.ca ;
peter.koetsier@districtcouncil.ca ; heidi.lorenz@districtcouncil.ca ;
rick.maloney@districtcouncil.ca ; michael.peppard@districtcouncil.ca ;
amy.back@muskoka.on.ca ; julie.stevens@muskoka.on.ca ; dan.armour@districtcouncil.ca ;
brian.bochek@districtcouncil.ca ; erin.strength@districtcouncil.ca ;
scott.morrison@districtcouncil.ca ; bob.stone@districtcouncil.ca ;
peter.johnston@districtcouncil.ca ; guy.burry@districtcouncil.ca ; peter.kelley@districtcouncil.ca ;
brenda.rhodes@districtcouncil.ca ; tatiana.sutherland@districtcouncil.ca ;
jim.bradley@niagararegion.ca ; KRedman@regionofwaterloo.ca ; accessyork@york.ca



Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 06, 2025 8:46 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

March 4, 2025

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

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Via Email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Re: Tariffs on Canadian Production

Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, February 25, 2025 passed the following resolution:

40/25

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

Whereas the recent threats of an imposition on tariffs on Canadian production will have a substantial effect on the items produced in the County of Essex and purchased in the Town of LaSalle;

And Whereas there has only been a 30-day reprieve granted;

And Whereas, a tariff on Canadian steel and aluminum has been threatened;

And Whereas, these tariffs were going to be applied by another country and therefore can be deemed as being external to the Province and Country;

And Whereas, the interprovincial trade has been deemed by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) to represent 18% of Canada's GDP.

And Whereas, the CFIP released a report that said removing interprovincial barriers could boost the economy by up to \$200 billion annually;

And Whereas, items produced, grown, and manufactured in Essex County are sent across Canada;



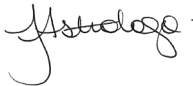
And Whereas, persons in the Town of LaSalle purchase goods manufactured in many provinces and from across the country, and these goods are in many cases subject to interprovincial barriers.

Be It Resolved that, the Town of LaSalle calls upon both the Provincial and Federal Governments to eliminate interprovincial trade barriers to ensure that items produced in the County of Essex and that Canadian items purchased in the Town of LaSalle are no longer subject to these interprovincial trade barriers.

Carried.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of LaSalle's support of the above matter.

Yours Truly,



Jennifer Astrologo
Director of Council Services/Clerk
Town of LaSalle
jastrologo@lasalle.ca

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 9:14 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Ontario Deposit Return Program

February 27, 2025

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin,

At the Council Meeting held on February 19, 2025, Limerick Township Council approved Council Resolution 007-2025, supporting the letter submitted by Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program.

Motion007-2025

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican
Seconded by Councillor Glenn Locke

THAT Council for the Township of Limerick hereby supports the letter dated September 20, 2024 by the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; The Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local MPP, Ric Bresee; and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca or by phone at 613-474-2863.

Sincerely,


Victoria Tisdale

Clerk-Treasurer

Township of Limerick

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

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



September 20, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin:

Ontario Deposit Return Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally address the recent discussions surrounding the Ontario Deposit Return Program, particularly regarding our community residents asking us about the recycling of nonalcoholic beverage plastics.

Whereas the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers, resulting in the removal of over 204,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, we recognize the potential for similar success with nonalcoholic beverages.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks highlighted in their June 2023 letter that they are considering the adoption of a deposit-and-return system for nonalcoholic beverages. This initiative presents a unique opportunity to further promote recycling, reduce litter, and encourage sustainable practices among consumers.

Therefore, I am proud to announce that our Council endorses the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers. We believe that this expansion will not only enhance environmental stewardship but also foster a culture of sustainability within our community.

We encourage all stakeholders to support this initiative and work collaboratively towards its implementation. Together, we can make a significant impact on our environment and set a positive example for future generations.

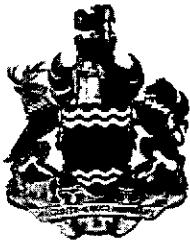
Yours truly,



Mayor James Leduc
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

CC:

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Member of Provincial Parliament for York-Simcoe
MPP Sandy Shaw, Opposition Environment, Conservation and Parks Critic
Ontario's Municipal Councils and Conservation Authorities



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

January 31, 2025

Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks)
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance)
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Correspondence, Municipality of St. Charles 'Deposit Return Program'

At a meeting held on January 22, 2025 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2025-01-22-035, adopting the below recommendation from the January 6, 2025 Public Works Committee meeting:

Moved by: Councillor Mandy Martin
Seconded by: Councillor John Logel

"That the Public Works Committee, having considered correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Deposit Return Program' recommend that County Council support this correspondence; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2025-01-22-035

Carried

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

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather


Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County



Council Resolution

Moved By M. [Redacted]
Seconded By J. [Redacted]

Agenda Resolution Number
Item 10 2025-01-22- 035

Council Date: January 22, 2025

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the three Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held January 6 and 8, 2025)."

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
Councillor's Name

Deferred _____
Warden's Signature

Carried [Redacted]
Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
Warden's Signature



Public Works Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: January 6, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2025-01-06-004

Moved by: B. Ostrander

Seconded by: C. Logel

Council Meeting Date: January 22, 2025

"That the Public Works Committee, having considered correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Deposit Return Program' recommend that County Council support this correspondence; and

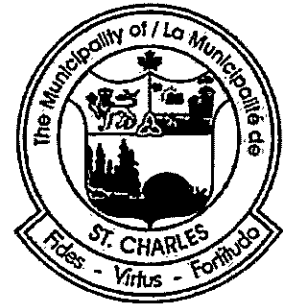
Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario Municipalities."

Carried _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
Committee Chair's Signature

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.2.

Resolution Number 2024-403

Title: Resolution Stemming from October 16, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 8.1 - Correspondence #4

Date: November 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the letter dated September 20, 2024 by the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

MAYOR

Township of Champlain

Resolution
Regular Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.3.
Resolution Number 2025-071
Title: Canada Metal Processing Group - Announcement on steps to respond to U.S. tariff threats on the steel sector
Date: February 27, 2025

Moved By: Paul Emile Duval
Seconded By: Michel Lalonde

Whereas maintaining a healthy domestic steel manufacturing industry and its customer base, who transform steel into steel products, is critical to the economic stability of an independent and autonomous sovereign nation; and

Whereas Steel is a foundational industry to produce core products and infrastructure for essential industries e.g., defence, energy supply both fossil fuels and green energy, majority of industrial manufacturing e.g., automotive, transport, heavy equipment and essential for housing and infrastructure construction; and

Whereas the Heico Companies' Canada Metal Processing Group ("MPG Canada") operates three businesses (Ivaco Rolling Mills, Sivaco, and Infasco) over 6 manufacturing sites in Quebec and Ontario and employs approximately 1600 individuals. The organization operates a state-of-the-art electric arc furnace (EAF) steel plant and billet caster, a two-strand rod mill, a rod processing facility, two wire mills, a bolt manufacturing facility, a nut manufacturing facility and a steel fastener coating facility. MPG Canada strives to offer the best customer experience by delivering high-value and sustainably engineered steel products across North America; and

Whereas, in the face of U.S. tariff threats, and as the Canadian Steel Producer Association (CSPA) members have been advocating, MPG Canada calls on the Canadian government to be prepared to react quickly to safeguard the long-term viability of Canadian steel product manufacturers, and the collective job security of its employees.

Be it resolved that the Township of Champlain supports The Canada Metal Processing Group ("MPG Canada") in its request to the Canadian Government to immediately:

- Prepare to implement matching retaliatory tariff measures without any consultation delay;
- Provide support for workers and businesses during this economic crisis;
- Prevent the ever-increasing unfairly traded imports from other countries into Canada and protect the domestic industry by instituting broad Section 53 surtaxes, without any possible exemptions;
- Promote buying Canadian steel, with its much lower carbon intensity than imports; and
- Work in collaboration with the U.S. to create an aligned North American steel trade market for melted and poured North American steel.

Be it further resolved that this Resolution be circulated to:

- The Right Hon. Justin Trudeau (Prime Minister of Canada),
- The Hon. Melanie Joly (Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada),
 - The Hon. Nate Erskine-Smith (Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, Canada),
 - Premier of Ontario,
 - Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade,
 - Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM),
 - Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),

- Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA),
- Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus,
- The Hon. Francis Drouin, MP - Glengarry-Prescott-Russell,
- Member of Provincial Parliament, MPP – Glengarry-Prescott-Russell,
- The Canadian Steel Producer Association,• MPG Canada,
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and
- All of Ontario's municipalities.

Carried

Certified True Copy of Resolution

Alison Collard, Clerk Date:

Canton de Champlain
Résolution
Réunion régulière du Conseil

No. du point à l'ordre du jour: 15.3.
No. du point 2025-071
Titre: Canada Metal Processing Group - Annonce des mesures à prendre pour répondre aux menaces tarifaires américaines sur le secteur de l'acier
Date: le 27 février 2025

Proposée par: Paul Emile Duval

Appuyée par: Michel Lalonde

Attendu que le maintien d'une industrie sidérurgique nationale saine et de sa clientèle, qui transforme l'acier en produits sidérurgiques, est essentiel à la stabilité économique d'une nation souveraine indépendante et autonome ; et

Attendu que l'acier est une industrie fondamentale pour la production de produits de base et d'infrastructures pour des industries essentielles telles que la défense, l'approvisionnement en énergie, qu'il s'agisse de combustibles fossiles ou d'énergie verte, la majorité des industries manufacturières telles que l'automobile, le transport, l'équipement lourd, ainsi que la construction de logements et d'infrastructures ; et

Attendu que le Groupe de transformation des métaux Canada (« MPG Canada ») de Heico Companies exploite trois entreprises (Ivaco Rolling Mills, Sivaco et Infasco) sur six sites de fabrication au Québec et en Ontario et qu'il emploie environ 1 600 personnes. L'organisation exploite une aciérie à four électrique à arc (FEA) ultramoderne et une coulée de billettes, un laminoir à barres à deux brins, une installation de traitement des barres, deux laminoirs à fil, une installation de fabrication de boulons, une installation de fabrication d'écrous et une installation de revêtement d'attaches en acier. MPG Canada s'efforce d'offrir la meilleure expérience à ses clients en livrant des produits sidérurgiques de grande valeur et de conception durable dans toute l'Amérique du Nord ; et

Attendu que, face aux menaces de tarifs américains, et comme les membres de l'Association canadienne des producteurs d'acier (ACPA) l'ont préconisé, MPG Canada demande au gouvernement canadien d'être prêt à réagir rapidement pour protéger la viabilité à long terme des fabricants canadiens de produits d'acier et la sécurité d'emploi collective de ses employés.

Qu'il soit résolu que le Canton de Champlain appuie le Canada Metal Processing Group (« MPG Canada ») dans sa demande au gouvernement canadien de réagir immédiatement :

- Se préparer à mettre en œuvre des mesures tarifaires de rétorsion correspondantes sans délai de consultation ;
- Soutenir les travailleurs et les entreprises pendant cette crise économique ;
- Empêcher l'augmentation constante des importations déloyales d'autres pays vers le Canada et protéger l'industrie nationale en instituant de larges surtaxes au titre de l'article 53, sans aucune exemption possible ;
- Promouvoir l'achat d'acier canadien, dont l'intensité en carbone est bien inférieure à celle des importations ; et
- Travailler en collaboration avec les États-Unis pour créer un marché nord-américain aligné pour l'acier nord-américain fondu et coulé.

De plus, qu'il soit résolu que la présente résolution soit diffusée auprès de :

- Le très honorable Justin Trudeau (Premier ministre du Canada),
- L'honorable Mélanie Joly (ministre des Affaires étrangères Canada),
- L'honorable Nate Erskine-Smith (ministre du Logement, de l'Infrastructure et des Collectivités Canada),
- le premier ministre de l'Ontario,
- Le ministre du Développement économique, de la Création d'emplois et du Commerce de l'Ontario,
- le ministre des Affaires municipales et du Logement de l'Ontario,

- Fédération canadienne des municipalités (FCM),
- Association des municipalités de l'Ontario (AMO),
- l'Association des municipalités rurales de l'Ontario (ROMA),
- le Caucus des gardiens de l'Est de l'Ontario,
- L'honorable Francis Drouin, député de Glengarry-Prescott-Russell,
- Membre du Parlement provincial, MPP - Glengarry-Prescott-Russell,
- L'Association canadienne des producteurs d'acier,
- MPG Canada,
- L'Association des municipalités de l'Ontario, et
- Toutes les municipalités de l'Ontario

Adoptée

Copie certifiée conforme

Alison Collard, greffière Date :

Source: Canada Metal Processing Group

February 24, 2025 10:32 ET

Canada Metal Processing Group announces steps to respond to U.S. tariff threats on steel sector

BROSSARD, Quebec, Feb. 24, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Canada Metal Processing Group (MPG Canada) and its subsidiaries, Ivaco Rolling Mills, Sivaco, and Infasco, are announcing the difficult but necessary steps to respond to the current challenging market environment and the threat of incoming tariffs from the United States on steel and steel derivatives. These measures will help maintain the majority of MPG Canada's footprint and workforce while reacting to the impact that these threats are already having on the company's demand for its products destined directly and indirectly, via our Canadian customers, to U.S. customers.

In light of lower anticipated demand and production volume, due to U.S. tariff threats and trade challenges in Canada with increasing imports, the measures include a workforce reduction of 140 production and office employees in Ontario and Quebec, implementation of cost savings actions, and the cancellation or pause of some projects. These steps will enable MPG Canada to remain competitive to service our customers and protect the business in the short-term.

"This was an extremely difficult decision for our company, and not one that was made lightly, but necessary for the business in the current environment," said MPG Canada President Matt Walker. "Our employees are the backbone of our operations. They work hard, day in and day out, to create steel products which are recognized for their quality and good customer service while being an integral part of the Canada-U.S. supply chain."

Soft market in 2024, weak North American macroeconomic demand linked to a U.S. election year, the increased challenge of unfair trade imports into Canada, and now the imminent threat of 25% U.S. tariffs on steel sector and 25% on all Canadian products into the U.S., are having serious impacts on the demand for MPG Canada products.

"While it is impossible at this juncture to predict how long these actions by the United States will last, the Canadian government must be prepared to react quickly to safeguard the long-term viability of Canadian steel product manufacturers, and the collective job security of our employees," said Walker. "Maintaining a healthy domestic steel manufacturing industry and their customer base, who transform steel to steel products, is critical to the economic stability of an independent and autonomous sovereign nation. Steel is a foundational industry to produce core products and infrastructure for essential industries e.g., defence, energy supply both fossil fuels and green energy, majority of industrial manufacturing e.g., automotive, transport, heavy equipment and essential for housing and infrastructure construction."

In the face of U.S. tariff threats, and as the Canadian Steel Producer Association (CSPA) members have been advocating, MPG Canada calls on the Canadian government to immediately:

- Prepare to implement matching retaliatory tariff measures without any consultation delay.
- Provide support for workers and businesses during this economic crisis.
- Prevent the ever-increasing unfairly traded imports from other countries into Canada and protect the domestic industry by instituting broad Section 53 surtaxes, without any possible exemptions.

- Promote buying Canadian steel, with its much lower carbon intensity than imports.
- Work in collaboration with the U.S. to create an aligned North American steel trade market for melted and poured North American steel

About Canada Metal Processing Group

The Heico Companies' Canada Metal Processing Group operates three businesses (Ivaco Rolling Mills, Sivaco, and Infasco) over 6 manufacturing sites in Quebec and Ontario and employs approximately 1600 individuals. The organization operates a state-of-the-art electric arc furnace (EAF) steel plant and billet caster, a two-strand rod mill, a rod processing facility, two wire mills, a bolt manufacturing facility, a nut manufacturing facility and a steel fastener coating facility. Canada Metal Processing Group strives to offer the best customer experience by delivering high-value and sustainably engineered steel products across North America.

For media inquiries, please contact:


Frédéric Perron | Director, Marketing and Business Development
Canada Metal Processing Group, part of The Heico Companies
fperron@mpg.heicocompanies.com



Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority

Chair and Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario, Ontario
L1N 6A3

February 28, 2025

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 9:20 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Dear Chair and Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) Board of Directors regarding Oro-Medonte’s recent resolution proposing the amalgamation of the NVCA and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) under section 11 of the *Conservation Authorities Act, 1990*.

Following careful deliberation with our Board, and discussion with the Chair and CAO of the LSRCA, it is the position of the NVCA Board that a formal amalgamation is neither necessary nor advisable. (Our resolution to that effect is enclosed.)

Let me outline why our Board has taken this position:

To date, no independent, expert analysis has been presented to demonstrate that amalgamation would improve efficiency or service delivery. On the contrary, experience has shown that larger municipal entities often result in increased costs, governance challenges, operational inefficiencies and a loss of local focus.

Further, NVCA and LSRCA serve distinct watersheds with unique ecological, planning and regulatory frameworks. While some municipalities are within both Authorities, the vast majority of NVCA member municipalities have little in common with the Lake Simcoe watershed. Additionally, the LSRCA has distinct responsibilities under the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*, which highlights the unique challenges of that watershed. A single, combined Authority could dilute focus and reduce responsiveness to local needs, given the new entity would span a very large geographic area.

Rather than pursuing an amalgamation process—one that would inevitably lead to debates over jurisdiction, governance and composition—the NVCA Board is focused on delivering meaningful improvements that address the concerns of our municipal partners. Our goal is to enhance service delivery, streamline permitting and development processes, and maintain a strong commitment to protecting people and property from natural hazards under Ontario law.

This work is already well underway under the leadership of our Interim CAO. I would like to highlight several initiatives that directly respond to the issues raised by our stakeholders and members:

- Operational Accountability: We have implemented a new monthly reporting system for development and permitting applications to the Chair and Vice-Chair to ensure heightened accountability and service improvement.
- Process Review and Best Practices: We are undertaking a comprehensive audit of our development-application processes to identify opportunities for greater efficiency. As part of this review, we are working collaboratively with LSRCA and other Authorities to share best practices and standardize processes where appropriate.
- Improving Consistency Between NVCA and Other Conservation Authorities: Recognizing that some municipalities are subject to both authorities' regulations, we are committed to aligning our review processes to ensure they are as consistent and predictable as possible.
- Customer Service Improvements: We are updating our customer-service policy and will provide additional staff training to enhance responsiveness and efficiency.

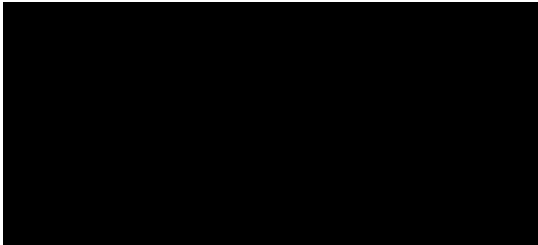
You may view more about this action plan in the enclosed staff report presented to our board.

These measures are practical, targeted and achievable. They will result in tangible improvements without the disruption, expense and uncertainty that an amalgamation process would bring.

The NVCA Board remains committed to continuous improvement and collaboration with our municipal partners. We welcome your feedback as we pursue these important initiatives and remain open to further discussions on how we can best support your community's needs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Interim CAO, Sheryl Flannagan at sflannagan@nvca.on.ca, if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Scott
Chair, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

cc
Mayors and Councils within the LSRCA and NVCA
LSRCA Board
Conservation Ontario Council



NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING NO. 02-25-BOD
February 28, 2025

Agenda Item#: 13.4.1

Resolution#: 18-25

MOVED BY: Cllr. June Porter

SECONDED BY: Mayor Gary Harvey

WHEREAS: the Board of Directors is in receipt of correspondence from Oro-Medonte Council that seeks to start the amalgamation process between the NVCA and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) as outlined in Section 11 of the Conservation Authorities Act; and

WHEREAS: NVCA and LSRCA serve distinct and separate watersheds, each with unique ecological, planning and regulatory considerations, including LSRCA's additional responsibilities under the Lake Simcoe Protection Act; and

WHEREAS: no independent, expert analysis has been conducted to determine whether an amalgamation would improve efficiency and service delivery or whether it may instead result in increased costs, governance challenges, operational inefficiencies or dilution of focus on the needs of the individual watersheds; and

WHEREAS: Conservation Ontario has generally supported maintaining the current structure of thirty-six Conservation Authorities across Ontario, recognizing the value of locally focused watershed management; and

WHEREAS: the NVCA is actively collaborating with other Conservation Authorities and through a customer centric focus, has been making improvements to processes and procedures, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: that the NVCA Board of Directors opposes the proposed amalgamation of NVCA and the LSRCA, as it has not been demonstrated that such a change would benefit watershed management, municipalities or the public; and

FURTHER THAT: the Board supports continued and enhanced collaboration between NVCA, Conservation Ontario, and other Conservation Authorities to standardize processes and procedures where feasible, particularly to assist development and permit applicants whose activities fall within municipalities that straddle multiple watersheds; and

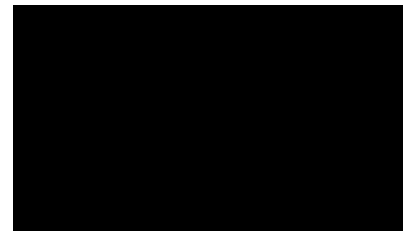
FURTHER THAT: remains committed to working constructively with Oro-Medonte and all NVCA member municipalities to address and resolve any challenges, including planning and permitting, in a fair, transparent and efficient manner; and



NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING NO. 02-25-BOD
February 28, 2025

FURTHER THAT: a copy of this resolution with a letter from the Chair be sent to all NVCA and LSRCA member municipalities, the LSRCA Board and Conservation Ontario Council.

- Carried Unanimously
- Approved by Consent
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Deferred until _____



NVCA Chair



Staff Report: 04-02-25-BOD

Date: 28/02/2025

To: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

From: Sheryl Flannagan
Interim Chief Administrative Officer/Director, Corporate Services

SUBJECT: Interim CAO Workplan

Recommendation

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 04-02-25-BOD regarding the Interim CAO workplan.

Purpose of the Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report is to update the Board on the Interim CAO's workplan during this transitional period and to update the Board on progress and commitments moving forward.

Background

The NVCA is going through a transformative time with the departure of the previous CAO and the upcoming recruitment of a new CAO. To ensure stability and continuity, the Interim CAO has implemented a focused workplan that addresses current challenges while positioning the organization for success under new leadership.

Issues/Analysis

The following is a list of the four key priorities and commitments.

1. Strengthening Municipal relationships

The Interim CAO, Chair, and Vice-Chair have prioritized engaging with partner municipalities to foster collaboration and address concerns. To date, meetings have been held with Wasaga Beach, New Tecumseth, and Oro-Medonte, with a meeting scheduled with Springwater on February 26th. Additionally, the Chair has issued an introductory letter inviting all partner municipalities to share any concerns or ideas with the NVCA.

Progress to Date:

- Engaged with four municipalities to discuss development priorities and address concerns
- Implemented a 48-hour response protocol for issues raised by municipal partners
- Issued a Chair's introductory letter inviting all municipalities to meet or connect with the NVCA

Continued Commitment:

Goal – Meet with any municipality that expresses interest in engaging with the NVCA

Next Steps – Continue outreach to municipalities and respond promptly to all requests for meetings.

Outcome – Strengthen municipal partnerships and identify opportunities for process improvements based on their feedback.

2. Restoring and Enforcing Customer Service Standards

The NVCA's customer service strategy and charter, implemented in 2013, lapsed in practice due to high workloads during the COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2025, the Interim CAO reinstated compliance with the customer service strategy and reminded all staff of their obligations to meet service standards. A copy of the strategy is attached (see attachment #1).

Progress to Date:

- Customer Service Strategy compliance was reinstated in January 2025
- All staff have been instructed to comply with service timelines as outlined in the charter

Continued Commitment:

Goal – Achieve full compliance with the Customer Service Strategy within Q1 2025

Next Steps – Review customer service strategy compliance with senior staff on a monthly basis and identify any issues of concern

Reporting – Provide progress updates to the Board at the end of Q2 and again at year-end

Outcome – Improve response times and enhance customer satisfaction

3. Evaluating Planning, Permitting, and Engineering processes

The NVCA recognizes the need for a comprehensive evaluation of planning, permitting, and engineering process to ensure efficiency and alignment with legislative changes. The Interim CAO is currently consulting with other CAO's to identify the best approach for this review.

Progress to Date:

- Initiated discussions with other conservation authorities to evaluate process review options
- Solicited recommendations for consultants experienced in conservation authority process evaluations.

Continued Commitment:

Goal – Initiate an external process review by March 31, 2025

Next Steps – Select a consultant or peer conservation authority(s) to conduct the review and set a clear timeline for completion

Outcome – Identify inefficiencies, streamline workflows and enhance service delivery

4. Developing a backlog reduction strategy for Planning, Permitting, and Engineering

The NVCA is exploring immediate and long-term solutions to address the backlog in planning, permitting and engineering files. While process improvements from item 3 will drive long-term efficiency, short-term solutions are also under review.

Progress to Date:

- Considering third-party consultants to expedite peer reviews, but cost estimates (approximately \$100,000) raise concerns due to budget constraints

- Exploring internal measures to reduce workload on engineering staff without compromising service standards

Continued Commitment:

Goal – Present a backlog reduction strategy to the Board by the March 2025 meeting

Next Steps – Conclude process review from item 3 to identify internal efficiencies, investigate phased or capped use of consultants if internal measures are insufficient, and provide the Board with a cost-benefit analysis before committing significant funds to peer reviews.

Outcome – Reduce backlog while maintaining fiscal responsibility and service standards.

Relevance to Authority Policy/Mandate

The workplan directly supports the NVCA’s mandate under the *Conservation Authorities Act* by ensuring efficient operations, enhancing customer service and fostering productive relationships with partner municipalities.

Impact on Authority Finances

Staff time to prepare this report is addressed in the 2025 budget. Any additional costs related to external consultants for process reviews or backlog reduction will be brought to the Board for approval with a clear cost-benefit analysis.


Climate Change Implications

There are no climate change implications related to this report.

Reviewed by:
Original Signed by
Sheryl Flannagan
Interim Chief Administrative Officer/
Director, Corporate Services

Approved for submission by:
Original Signed by
Sheryl Flannagan
Interim Chief Administrative Officer/
Director Corporate Services

Attachment #1 – Customer Service Strategy

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	March 03, 2025 11:00 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

From: Durham Kiclei <kiclei.durhamregion@gmail.com>
Sent: March 3, 2025 8:22 AM
To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>
Subject: Request for Municipal Re-evaluation of Climate Action Plans and FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program Participation

You don't often get email from kiclei.durhamregion@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

⚠ CAUTION: This email is from an external source. Verify sender before opening links and attachments. ⚠

Dear Chair and Regional Council Members,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of The Region of Durham to formally request that Council pause and critically reevaluate our municipality's participation in the FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program and the implementation of associated Climate Action Plans.

A recently released report titled *"Ontario Municipalities: Re-evaluation of Climate Action Plans and FCM ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program Participation"* raises several significant concerns regarding the financial, administrative, and legal implications of these programs. It highlights how these initiatives often impose considerable costs on municipalities without delivering proportional local benefits.

It is important to note that participation in the PCP program and the adoption of net-zero policies are not legally mandated at the municipal level by either the federal or provincial government. Municipalities have full autonomy to decide whether these initiatives align with local priorities, financial capacities, and community needs.

Key Concerns Raised in the Report:

Ontario is Already a Net Carbon Sink:

- Ontario's forests, wetlands, and agricultural lands naturally absorb more CO₂ than the province emits. This raises questions about the necessity of costly net-zero policies when local environmental stewardship efforts could be prioritized instead.

Significant Financial and Legal Liabilities:

- The report outlines that while municipalities bear full financial and legal responsibility for implementation failures, ICLEI and its funding partners, including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), disclaim all liability.
- Cost estimates for full PCP implementation can range from \$8.2 million to over \$200 million, which could be better directed toward local priorities such as housing, infrastructure, and public safety.

Transparency and Accountability Issues:

- Many municipalities have entered into these programs without comprehensive financial audits or extensive public consultation.
- The report recommends ensuring transparency by conducting audits and disclosing all climate-related expenditures to residents.

Data Collection and Privacy Concerns:

- Participation in the PCP program requires extensive data collection at both municipal and community levels, raising potential privacy and security risks for residents and local businesses.
- This data is often shared with third-party organizations such as ICLEI for corporate marketing and profit, with limited municipal oversight.

Focus on Practical Local Solutions Instead:

- The report suggests redirecting funds toward pressing municipal issues such as:
 - Housing availability and affordability
 - Energy security and economic development
 - Infrastructure improvements and public safety
 - Pollution prevention and environmental stewardship

Recommendations for Council Consideration:

1. **Pause and Reevaluate Participation:** Conduct a full review of our Climate Action Plan and PCP membership to ensure alignment with local priorities and financial capacities.
2. **Improve Transparency:** Disclose all program-related expenditures and engage in public consultations to gather resident input.
3. **Withdraw from the PCP Program:** End participation in externally driven climate programs that do not directly benefit our community.

4. Prioritize Local Needs: Redirect resources toward housing, energy, public safety, and economic development initiatives that provide tangible benefits to our residents.

As stewards of our municipality, it is essential that Council exercises its authority under the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001, which requires elected officials to represent the public interest, ensure transparency, and make informed, independent decisions.

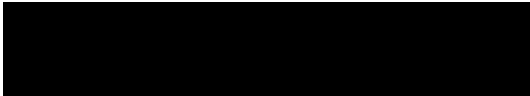
The full report is available for your review here: *Ontario Municipalities: Re-evaluation of Climate Action Plans and FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program Participation*

I urge you to carefully review the findings and recommendations outlined in the report and consider taking immediate action to realign municipal efforts with the real needs of our community.

Thank you for your time and dedication to our municipality's well-being. I look forward to your response and hope for a transparent discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Miller
Blackstock, ON



Ontario Municipalities: Reevaluation of Climate Action Plans and ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program Participation (Version 2)

Date: January. 9, 2025

To: Ontario Municipal Council's

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Climate Action Plan's and ICLEI's Partners for Climate Protection Program and Framework

Introduction

The Ontario Municipal Act and Council Authority Under Section 224 of the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001[1], councillors, as elected officials, are responsible for:

- “Representing the public and considering the well-being and interests of the municipality.”
- “Developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the municipality.”
- “Ensuring accountability and transparency of the operations of the municipality.”

These legal duties confirm that decision-making authority rests solely with council, not staff or consultants.

Councillors' Declaration of Office further reinforces this authority, requiring them to:

- “Truly, faithfully and impartially exercise this office to the best of my knowledge and ability.” [1]

This sworn commitment obligates councillors to uphold the law, act in the best interests of residents, and make independent, informed decisions.

While staff and consultants may advise, their role is not to decide. The council alone holds the final authority to approve, modify, or reject programs like the ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) and associated Climate Action Plans.

Given this mandate, council must carefully evaluate whether such programs align with local priorities or impose unnecessary costs and external controls.

Legal Context: International, Federal, and Provincial Requirements

1. The Paris Agreement

- The Paris Agreement [2] is an international treaty that commits countries, not municipalities, to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for greenhouse gas reductions.
- Participation in programs like ICLEI's PCP is voluntary, and Ontario municipalities are under no legal obligation to implement net-zero policies aligned with the agreement.

2. Federal Legislation—The Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act

- The Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act [3] commits Canada to achieving net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 but imposes no mandatory requirements on municipalities.
- Municipalities remain free to determine their own priorities and approaches without legal enforcement under this federal act.

3. Ontario's Climate Policy History

- Ontario repealed its Climate Change Mitigation and Low-Carbon Economy Act, 2016[8], which established a cap-and-trade system aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Since then, Ontario has not enacted any binding legislation mandating municipalities to adopt net-zero targets or milestone-based frameworks like those promoted by ICLEI.
- Local governments maintain full autonomy to design policies that align with local needs, finances, and priorities.

Liability Waivers and What They Mean for Municipalities

Although ICLEI, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Government of Canada fund and administer programs such as PCP, these organizations have explicitly disclaimed liability for the outcomes or impacts of municipal participation [5].

Key Disclaimer (PCP Webpage):

- “This project was carried out with assistance from the Green Municipal Fund[6], a Fund financed by the Government of Canada and administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and from ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (Management) Inc. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are the personal views of the authors, and ICLEI Canada, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Government of Canada accept no responsibility for them.”

What Does This Mean for Ontario Municipalities?

1. **Voluntary Adoption:** Programs modeled after PCP milestones are voluntary, and municipalities can opt in or out without facing legal penalties.
2. **No External Accountability:** ICLEI, FCM, and the Government of Canada have waived responsibility for any financial losses, policy failures, or legal disputes arising from participation.
3. **Local Risk:** Municipalities bear full legal and financial accountability for any cost overruns, compliance challenges, or policy impacts associated with their climate plans.
4. **Financial Uncertainty:** While programs may include grant funding, municipalities must cover long-term costs for implementation, monitoring, and reporting—often millions of dollars—without guarantees of success or protection from liability.

Practical Example: Cost and Risk Projections

Participation in the PCP program is often marketed as a low-cost initiative; however, significant hidden costs exist [7]. These financial demands disproportionately burden rural and smaller municipalities with recurring expenses tied to externally driven objectives.

Estimated Costs for PCP Participation and Implementation

Milestone/Initiative	Estimated Cost Range*
Baseline Emissions Inventory	\$10,000–\$50,000
Emissions Reduction Targets	\$5,000–\$25,000
Local Action Plan Development	\$20,000–100,000
Implement Action Plan	\$50,000–1,000,000+
Monitor and Report Results	\$10,000–50,000 annually
Municipal Fleet Upgrades	\$500,000–5,000,000+
EV Charging Stations	\$100,000–1,000,000+
Smart City Technology	\$500,000–5,000,000+
Circular Economy Initiatives	\$1,000,000–10,000,000+
15-Minute City Model	\$5,000,000–50,000,000+
Active Transportation Networks	\$1,000,000–20,000,000+
Urban Densification	\$5,000,000–100,000,000+

Total Cost Range:

- **Modest Implementation:** \$7.2 million
- **Comprehensive Implementation:** \$192 million+

These conservative estimates underscore the financial burden imposed by PCP participation and Climate Action Plan implementation. A thorough cost analysis of the program and plan expenditures to date and anticipated future costs is essential.

Comparison of PCP Reporting vs. Ontario Energy Report

The PCP program’s reporting requirements under Milestone 5 are significantly more demanding than those of existing provincial frameworks like the Ontario Energy Report.

Aspect	PCP Milestone 1 and 5	Ontario Energy Report
Scope	All energy use and waste across sectors, including corporate and community-wide	Municipal buildings only
Frequency	Annual/Biannual	Every five years
Cost	\$10,000–50,000 annually	Minimal costs due to narrow scope
Administrative Burden	High: Broad scope requires extensive data collection and reporting	Low: Limited to municipal properties
Policy Implications	Reinforces ongoing adherence to net-zero goals across all sectors	Focused on energy efficiency in municipal buildings
Data	Given to ICLEI and suppliers*	Given to Province planners
Purpose	Adoption of “green” technology*	Power grid planning

*We have sent an open letter to ICLEI to confirm that they receive the data and to understand their relationship with suppliers. They have not responded [8].

Ontario's CO₂ Emissions and Carbon Sequestration Capacity

Ontario's CO₂ Emissions and Carbon Sequestration Capacity

Provincial Emissions Ontario has a population of approximately 14.5 million residents. Using Canada's average per capita emissions of 14.2 tonnes of CO₂ per year, Ontario's gross emissions are calculated as follows:

- 14.5 million residents × 14.2 tonnes of CO₂ per resident per year = **205.9 million tonnes of CO₂ annually**[1]

Thus, Ontario's gross annual CO₂ emissions are approximately **205.9 million tonnes**.

Ontario's Carbon Sequestration Capacity Net-zero programs often overlook preexisting carbon sinks, failing to account for natural ecosystems that already absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide. These programs treat all areas equally, ignoring the significant contributions of forests, wetlands, peatlands, managed forests, and agricultural lands to carbon sequestration.

Ontario's ecosystems serve as powerful carbon sinks, absorbing significantly more CO₂ than the population emits. Hectares by category and their estimated absorption rates are as follows:

- **Forests** – Cover approximately **43.2 million hectares** (excluding managed forests), absorbing an estimated **7.7 tonnes of CO₂ per hectare annually**, for a total of **332.6 million tonnes** of CO₂ absorbed annually[4].
- **Managed Forests** – Cover approximately **27.8 million hectares**, absorbing an estimated **11 tonnes of CO₂ per hectare annually**, for a total of **305.8 million tonnes** of CO₂ absorbed annually[4].
- **Wetlands** – Cover approximately **96,014 hectares**, absorbing an estimated **1.85 tonnes of CO₂ per hectare annually**, for a total of **177,626 tonnes** of CO₂ absorbed annually[11].
- **Farmlands (Agricultural Soils)** – Cover approximately **36 million hectares**, absorbing an estimated **3.1 tonnes of CO₂ per hectare annually**, for a total of **111.6 million tonnes** of CO₂ absorbed annually[10].
- **Peatlands** – The Hudson Bay Lowlands alone cover approximately **26 million hectares**, absorbing an estimated **5.5 tonnes of CO₂ per hectare annually**, for a total of **143 million tonnes** of CO₂ absorbed annually[4].

Net CO₂ Balance:

- **205.9 million tonnes** (emissions) – **893.2 million tonnes** (sequestered) = **-687.3 million tonnes annually**

Ontario is a significant net carbon sink, absorbing approximately **687.3 million tonnes more CO₂** than it emits annually.

Ecosystems Not Yet Included in the Calculation:

- **Grasslands:** Limited data, but contribute modestly to sequestration[9].
- **Urban Green Spaces:** Parks, green roofs, and urban forests remain unquantified[9].
- **Riparian Zones:** Vegetated areas along rivers and lakes need further study.
- **Aquatic Vegetation:** Underwater ecosystems, like lake and river plants, are not yet included.

Including these ecosystems would likely increase Ontario's total CO₂ sequestration capacity further.

Redirecting Resources to Local Priorities

Given Ontario's net-negative carbon status, programs focused on net-zero targets divert resources away from urgent local priorities under municipal jurisdiction that Canadians have identified as requiring immediate attention and relief, including:

- **Affordable Housing** – Addressing rising costs and availability challenges to ensure safe, accessible housing for all residents.
- **Energy Security** – Ensuring affordable, reliable energy to support households, businesses, and community infrastructure.
- **Economic Development** – Promoting job creation and local industry growth to sustain vibrant and resilient communities.
- **Public Safety and Community Programs** – Enhancing emergency preparedness, policing, fire services, and mental health supports.
- **Government Accountability** – Strengthening transparency and fiscal responsibility to restore public trust and confidence in decision-making.

Redirecting resources toward these pressing issues better serves residents and ensures municipal governments address local priorities without imposing costly net-zero policies that fail to reflect Ontario's natural carbon advantage.

Recommendations

1. Pause and Reevaluate the PCP Program and Climate Action:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of the program and climate action plan, including public consultation, to ensure it aligns with local priorities and financial capacities.
- Assess the cost-effectiveness and feasibility of continuing with the data-driven milestone-based framework.

2. Improve Transparency and Accountability:

- Disclose all costs already incurred under the PCP program and Climate Action Plan, including consultation fees, data collection expenses, and projected liabilities.
- Conduct a financial audit of climate-related spending to assess the long-term impact on taxpayers and municipal resources.
- Engage residents and stakeholders in public consultations to restore trust and ensure accountability for policy decisions.

3. Withdraw from the PCP Program and Halt Climate Action Plan Implementation:

- Immediately withdraw from the ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program or similar 5 Milestone frameworks to end participation in externally driven climate action plans that do not reflect Ontario's net-negative carbon status or local priorities.
- Cease development and implementation of the Climate Action Plan to prevent further financial commitments, administrative burdens, and policy constraints tied to net-zero targets.
- Redirect resources toward practical, locally driven initiatives that deliver measurable benefits to residents and the municipality.

4. Prioritize Local Environmental Stewardship and Practical Solutions:

- Focus on protecting natural carbon sinks—forests, wetlands, peatlands and agricultural lands—that already absorb more CO₂ than the province emits, maintaining Ontario's net-negative carbon status.
- Develop cost-effective programs to improve pollution prevention, water quality, and waste management, ensuring local control and economic sustainability. Develop practical, locally driven programs that enhance carbon sequestration without imposing excessive costs or reliance on data collection and “green” technologies.

- Support infrastructure resilience and emergency preparedness to protect against natural disasters and improve community safety.

5. Address Immediate Municipal Priorities:

- **Affordable Housing:** Expand access to safe, affordable housing to meet urgent local needs.
- **Energy Security:** Invest in affordable, reliable energy infrastructure to protect residents and businesses.
- **Economic Development:** Promote local job creation and industry growth to support sustainable economic activity.
- **Public Safety and Community Programs:** Strengthen fire services, policing, and emergency response capabilities to safeguard lives and property.
- **Government Accountability:** Maintain transparency and fiscal responsibility to ensure trust and confidence in decision-making.

6. Advocate for Region-Specific Policies:

- Promote policies that recognize Ontario's net-negative carbon status and focus on practical environmental protection instead of costly net-zero frameworks.
- Work with provincial and federal representatives to secure funding for local infrastructure, housing, and economic development rather than committing to global climate targets that overlook local realities.

Conclusion

Ontario's net-negative carbon balance proves that net-zero frameworks and climate action plans are misaligned with the province's environmental strengths and immediate local needs. We respectfully request the councils to reevaluate climate policies, prioritize transparency, and safeguard the interests of its residents.

Sincerely,

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Concerned Residents and Stakeholders

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