



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, April 25, 2025

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

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2.	Confidential Reports Authorized for Release		
	There are no Confidential Reports.		
3.	Staff Correspondence		
	There is no Staff Correspondence.		

4. Durham Municipalities Correspondence

There are no Durham Municipalities Correspondence.

5. Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 5.1 | Township of Puslinch | 37 |
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| 5.2 | Township of Howick | 40 |
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| 5.6 | Town of Aylmer | 57 |
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| 5.7 | Town of Georgina | 59 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 2, 2025, regarding Salt Management | |

5.8 Town of Greater Napanee

62

- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 22, 2025, in opposition to the Proposed Amendments to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

6. Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence.

7. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

7.1 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC)

64

- April 8, 2025



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2025-INFO-29
Date: April 25, 2025

Subject:

Notice of name change: The Children's Services Division, of the Social Services Department will be renamed the Child Care and Early Years Division

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Council that the Children's Services Division will be renamed the Child Care and Early Years Division, effective September 1, 2025, with communication of the changes beginning in April 2025.

2. Background

- 2.1 Children's Services, as a division of the Social Services Department, with the Regional Municipality of Durham, will be changing its name to the Child Care and Early Years Division as of September 1, 2025. The new name better reflects the services and supports offered by the division.
- 2.2 The division performs the duties of the Service System Manager, designated under the Child Care and Early Years Act to manage licensed child care services and early years programs in our region. The division plays a central role in the planning, funding, administration and operation of child care and early years programs in Durham, through system planning, implementation of the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system, and supporting Durham Region children and families to access affordable, accessible, responsive, and high-quality child care and early years programs and services.

3. Relationship to Strategic Plan

3.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Foundation(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

- a. Processes: Continuously improving processes to ensure we are responsive to community needs.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The name change to Child Care and Early Years Division will help raise awareness of the division's role in managing a coordinated and responsive child care and early years system. The division's key priorities include: expanding access to child care, enhancing supportive and inclusive child care, attracting and retaining quality Registered Early Childhood Educators, and optimizing virtual service delivery and technology.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2025-INFO-30
Date: April 25, 2025

Subject:

Application of the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 to Social Services Department – Family Services Division as a Health Information Custodian.

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) Council that services provided by the Family Services Division (FSD) of the Social Services Department have evolved to meet the definition of health care under the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA) and as such, the Regional Clerk has now been designated as the Contact Person for Health Information Custodian functions related to Family Services pursuant to Regional By-law 03-2020.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Family Services Division delivers various programs and services to support the mental health and well-being of residents in Durham Region including:
- a. Community Counselling Program: Clinical counselling, mental health and psychotherapy services.
 - b. Family Services Employee Assistance Program (FSEAP): Services to Regional employees and their families, and external contracts.
 - c. Adult Protective Services (APS): Case management and advocacy for adults with developmental disabilities.
 - d. Mental Health Outreach Program (MHOP): Clinical mental health and addiction services for vulnerable populations including individuals who are unsheltered or precariously housed.

- e. Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP): In partnership with the Health Department, Paramedic Services, provides primary care and mental health and addiction services for unsheltered individuals.
 - f. Older Adult Safety Advisor Program (OASA): Support for older adults at risk of abuse.
 - g. Partner Assault Response Program (PAR): Court mandated program for individuals charged with intimate partner and domestic violence.
- 2.2 Historically, FSD's services focused mainly on counselling and did not meet the definition of health care under PHIPA.
- 2.3 FSD's services have evolved to meet legislative changes which require individuals providing services to be members of professional colleges, and to meet changing community mental health needs including incorporating psychotherapy techniques to treat an individual's disorder of thought, cognition, mood, emotional regulation, perception or memory that may seriously impair the individual's judgement, insight, behaviour, communication or social functioning.
- 2.4 These changes now meet the definition of health care under PHIPA:
- "health care" means any observation, examination, assessment, care, service or procedure that is done for a health-related purpose and that,
- (a) is carried out or provided to diagnose, treat or maintain an individual's physical or mental condition,
- 2.5 This now means that FSD, in collecting, using and disclosing information to perform health care services, is a Health Information Custodian (HIC) under the Act.
- 2.6 PHIPA governs the collection, use, and disclosure of personal health information by HIC's and sets out rules to ensure that personal health information is handled with respect for privacy and confidentiality.
- 2.7 PHIPA requires a HIC, who is an individual or organization responsible for the custody and control of Personal Health Information (PHI) in connection with their duties or work and is responsible for ensuring the corporation has appropriate policies to obtain consent before collecting, using, or disclosing PHI.
- 2.8 By-law 03-2020 designates the Regional Clerk as the Contact Person for each of the HIC functions within the Regional Municipality of Durham, except for Durham Region Health Department which is a Board of Health under a different Act, for the purposes of PHIPA.
- 2.9 Currently, the Regional Clerk is the contact person for HIC functions for the regionally owned long-term care homes and adult day programs under the Fixing Long Term Care Act, 2021 and PHIPA.
- 2.10 As per By-law 03-2020, the Regional Clerk would now also act as the contact person for HIC functions related to FSD.

2.11 This By-law meets the legislative requirements to ensure the Region is in compliance with the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA).

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

3.1 [#2020-A-2](#) - Update Personal Information Privacy Policy and Associated By-law

3.2 [By-law Number 03-2020](#) - Appointment of Regional Clerk for PHIPA

4. Relationship to Strategic Plan

4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Strategic Direction(s) and Pathway(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

a. Healthy People, Caring Communities

- H1. Implement preventive strategies to support community health, including food security.
- H2. Collaborate with partners to respond to complex social issues that improve community safety and well-being, including mental health and addictions.
- H4. Support the development of healthy children and youth, including access to affordable and quality childcare.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Services provided by the Family Services Division of the Region of Durham now meet the definition of health care under PHIPA and as such, a HIC contact person must be designated.

5.2 Pursuant to By-Law 03-2020, the Regional Clerk is designated as the Contact Person for the Regional Municipality of Durham to perform the required HIC functions.

5.3 Accurate classification of services ensures FSD's divisional practices and protocols comply with the appropriate privacy legislation, including PHIPA and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and insulates the Region from risks associated with privacy legislation compliance and breaches.

5.4 This report has been prepared with the assistance of staff from the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer – Legal Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3111



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2025-INFO-31
Date: April 25, 2025

Subject:

Program Reports

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update on Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) programs and services for the period January – March 2025.

2. Highlights

- 2.1 DRHD reports for January – March 2025 include the following key highlights:

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

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

3. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 3.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Strategic Direction(s) and Pathway(s) in Durham Region’s 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:
- a. Healthy People, Caring Communities
- H1. Implement preventive strategies to support community health, including food security.
 - H2. Collaborate with partners to respond to complex social issues that improve community safety and well-being, including mental health and addictions.
 - H4. Support the development of healthy children and youth, including access to affordable and quality child care.
 - H5. Provide services for seniors and work with community partners to support aging in place.
 - H7. Prepare for and respond to local health emergencies in partnership with the community.
- b. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action
- E3. Prepare for and respond to severe weather impacts.
- c. Strong Relationships
- S3. Collaborate across local area municipalities, with agencies, non-profits, and community partners to deliver co-ordinated and efficient services.
 - S5. Ensure accountable and transparent decision-making to serve community needs, while responsibly managing available resources.

3.2 This report aligns with/addresses the following Foundation(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

- a. People: Making the Region of Durham a great place to work, attracting, and retaining talent.
- b. Processes: Continuously improving processes to ensure we are responsive to community needs.
- c. Technology: Keeping pace with technological change to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

4. Conclusion

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

5. Attachment

Program Reports for the period January – March 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

ABBREVIATIONS

- ACP – Advanced Care Paramedic
- BoH – Boards of Health
- CAMH – Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- CCC – Child Care Centres
- CFOC – Christian Faith Outreach Centre
- CPE – Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae
- DHCL – Durham Health Connection Line
- DoPHS – Diseases of Public Health Significance
- DPZ – Detailed Planning Zone
- DRHD – Durham Region Health Department
- DRSSD – Durham Region Social Services Department
- FV – Family Visitors
- HSSC – Health & Social Services Committee
- HCP – Healthcare Providers
- HOC – Health Operations Centre
- HPD – Health Protection Division
- ICD – Infant & Child Development
- IPAC – Infection Prevention & Control
- KI – Potassium Iodide
- LD – Lyme Disease
- LTCH – Long-Term Care Homes
- MOH – Ontario Ministry of Health
- MSIFN – Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation

- NGS – Nuclear Generating Stations
- NRT – Nicotine Replacement Therapy
- OBC – Ontario *Building Code*
- OHD – Oral Health Division
- OPHS – *Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability*
- PCIS – Parent Child Interaction Scale
- PCP – Primary Care Paramedic
- PHI – Public Health Inspectors
- PHN – Public Health Nurses
- PHU – Pubic Health Units
- PIPE – Partners in Parenting Education
- PSS – Personal Service Settings
- RDPS – Region of Durham Paramedic Services
- RH – Retirement Homes
- SDWS – Small Drinking Water Systems
- SFOA – *Smoke Free Ontario Act, 2017*
- TB – Tuberculosis
- TEO – Tobacco Enforcement Officers



Health Analytics, Research & Policy

Report for January – March 2025

Health Analytics Information Products

A new summary report titled [Dental Insurance in Durham Region](#) was released in January. This report focuses on dental insurance coverage among Durham Region adults. The report presents data collected through the Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System, which is an ongoing public health telephone survey of Durham Region adults.

Key trends noted in the report show that **70 per cent** of Durham Region adults reported having dental insurance in 2023, with employer-paid plans being the most common type. Adults with lower incomes compared to adults with middle and higher incomes and seniors aged 65 years and older were less likely to have dental insurance, demonstrating the need for dental care programs for these groups.

Infectious Diseases Infographic

The infectious diseases infographic on [Enteric Diseases in Durham Region](#) was updated in March with the most recent data. Enteric diseases are illnesses that affect the stomach and intestines. Infographics summarize disease trends and case characteristics, highlight common symptoms and risk factors, emphasize treatment best practices and are often used as a quick summary resource for HCP and other community partners. Case counts of infectious enteric diseases were lower between 2020 and 2022 than previous years but returned to pre-pandemic levels in 2023 and 2024.

Health Policy & Equity

Health equity work supports DRHD staff by building capacity across all programs to apply a health equity lens to programs and approaches, establishing internal and external collaborative partnerships to advance health equity initiatives, supporting priority populations in cross-program initiatives, and developing departmental policies and processes intended to advance health equity.

2025 Q1 Program Reports – DRHD

The Health Policy & Equity team works with DRSSD to plan and host virtual learning sessions throughout the year to build staff capacity and improve access for staff to resources that address the social determinants of health. A virtual learning session on the topic of tax filing resources was hosted on February 12. The Canada Revenue Agency presented on the importance of tax filing, key benefits and credits, updates for the 2025 tax year and where to find free tax help in Durham Region. The session was attended by **75** staff members across DRHD and DRSSD. Virtual learning sessions have been well attended and continue to be planned throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



Health Protection

Report for January – March 2025

Emergency Management

On January 23, Fosterbrooke LTCH residents in Newcastle were evacuated to Diane Hamre Recreation Complex because of flooding due to a burst pipe. DRHD supported DRSSD and the LTCH residents in completing daily IPAC and food safety inspections of the evacuation center until the residents were moved back by January 27.

In February, DRHD conducted a highly engaging and collaborative tabletop training exercise. The exercise was designed to be informative and fun and aimed to build participants' capacity and readiness to respond to future events. PHI and PHN worked through challenging scenarios requiring critical thinking and teamwork to navigate effective responses. The exercise simulated the opening of an evacuation centre due to severe weather, including significant rainfall, record-high water levels, and localized flooding. This tested DRHD's preparedness and response strategies for emergencies, highlighting the importance of communication and coordination among team members.

DRHD, in collaboration with Durham Emergency Management, started initial planning with other Regional departments for Ontario Power Generation's nuclear exercise ExUCom 2025, which is planned for October 22 and 23, 2025. DRHD's objectives for the exercise include testing the capabilities of the HOC, enabling HOC members to practise their roles and responsibilities in the Incident Management System, and assessing interoperability and communications with other departments, as well as external communications with partners.

The revised [Emergency Management Guideline, 2024](#), requires that BoH conduct an exercise annually if there has been no lived experience in the last twelve months. Exercises provide training and learning opportunities for BoH staff and foster a culture of continuous organizational self-improvement, as well as opportunities to test assumptions and identify areas for improvement.

Potassium Iodide Tablet Program

DRHD launched its first 2025 KI campaign in January. The focus of the campaign was KI promotion through social media and banner displays that were placed at local libraries, community centers, and township offices.

In January, HPD presented KI awareness and details of the distribution program to the Community Advisory Councils in Pickering and Darlington. Both presentations were well received, with excellent engagement from both councils. On February 7, staff presented to the Durham Nuclear Health Committee about the KI tablet distribution program. Additionally, HPD set up a display booth promoting KI at the Community Development Council Durham Family Fun Day event on March 12. This event provided a valuable opportunity to connect with new residents of Durham Region.

Anyone living or working within 50 km of Pickering or Darlington NGS can order their free supply of KI tablets from preparetobesafe.ca. DRHD continues to pre-distribute KI tablets to institutions (LTCH, hospitals, schools, CCC, and youth detention centers) and first responders located within the DPZ (formerly known as the primary zone). The DPZ is a 10 km radius around each of the two NGS in Pickering and Darlington.

Lastly, HPD worked on the May KI campaign that will align with Emergency Preparedness Week. The May campaign is the largest of HPD's three annual campaigns and includes advertisements through various platforms.

Food Safety

HPD staff diligently conducted food safety inspections, as mandated by the [Food Safety Protocol, 2019](#). From January to March, staff completed **576** high-risk inspections, **668** moderate-risk inspections, and **354** low-risk inspections. Additionally, **230** re-inspections were carried out, along with **51** inspections/re-inspections prompted by complaints. HPD is on track for 100 per cent completion of required inspections in the subsequent round for all high-risk and moderate-risk premises.

In preparation for the 2025 special event/farmers' market season in Durham Region, HPD processed **101** special event and farmers' market vendor applications, and **235** special event and farmers' market coordinator applications. Using HPD's risk assessment tool and updated special event procedure, staff inspected **two** special events and farmers' markets deemed higher risk. Food safety continues to be a significant topic for DHCL calls, accounting for over one-third of the **1,548** calls received by the DHCL team.

Work is currently underway to create a vlog on special event best practices, including application tips and the essential components for a successful event. Updates will be disseminated across multiple social media platforms and DRHD's website, in anticipation of the summer event rush.

Healthy Environments

Climate Change and Health

As part of DRHD's mandate under the OPHS to conduct health vulnerability assessments related to climate change, DRHD released its third report in a special series entitled Climate Change and Health in Durham Region, available on durham.ca. The third report, [Assessing the Impact of Solar Ultraviolet Radiation](#), explores the current and future health impacts of solar ultraviolet radiation with a special focus on health equity and prioritizing those who may be worst affected and least protected. The report was promoted through a news release, social media, relevant listservs and a presentation to Regional Council's HSSC. DRHD was invited to present the report to the Committee of the Whole in April. In addition, DRHD presented the report to the Township of Brock's Council.

The vulnerability assessment on vector-borne disease is under final review and is expected to be released in June. The next vulnerability assessment will be on air quality, and the data collection for this report is complete.

DRHD continues to strengthen its relationship with MSIFN. As part of this collaboration, DRHD formalized an agreement to advance joint work on climate and health vulnerability assessments. MSIFN provided valuable feedback on the vector-borne disease assessment which will be incorporated into the final draft.

HPD staff provided a comprehensive review and feedback on the City of Pickering's draft Community Climate Adaptation Plan, along with a letter of support for the initiative. HPD also reviewed and provided input on the Town of Ajax's Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program, ensuring alignment with broader regional sustainability objectives.

DRHD remains committed to transparent and impactful communication and collaboration with municipal partners.

Cold Warning & Information System

HPD concluded its cold warning notification to community partners and the public, which operated from November 15 to March 31.

This season, a total of **22** separate cold weather alerts were issued. A cold weather warning is declared when the temperature is expected to reach -15°C or less, and/or the windchill is expected to meet -20 or less, and/or an extreme winter weather event (i.e., ice storm) is forecasted.

As cold weather alert criteria are most often met overnight, HPD targets its response to community partners who provide vital services to at-risk populations by notifying them directly via email of the upcoming cold weather event. Notification of a cold weather event triggers community partners to mobilize cold response plans once criteria are

met. Currently, HPD maintains a list of over **520** individuals, institutions, community service agencies, and local businesses.

When cold alert criteria are met during the day, HPD will also issue social media posts and provide webpage updates to remind the public of ways to stay warm and safe during cold weather. Durham's cold warning notification system meets the requirements of the [Healthy Environments and Climate Change Guideline, 2018](#) under the OPHS.

Part 8 Ontario *Building Code* (Sewage Systems)

From January to March 2025, HPD conducted the following activities related to Part 8 of the OBC:

- Received **48** building permit applications for sewage systems, processed **nine** building addition applications, and reviewed **17** planning applications.
- Investigated **two** complaints related to private sewage systems and issued **zero** Orders to Comply.
- Conducted **72** inspections related to sewage system building permits and installations.
- Attended **nine** pre-consultation meetings across Durham Region's municipalities regarding planning applications. Staff also responded to questions from the public and sewage system installers regarding sewage systems and planning applications.
- Extended the contracts with Uxbridge and Brock Townships for the Lake Simcoe Maintenance Inspection Program until the end of 2025.

Additionally, DRHD revised the OBC user fee schedule which included an increase to all fees and the addition of five new fees. New fees were added to better reflect the services DRHD provides and to better align with other agencies across Ontario. This decision was informed by an environmental scan of 13 other agencies. HPD issued notices in the media and a public meeting was held during the HSSC meeting to ensure DRHD was compliant with the OBC requirements. The new fee updates were approved by Regional Council on March 26, 2025, and became effective April 1, 2025.

Safe Water

Drinking Water

In 2024, HPD completed requests from the MOH through the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario related to SDWS. In late March 2025, HPD was notified that a special report was released on the [Safety of Non-Municipal Drinking Water](#). HPD will review this document to ensure that DRHD is compliant with all the new recommendations or that plans will be put in place to ensure compliance and to improve HPD's program where needed.

In accordance with [O. Reg. 319/08: Small Drinking Water Systems](#), SDWS are inspected based on a MOH risk assessment tool. Moderate and low risk systems are inspected at least once every four years, and high-risk systems are inspected every two years. Inspectors look for required water sampling and testing frequency, water treatment equipment and maintenance, operational checks, record keeping, physical well inspections and environmental examinations that may impact water quality, as well as operator knowledge and required training needed to operate SDWS safely.

Recreational Water

Between January and March, HPD focused on meeting all prescribed recreational water inspection targets as outlined by the [Recreational Water Protocol, 2019](#). During this time, PHI conducted **104** routine facility inspections, responded to **six** complaint investigations, and issued **nine** Section **13** Orders under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* in response to the identification of a health hazard.

Following the recent amendments to [R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 565: Public Pools](#), all new requirements have been integrated into the HPD inspection system (Hedgehog 5) and are being enforced by PHI. HPD developed and distributed tailored communications and resources to support recreational water owners and operators to meet these new requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro
Director, Health Protection Division



Healthy Families

Report for January – March 2025

Durham Health Connection Line

DHCL provides access to public health information to the community. PHN provide assessment, health education, counselling, and referrals to community services for residents or those looking for local services. Inquiries are addressed on the telephone or through email. From January to March, DHCL responded to **4,165** inquiries.

Healthy Babies Healthy Children

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children program supports families with children from pre-natal to school age who have been identified with risk to help strengthen caregiver attachment and promote the child's growth and development. PHN assess the child-caregiver relationship using an evidence-based PCIS which examines a teaching or feeding experience between caregiver and child. PHN use the results of the assessment to plan interventions for families to increase their understanding of how their child communicates and how they as caregivers can respond to support their development in positive ways. FV then use PIPE activities to help reinforce this understanding. PIPE is an interactive and relationship-based curriculum that focuses on topics such as communication, parent-child attachment, and relationship building using play. Using PIPE activities, FV provide information and concepts on a parenting skill, model the activity, coach parents as they conduct the activity, and offer feedback and positive reinforcement.

Between January and March, PHN completed **489** individual visits where **112** PCISs were completed. FV completed **438** individual visits where **171** PIPE activities were implemented.

Infant & Child Development

The ICD program is a voluntary service that partners with families to promote the healthy growth and development of children from birth to school entry who have a developmental concern. Durham residents can self-refer to the program or be referred

by a service provider. ICD consultants partner with families to plan developmental goals and establish ways to achieve these goals within the child's routines using a family-centered, strengths-based approach. Early intervention and occupational therapy consultation services may include:

- Home visits to provide modelling, parent coaching, and resource sharing.
- Formal and informal developmental assessments.
- Service coordination to connect families to community programs and services.
- Guidance with transition to early learning and care and/or kindergarten.

Between January and March, the ICD program offered service to **413** children and provided **913** appointments to support modeling, parent coaching, and family education.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer



Healthy Living

Report for January – March 2025

Healthy Living

National Non-Smoking Week 2025

National Non-Smoking Week occurred from January 19 to 25. This year, the theme was “Don’t Quit Quitting.” Every year, the event raises awareness about the dangers of smoking and promotes cessation efforts. For the 2025 National Non-Smoking Week, DRHD shared messages on social media, reminding people that every quit attempt will bring them closer to success. DRHD also launched **three** social media posts to address youth vaping. These posts reached **56,923** individuals and got **873** engagements. Additionally, a cannabis-related post for Weedless Wednesday on January 22 reached **24,578** people, resulting in **450** interactions.

DRHD continues to offer resources to help individuals quit smoking and vaping, available at durham.ca/tobaccoandvaping. These resources include quit strategies, withdrawal management, and details on community support.

Post-Secondary Campus Support

On January 22, DRHD participated in Durham College’s Bell Let’s Talk Day event as part of Student Wellness Week. PHN provided a range of mental health and substance use resources and engaged with approximately **240** students through interactive activities, fostering meaningful conversations.

STOP on the Net 2024/25 Campaign

DRHD collaborates with CAMH to offer a free online smoking cessation program, “STOP on the Net” for adults aged 19 and older. Participants who register to quit smoking receive complimentary NRT patches and gum/lozenges, which are mailed to their address. DRHD received a \$1,000 grant from CAMH to support a social media campaign running from December 2024 to January 2025. The campaign reached **7,592**

people on Facebook and **675** people on Instagram. To date, there are **1,225** local residents enrolled in the STOP on the Net program.

Oral Health

For January to March 2025, OHD noted the following achievements, demonstrating a commitment to improving oral health outcomes and delivering exceptional services to the community.

Comprehensive Dental Services: OHD served over **1,060** unique clients. The Dental Clinic provided services to **270** Healthy Smiles Ontario clients and **952** Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program clients through **1,664** appointments. Dental care services in Durham Region's **four** LTCH is on hold at this time, but OHD anticipates that services will resume later in 2025.

Dental Benefits Claims: OHD processed **1,014** dental benefit claims, amounting to **\$214, 565.85** in fees paid. These efforts facilitate the smooth provision of dental care and ensure financial support for those in need.

Dental Care Needs: Of the **9,600** students screened at school, OHD identified **636** children with urgent dental needs and **933** children with non-urgent dental needs.

Dental Estimates: OHD received **564** estimates and entered **279** that were eligible to be processed for approval.

Denture Lab: Denturists delivered **424** services in the denture lab.

Oral Health Education and Promotion: Staff provided dental screening to **82** children and oral health education to over **4,000** children.

These accomplishments reflect OHD's dedication to improving oral health outcomes and its commitment to education and collaboration. By leveraging resources effectively, DRHD continues to make a positive impact on the oral health of residents.

Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017

TEO are conducting the required inspections and investigations for 2025 as mandated by the OPHS. TEO are required to conduct inspections at all tobacco and vapour product retailers. Their inspections include display and promotion inspections, as well as youth access test shops conducted by students under the age of 19 who attempt to purchase tobacco or vapour products. If a vendor sells tobacco or vapour products to a minor, the operator and owner of the store may be charged with selling or supplying tobacco or vapour products to a person who is under 19 years old. Two or more tobacco-related convictions may lead to an Automatic Prohibition, issued by the MOH, prohibiting the vendor from selling tobacco products for a minimum of six months. TEO also completed the required secondary school inspections and all display and promotion inspections for all tobacco and vapour product retailers.

TEO respond to all complaints received with respect to smoking/vaping in all enclosed workplaces and other prohibited areas that are included in the SFOA and the [Durham Region Smoking and Vaping By-law](#). These areas include multi-unit dwellings, schools, hospitals, outdoor recreation playground areas, hookah lounges, etc.

From January 1 to March 31, TEO did the following activities:

- Conducted **110** youth access test shop inspections for vapour products and **234** display and promotion inspections at vapour product retailers.
- Observed non-compliance with stores selling products with high levels of nicotine and flavours and issued **three** warning letters but issued **zero** charges for vapour related offences.
- Conducted **346** youth access test shop inspections for tobacco products and **244** compliance inspections for display and promotion for tobacco retailers. TEO issued **six** warning letters and **two** charges for tobacco-related offences.
- Conducted **29** inspections in enclosed workplaces and other prohibited areas and issued **one** warning letter for tobacco-related offences.
- Responded to complaints regarding students vaping on school property by investigating **20** complaints, issuing **13** warning letters, and serving **one** charge to a student vaping on school property.

Specialty vape stores and tobacconist stores continue to operate in Durham Region. As of March 31, there are **69** registered specialty vape stores and **four** tobacconist stores.

The Smoking and Vaping By-law has been in effect since June 24, 2019, and TEO continue to enforce the By-law within prohibited facilities. Currently there are **four** local restaurants that continue to be non-compliant with the By-law by permitting hookah smoking indoors. TEO are attending these facilities monthly to enforce the Smoking and Vaping By-law and the SFOA as there is often tobacco mixed with shisha and smoked in waterpipes. Charges have been issued to the owners and operators of these establishments.

DRHD was successful in obtaining significant fines at a premises that continues to be non-compliant with the SFOA by selling flavoured vapour products and selling vapour products to youth. The operator was trying to get around DRHD's enforcement efforts by using social media and code words to sell the products, hiding products and selling afterhours. The courts issued a probation order to the operator which requires them to complete **150** hours of community service and fines totalling \$95,000 to the Director and \$39,000 to the Corporation.

TEO have been trained to enforce the *Tobacco Tax Act* as part of the Tobacco Inspection Partnership which is a joint enforcement initiative between the MOH and the Ministry of Finance to create efficiencies across the province. TEO will be designated to enforce the Act and will be able to conduct plain view seizures of unmarked cigarettes during routine inspections and issue Part 1 tickets to premises that are not in compliance.

2025 Q1 Program Reports – DRHD

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro
Director, Health Protection Division

Original signed by

Maryam Pezeshki
Director, Oral Health Division

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer



Infectious Diseases

Report for January – March 2025

Infectious Diseases Prevention & Control

Child Care Centres

Between January and March, **155** inspections were completed in CCC. The Child Care Wee Care Spring/Summer newsletter will be sent to operators in mid-April with a focus on power outages, most common infractions observed during a CCC inspection, outdoor safety and play areas/activities and information on measles.

Diseases of Public Health Significance

In accordance with the OPHS and [O. Reg. 135/18: Designation of Diseases](#), HPD is responsible for the management of cases and contacts of DoPHS.

Between January and March, **1,453** DoPHS were reported to HPD. These include in descending order: influenza A (**1,209**), influenza B (**149**), salmonella (**34**), CPE (**13**), campylobacter (**11**), LD (**11**), giardiasis (**nine**), legionellosis (**five**), cryptosporidiosis (**four**), amebiasis (**two**), hepatitis A (**two**), influenza A and B (**two**), food poisonings all causes (**one**), and paratyphoid fever (**one**).

From October to December 2024, there were **294** DoPHS reported, representing an increase of **394 per cent**. The most significant rise was in influenza cases, which showed an increase of **660 per cent**, from **159** cases reported in that time.

DRHD had **two** hepatitis A contacts that required investigation and vaccine distribution.

Infection Prevention & Control Education and Lapses

From January to March, there were **six** IPAC lapse investigations in health care facilities (**two** currently posted), **two** in congregate living facilities, and **six** in PSS (**four** currently posted). Most lapses have been due to reprocessing issues. Referrals were made to the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

Outbreak Summary

Outbreaks are investigated in accordance with the OPHS. Between January and March, **182** outbreak investigations were conducted; **62** non-covid respiratory outbreaks (**37** LTCH, **11** hospitals, **nine** RH, and **five** group homes) and **35** COVID-19 respiratory outbreaks (**13** RH, **11** LTCH, **nine** hospitals, **two** congregate living settings). Some confirmed causative agents identified included: coronavirus (non-COVID-19), enterovirus, influenza A, metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, rhinovirus, and rotavirus.

Outbreaks increased **52 per cent** from the previous quarter with **120** outbreaks between October and December 2024.

There were **85** enteric outbreak investigations (**56** CCC, **12** LTCH, **12** RH, **three** group homes, **one** hospital), and **one** suspected foodborne illness outbreak. There were **two** outbreaks where the causative agents were identified (**one** norovirus and **one** clostridium difficile), however most of the enteric outbreaks did not have an agent isolated.

The spring edition of the [IPAC Hub Spotlight E-Newsletter](#) was published on DRHD's [Health Care Professionals webpage](#) and disseminated by email to community partners. This newsletter included articles on roles and responsibilities of the PHU and the IPAC hubs, emergency preparedness, choosing the right disinfectant, and information on vancomycin resistant enterococcus.

Personal Service Settings

Between January and March, **197** inspections were completed in PSS. Common infractions include improper cleaning and disinfection of reusable items and/or equipment, not having smooth, non-absorbent and easy to clean work and contact surfaces, and single use items not discarded after use. New devices and services being offered in PSS continue to evolve and involve more staff resources. DRHD issued **eight** charges for repeat violations of [O. Reg. 136/18: Personal Service Settings](#) and issued **13** orders.

Beyond Glam Spring/Summer Newsletter was sent to PSS operators at the end of March. The newsletter focused on guidelines for special events, common issues identified during PSS inspections, information on disinfection versus sterilization and medical directives related to regulated health professionals.

Rabies Prevention & Control

From January to March, DRHD investigated **307** animal bite reports which is a small decrease from **329** reports investigated for the same period in 2024. **Thirty-seven** local residents were provided with anti-rabies treatment, an increase from **26** during this period last year.

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

DRHD issued **five** charges to animal owners for failing to immunize their pets against rabies, pursuant to [R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 567: Rabies Immunization](#). This is up from **three** charges last year.

DRHD will be relaunching the Rabies Interagency Seminar where relevant Ontario ministries, local municipal animal agencies, and the vaccine manufacturer will present information related to rabies prevention and control. It is an excellent opportunity for PHI to receive updates and network with partners.

Vector-Borne Diseases

The West Nile virus prevention and control program is ramping up activities for the 2025 season. DRHD's plan this year continues to include adult mosquito surveillance, larvae surveillance with larviciding of all catch basins, and surface water sites and all reported stagnant water sites throughout the region.

New this season, residents can submit an online request at [durham.ca](#) to have larvicide administered to private property catch basins. The new online process replaces the forms that were previously mailed out.

DRHD is working with Corporate Services – Information Technology to create a new GIS database with an app to capture mosquito and larvae surveillance data with an expected launch in May. This will replace the original Microsoft Access database that has been in existence for over 20 years. The new database will allow for enhanced data collection and navigation and will enable multiple overlays to show different levels of information. The app will be more user-friendly as staff will be able to access it from their smartphones.

Tick dragging at selected locations throughout Durham Region is scheduled for May and September/October. This is intended to identify LD as well as any of the **three** new tickborne diseases that have been added to the list of DoPHS (anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Powassan virus). May is also LD Awareness month. The advertising campaign will include a news release, social media posts, radio spots and the launch of a new video on tick-borne diseases posted on [durham.ca](#). The campaign will continue throughout the year as ticks are an issue spring through fall and prevention methods are the only way to avoid tickborne diseases.

World Tuberculosis Day

DRHD recognized World TB Day on March 24 by promoting awareness about TB. TB is a disease which is preventable and curable, however it remains an epidemic in much of the world. Recognizing World TB Day provides an opportunity to highlight DRHD's services in supporting the treatment of TB infections and preventing the development of active TB cases locally.

On World TB Day, DRHD sent a “FAX about...” to local HCP promoting the 2025 World TB Day Theme, “*Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver!*”. The “FAX about...” also contained helpful information including:

- The number of cases of TB infection in Durham Region for 2024.
- Information on a new tool to assist HCP in making informed recommendations about TB preventive therapy.
- Where to access publicly funded TB medications at designated pharmacies in the region.

A coordinated set of World TB Day messages were also posted on DRHD’s social media platforms. Official World TB Day hashtags and graphics were used while promoting the availability of treatment for eligible groups of people.

DRHD continues to manage all active TB cases and contacts, TB infection cases, and clients undergoing TB immigration medical surveillance. From January to March, DRHD managed **six** cases of active TB, **15** TB contacts, **147** cases of TB infection, and **60** clients undergoing TB immigration medical surveillance.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Kavine Thangaraj
Director, Population Health Division
Chief Nursing Officer

Original signed by

Anthony Di Pietro
Director, Health Protection Division



Report for January – March 2025

Community Paramedicine

The Community Paramedicine program continues to support remote patient monitoring in the community to catch an exacerbation before it happens. The program has **100** patients rostered with chronic diseases. From January to March, the program achieved the following:

- **Two** community paramedics received spirometry training to perform in a patient's home six to eight weeks after an exacerbation.
- Extended LTC+ diagnostic testing until March 31, 2026, bringing diagnostic testing to **seven** LTCH in Durham Region.
- Finalized the conversion of a bus into a mobile clinic, creating a mobile space for private assessments and treatments. The bus will bring primary care to high priority neighbourhoods.

The Primary Care Outreach Program completed the following activities:

- Provided unsheltered clients transportation to necessary appointments.
- Worked collaboratively with outreach teams to increase support at the CFOC Ajax HUB.
- Held mobile clinics at CFOC and Beaverton Heights for medical consults and offered Suboxone withdrawal management.

Logistics

RDPS Logistics completed the following activities:

- Ordered **five** new hybrid command vehicles (Ford Explorers) to supplement the command fleet. The expected delivery and upfitting timelines are April 2025 and Fall 2025, respectively.
- Commissioned **two** ambulances to replace existing vehicles. RDPS expects to commission more vehicles in the next three months as Demers continues to deliver new vehicles on a staggered schedule.

- Continued with the cyclical replacement of older Stryker power loads and stretchers.
- Hired **two** Logistics staff who are currently being trained and certified.

Additionally, the new Seaton Paramedic Station is expected to have substantial completion by April or May 2025.

Operations

RDPS completed the following activities:

- Hired an Acting Superintendent.
- Implemented the Hotel Sierra notification system to inform paramedics on scene of a potential health and safety concern.
- Revamped the deployment plan which aims to optimize and improve resource allocation with implementation expected in May.
- Held several information sessions regarding the upcoming Medical Priority Dispatch System roll-out. The sessions involved key partners, including local police and fire departments.
- Worked collaboratively with Uxbridge Fire Department and Oak Valley Health to relocate the Uxbridge Paramedic Station to the Uxbridge Fire Hall.

Quality & Development

RDPS staff performed the following quality and development activities:

- Completed **560** Ambulance Call Evaluation reviews.
- Coordinated and assisted the Central East Prehospital Care Program in providing education to **eight** PCPs for PCP Autonomous IV certification.
- Trained instructors to facilitate Autonomous IV certification training to enable in-house education.
- Developed educational content for the Fall 2025 Central East Session.
- Attended **19** community outreach events.
- Recruited **five** full-time ACPs, **one** part-time ACP and **41** part-time PCPs positions.
- Planned and developed onboarding and orientation education for new hires.
- Monitored field placement for **43** PCP students from **eight** neighbouring community colleges.
- Rostered over **140** clients with home and community care for the Palliative Treat and Refer program.
- Participated in the London Health Sciences Center PRIME Trial.
- Had staff attend education events including the Durham Regional Police Service Countering Hate, Violence and Terrorism Conference and the Tema Foundation Ontario Education Day.
- Participated on various committees with internal and external partners.

2025 Q1 Program Reports – DRHD

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Troy Cheseboro
Chief/Director



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development
Report: #2025-INFO-32
Date: April 25, 2025

Subject:

Nomination Period for the 2025 DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise that the nomination period for the 2025 Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee (DECAC) Awards is now open. DECAC is accepting nominations until June 27, 2025. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in the Fall (date to be determined).

2. Background

- 2.1 Since 2003, DECAC has recognized and acknowledged the environmental achievements of Durham residents and organizations in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors through the DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards. Beginning with five award categories, the DECAC Awards have grown to eight awards presented every other year.
- 2.2 Award categories include:
- a. **Eric Krause Innovation Award** for forward-thinking and innovative efforts to encourage positive change through plans, policies, or initiatives related to enhancing the environment and building climate resilience;

- b. **Irene Kock Environmental Awareness Award** for fostering effective communication, sharing knowledge, and exhibiting leadership in helping others learn about the environment and climate change;
 - c. **George A. Scott Stewardship Award** for efforts to help maintain, protect, and preserve Durham's environment;
 - d. **Dr. J. Murray Speirs Restoration Award** for efforts to help restore the natural environment and support climate adaptation;
 - e. **Jessica Markland Partnership Award** for co-operative efforts of those who strive to enhance the environment and promote sustainability by building partnerships with public and community interests, and businesses;
 - f. **Evylin Stroud Lifetime Achievement Award** dedication to protecting the environment and mitigating the impacts of climate change;
 - g. **John G. Goodwin Sustainable Group Award** for a group that has gone above and beyond to make a positive impact on the environment through education and/or stewardship; and
 - h. **Lois James Youth Leadership Award** for an elementary or secondary school student who has contributed to the protection of Durham's environment.
- 2.3 In 2023, DECAC partnered with Ontario Tech's Brilliant Energy Institute to present the DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards at their Durham Climate Forum. The event was a resounding success, so DECAC will be partnering once again with the Brilliant Energy Institute for the 2025 Awards ceremony. The Forum will be held in the Fall, but an exact date has yet to be determined.
- 2.4 Interested individuals and organizations are invited to fill out the [2025 DECAC Awards Online Nomination Form](#) until June 27, 2025.
- 3. Previous Reports and Decisions**
- 3.1 An overview of the 2023 Durham Climate Forum and DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards was provided in [Report #2023-INFO-105](#).
- 3.2 An overview of DECAC's 2025 Workplan was provided in [Report #2025-CG-2](#).
- 4. Relationship to Strategic Plan**
- 4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Strategic Direction(s) and Pathway(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

a. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

- E5. Respect the natural environment, including greenspaces, waterways, and agricultural lands.

b. Strong Relationships

- S1. Enhance inclusive opportunities for community engagement and meaningful collaboration.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The nomination period for the 2025 DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards is open until June 27, 2025. Nominations should be submitted through the [2025 DECAC Awards Online Nomination Form](#). Questions regarding the DECAC Environmental Achievement Awards Program should be directed to Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner, Amanda.Bathe@durham.ca.

5.2 Staff will keep Council apprised of the date for the Durham Climate Forum and, following the Forum, will report back on the awards recipients.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Community Growth and
Economic Development



Corporate Services Department
Legislative Services Division

Date & Time Received:	April 16, 2025 1:28 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



Grant Bivol
Town Clerk
Town of Niagara on the Lake
VIA EMAIL: clerks@notl.com

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

April 16, 2025

RE: Support Resolution – Town of Niagara on the Lake Council Resolution regarding Amendment of Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on March 26, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-100:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda item 6.11 listed for MARCH 26, 2025 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Township of Puslinch Council supports the Town of Niagara on the Lake Council Resolution regarding Amendment of Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act, that Council direct staff to prepare a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Hon. Michael Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Hon. Paul Calandra, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, MPP Thompson, all Ontario Municipalities

February 26, 2025

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

EMAIL: Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier Ford,

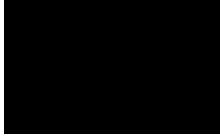
**RE: Requests the Province of Ontario Reconsider the Amendment of
Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act**

Please be advised that at its meeting of February 25, 2025, Council of the Town of Niagara on-the-Lake adopted the following resolution:

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Niagara-on-the-Lake Town Council endorses the resolution from the Municipality of South Huron requesting the Province reconsider the amendment to Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
2. Be It Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Minister Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and MPP Thompson.
3. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact our office at 905-468-3266.

Sincerely,



Grant Bivol
Town Clerk

c.c. Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Hon. Michael Ford - Michael.Ford@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Hon. Paul Calandra - minister.mah@ontario.ca
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario - resolutions@amo.on.ca
All local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
MPP Thompson - lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
All 444 Municipalities of Ontario

April 11, 2025

The Honourable Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
Room 5E200, 5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Rural Affairs, Huron-Bruce MPP
408 Queen Street
P.O. Box 426
Blyth, ON N0M 1H0
Email: lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: rob.flack@pc.ola.org


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

Sent Via Email

Dear Hon. Premier and Ministers:

Re. Installation of New Utility Poles in Howick Township through the Accelerated High Speed Internet Project (AHSIP)

It is with great concern that we provide a connectivity update from the perspective of the Township of Howick. The Township applauds the provincial government for its \$4 billion investment to provide high-speed internet access in every region of Ontario and is appreciative of the Ministry of Infrastructure's leadership with the Accelerated High Speed Internet Program (AHSIP).

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 16, 2025 1:22 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Improved connectivity to Ontario's unserved and underserved areas creates immense economic development opportunities and begins to address some of the challenges experienced by rural and remote communities. These communities continue to experience profound inequities in the areas of education, business and interpersonal relationships due to the lack of adequate communications infrastructure. The buildout of new broadband infrastructure starts the work towards resolving this inequity.

The Township of Howick is a small, rural municipality with a rich and proud history in agriculture. Through AHSIP, Xplore Inc. has obtained \$1.6 billion of private investment and government funding for fibre network expansion in several underserved, rural Ontario communities, including Howick Township.

While Howick Township is supportive of all rural residents receiving access to reliable high-speed internet, there are ongoing concerns from Council and residents over the installation of dozens of new utility poles within the municipal right-of-way across Howick's countryside instead of utilizing Hydro One's existing utility poles or underground direct bury or drilling methods.

In response to our inquiries, representatives from Xplore Inc. have explained to township council and staff that these new utility poles have been installed by their subcontractor because of "significant delays in Hydro One's permitting process to add broadband infrastructure to their existing utility poles and because it is the most cost-effective installation method."

The Ministry of Infrastructure outlines very thorough processes, procedures and timelines for Attaching to LDC-Owned Poles in the *Building Broadband Faster in Ontario* guidelines released November 30, 2021. Section 2.2 of the guideline outlines the Broadband One Window (BOW) authorization process for LDC owned pole attachments, including the engineering design requirements as well as the applicable standards to which stakeholders are expected to adhere to. This process includes field inspection/survey of the poles, pole loading structural analysis and determination of what telecom and power make-ready work, if any, needs to be completed for safe attachment. Nowhere in the guidelines does the Ministry of Infrastructure outline a process for installing new utility poles instead of attaching to existing LDC owned poles.

This leave us in Howick Township with several questions:

What guidelines are being followed if this ISP is completely bypassing the LDC in favor of erecting new utility poles? Is the Ministry of Infrastructure responsible for making sure these guidelines and processes are being followed? If Xplore Inc. has admitted to avoiding the permitting process of using the LDC's (Hydro One) existing utility poles, who owns these new utility poles that have been installed? Who is responsible for their maintenance and eventual replacement? Who is going to maintain the brush and shrubbery that surround many of these new poles in the municipal right-of-way?

It is Howick Township's opinion that the AHSIP program lacks oversight and compliance measures over the work being completed by the Internet Service Providers and their sub-contractors. Along with this, the *Building Broadband Faster Act, 2021, S.O. 2021, c.2*,

Sched. 1 has stripped Howick Township's right to question the installation of dozens of new utility poles without incurring financial penalties for causing delays to the project.

We have included photos (see [Appendix A](#)) of the substandard installation of new utility poles across Howick Township under AHSIP that occurred throughout this past winter. As you can see, many poles were installed incorrectly, quickly and during all weather conditions. This required the sub-contractors to return several times to fix deficiencies. This doesn't seem like the most cost-effective installation method. Other photos show examples of the number of new poles installed in areas of Howick Township. With our primarily agriculture-based background and economy, many Howick Township landowners are quite upset with the amount of new utility poles that have been installed. Farm equipment continues to get larger in size as farming techniques modernize, and these new 30ft utility poles limit access to fields with overhead infrastructure installed along the municipal right-of-way.

Through our research into this matter, we have not found examples of so many new utility poles being installed elsewhere across the province to facilitate the installation of fibre optic high-speed internet infrastructure. New pole installations are only referenced in the program guidelines regarding LDC-owned poles requiring replacement prior to installing the broadband infrastructure.

Can you explain why so many new utility poles are being installed in Howick Township directly by the ISP instead of utilizing existing utility poles owned by Hydro One as outlined in your program guidelines? Municipalities were not informed that dozens of new utility poles would be installed through AHSIP. Howick Township is requesting to have these new utility poles removed in favour of utilizing existing LDC owned poles or direct bury or plowing methods of installation.

We encourage any other Ontario municipalities who are experiencing similar new utility pole installations through the Accelerated High Speed Internet Program to reach out to Howick Township directly, and to join Howick Township by reaching out to the above listed ministries with your concerns.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Caitlin Gillis
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Howick
clerk@howick.ca



Doug Harding
Reeve
Township of Howick
dharding@howick.ca

















Town of Amherstburg

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

April 15, 2025

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A4
VIA EMAIL: premier@ontario.ca



Corporate Services Department
Legislative Services Division

Date & Time Received:	April 16, 2025 11:08 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

SENT VIA EMAIL

Attn: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Re: Resolution# 20250414-011 - Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Town of Amherstburg

At its regular meeting on **April 14, 2025**, Amherstburg Town Council passed **Resolution 20250414-011** in response to the Province's recent proposal to designate Amherstburg as a **"Strong Mayor" municipality**, effective May 1, 2025.

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Town of Amherstburg as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherstburg has a long history of collaborative, transparent, and accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision-making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherstburg did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Amherstburg Town Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Town of Amherstburg from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all regional Members of Provincial



Town of Amherstburg

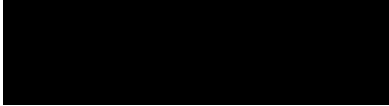
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and urge you to respect the democratic wishes of our Council and community.

Sincerely,



Michael Prue, Mayor
Town of Amherstburg

Cc: The Honourable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)
Regional Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



2021 Division Road North
Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9
Corporate Services Department
Phone: (519) 733-2305
Legislative Services Division
www.kingsville.ca

Date & Time Received:	April 17, 2025 8:32 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

April 16, 2025

Honourable Premier Doug Ford
Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Via Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Flack,

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers – Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22

Please be advised that at its Regular Meeting held Monday, April 14, 2025, the Council of the Town of Kingsville passed the following resolution respecting the matter referenced in the above subject line:

78-04142025

Moved By: Councillor Gaffan

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor DeYong

Whereas on April 9, 2025, the Government of Ontario (hereafter, the “Province”), led by Premier Doug Ford, announced a proposal to expand by “Strong Mayor Powers” as provided for by Part VI.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to the heads of council in 169 additional municipalities, including the Town of Kingsville, effective May 1, 2025;

And whereas Strong Mayor Powers erode democratic process and have fundamentally altered the historic model of local governance, which has existed for almost two centuries, by:

- providing the head of council with the authority to unilaterally give direction and make certain decisions without a consensus from a majority of the members of council; and,
- creating a power imbalance by providing the head of council with special powers that other members do not generally have.

And whereas the Province is undermining the local governance model and municipal independence by attempting to advance its priorities through municipalities, and downloading its responsibilities to the same.

Now therefore be it resolved that:

- The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville ("Council") **opposes** the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025;
- That Council **requests** that the proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities not include the Town of Kingsville; and;
- That Council **directs** the Acting Manager of Municipal Governance/Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; All Four Local MPPs; AMCTO, AMO and All Ontario Municipalities

Carried.

Sincerely,



Angela Toole, Acting Manager of Municipal Governance/Clerk

Email: atoole@kingsville.ca

Phone: 519-733-2305 ext. 223

cc. Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex
Trevor Jones, MPP, Chatham-Kent - Leamington
Andrew Dowie, MPP, Windsor-Tecumseh
Lisa Gretzky, MPP, Windsor West
AMCTO
AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



**TOWNSHIP OF RIDEAU LAKES
Special Council Meeting**

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 17, 2025 8:35 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RESOLUTION 104-2025
Title: MSC (PW) Rec #78-2025 re: Strong Mayor Powers (for Council approval)
Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Moved by Councillor Dunfield
Seconded by Deputy Mayor P. Banks

WHEREAS at the Municipal Services Committee meeting held April 14, 2025, Recommendation #78-2025 was passed related to the recent announcement from the Government of Ontario on Strong Mayor Powers to an additional 169 municipalities effective May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS said recommendation further requested that the Province remove Rideau Lakes from the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Rideau Lakes concurs with MSC Recommendation #78-2025.

YES: 5 NO: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 CONFLICT: 0 ABSENT: 1

Carried

YES: 5 Councillor J. Banks Councillor Carr Councillor Dunfield Councillor Hutchings
Deputy Mayor P. Banks

NO: 2 Councillor Maxwell Councillor Pollard

CONFLICT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Mayor Hoogenboom



**TOWNSHIP OF RIDEAU LAKES
Municipal Services Committee (PW)**

RECOMMENDATION: 78-2025

Title: Ontario Proposing to Expand Strong Mayor Powers to 169
Additional Municipalities

Date: Monday, April 14, 2025

Moved by Councillor Dunfield
Seconded by Deputy Mayor P. Banks

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced an expansion of strong mayor powers to an additional 169 municipalities, effective May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS these powers allow mayors to unilaterally override council decisions, appoint senior municipal staff, and set budgets without majority council approval, undermining the principles of democratic governance;

AND WHEREAS municipal governance functions best through a collaborative decision-making process where elected councils, representing the collective voice of their communities, work alongside experienced municipal staff;

AND WHEREAS there is no evidence to suggest that strong mayor powers have increased housing starts, contrary to the provincial government's stated justification for their implementation;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has raised concerns that strong mayor powers blur the lines between political leadership and administrative expertise, threatening the neutrality of municipal public service;

AND WHEREAS the City of Orillia recently experienced a situation where its mayor unilaterally overturned a council decision regarding the hiring of a Chief Administrative Officer, demonstrating the potential for these powers to be misused;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Rideau Lakes has also experienced governance challenges resulting from mayoral overreach, further highlighting the risks posed by concentrating authority in a single elected official;

AND WHEREAS democratic principles require that municipal governance remain a system of "one person, one vote" rather than granting disproportionate power to a single individual;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Rideau Lakes:

1. Strongly opposes the expansion of strong mayor powers to additional municipalities, including Rideau Lakes;
2. Calls on the Government of Ontario to reverse this decision and uphold the traditional balance of municipal governance; and
3. Directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to:
 - The Honourable Rob Flack Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - MPP Steve Clark
 - The Honourable Premier of Ontario Doug Ford
 - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
 - All Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

AND FURTHER that the Province be requested to remove Rideau Lakes from the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation.

YES: 5 NO: 3 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

Carried

YES: 5


Councillor J. Banks Councillor Carr Councillor Dunfield
Councillor Hutchings Deputy Mayor P. Banks

NO: 3

Mayor Hoogenboom Councillor Maxwell Councillor Pollard

April 16, 2025

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

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 22, 2025 8:14 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Re: Motion regarding Opposition to Expansion of Strong Mayor Powers

At their Regular Meeting of Council on April 16, 2025, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Ontario government has proposed expanding the "strong mayor" powers to 169 additional municipalities under the proposed legislation, which would grant mayors in these municipalities more authority, particularly concerning the control of municipal budgets and planning decisions;

AND WHEREAS this proposal has raised significant concerns regarding the centralization of power, erosion of local democracy, reduced accountability, and the potential for the abuse of power;

AND WHEREAS the proposed expansion of strong mayor powers undermines the collaborative nature of municipal governance, and diminishes the role of elected municipal councillors in representing the diverse interests of the community;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the negative impacts on public trust, democratic participation, and municipal decision-making processes, if mayors are given the ability to bypass council decisions without adequate consultation or oversight;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Aylmer opposes the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers;

AND THAT the Council formally expresses its opposition to the Ontario government's proposal to expand Strong Mayor Powers to preserve local democracy, transparency, and accountability;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Ontario Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Ontario municipalities, as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for further action.

Thank you,

Owen Jaggard

Director of Legislative Services/Clerk | Town of Aylmer

46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7

519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446

ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Hon. Rob Flack rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca

All municipalities




GEORGINA

Legislative Services Department/Clerk's Division

April 7, 2025

Via email; premier@ontario.ca

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

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	April 22, 2025 8:10 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

The Honourable Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution regarding Salt Management

Please be advised that Town Council adopted the following motion concerning Salt Management;

RESOLUTION NO. C-2025-0077

Moved By Councillor Neeson
Seconded By Regional Councillor Davison

WHEREAS road salt is a known toxic substance designated under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act because of tangible threats of serious and irreversible environmental and public health concerns associated with road salt; and

WHEREAS salt levels in Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes have increasingly worsened since the 1970s, seriously affecting municipal drinking water sources and aquatic life; and

WHEREAS Lake Simcoe is our closest freshwater lake and is the 4th largest inland lake within Ontario, host to a number of functions including a biodiverse habitat for over 56 species of fish, the source water for municipal drinking water for hundreds of thousands of residents within the watershed, including 41,000 here in the Town of Georgina, and the many other recreational and commercial functions it serves; and

WHEREAS Lake Simcoe's salinity concentrations have increased over 500% since monitoring began over the past 50 years, with the primary contributor being runoff from the use of salt for winter maintenance; and

WHEREAS the Ontario and Canadian governments have taken many actions over the past 25 years including setting water quality guidelines, developing voluntary codes of practice, signing the Canada-Ontario Great Lakes Agreement, and holding workshops, yet still the salt problem continues to grow; and

WHEREAS numerous situation analyses have recommended salt solutions involving liability protection, contractor certification, government-approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) and salt management plans; and

WHEREAS increased numbers of slip and fall claims, and other injury/collision claims related to snow and ice, are resulting in salt applicators overusing salt beyond levels considered best practices; and

WHEREAS unlimited contractor liability is making it difficult or expensive for snow and ice management contractors to obtain insurance coverage, resulting in contractors leaving the business, thereby making it difficult for municipalities and private owners to find contractors; and

WHEREAS the Snow and Ice Management Sector (SMS) of Landscape Ontario is working with the Ontario government to institute a limited liability regime for snow and ice management, including enforceable contractor training/certification and government-approved BMPs for salt application; and

WHEREAS many Ontario municipalities have Salt Management Plans, but these often require updating in light of improved science and better salt management practices now available; and

WHEREAS The Town of Georgina shares fifty-two (52) kilometers of beautiful Lake Simcoe shoreline and all 288 square kilometers of the Town of Georgina are encompassed by sub-watersheds that drain into Lake Simcoe; and

WHEREAS road authorities that use salt, such as the Town of Georgina, must abide by, and benefit from, established provincial regulations around snow clearing and maintenance, whereas private contractors only have voluntary programs for salt use for private and commercial property management; and

WHEREAS the Town of Georgina has demonstrated great initiative in salt mitigation efforts including committing to the use of rock salt alternatives, installation of electronic spreader controllers on all material spreading units, reduced application rates when appropriate, use of pre-wet and brine when appropriate, and an updated salt management plan that outlines salt best management practices specific to the Corporation of the Town of Georgina's winter maintenance operations

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That the Town of Georgina urges the Province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially endorsed standard Best Management Practices for snow and ice management; and

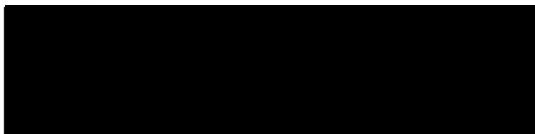
2. That the Town of Georgina urges the Province of Ontario to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and

3. That the Town of Georgina continues to commit to the reduction of the use of road salt as much as possible while meeting local service levels and maintaining safety on roads and sidewalks; and

4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to all municipalities in York Region, all Lake Simcoe Watershed municipalities; all municipalities in Ontario; The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation and The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority requesting their endorsement; The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); all Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs; Conservation Ontario; The Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition; The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition; Minister Todd McCarthy (MECP); Attorney General Doug Downey, and The Honourable Premier Doug Ford.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your consideration of this resolution.

Sincerely,
FOR THE TOWN OF GEORGINA,



Carolyn Lance
Council Services Coordinator

cc: Minister Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney-General; doug.downey@pc.ola.org
York Region municipalities
Ontario municipalities
Lake Simcoe Watershed municipalities
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority; r.baldwin@LSRCA.on.ca
The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation; sylvia.mccue@georginaisland.com
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; resolutions@amo.on.ca
Lake Simcoe Watershed MPP's
Conservation Ontario; info@conservationontario.ca
Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition; dani@waterwatchers.ca
The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition; rescuelakesimcoecoalition@gmail.com

Executive Services
99-A Advance Avenue, Napanee, ON K7R 3Y5 www.greaternapanee.com

April 23, 2025

Township of Rideau Lakes
1439 County Road 8
Delta, ON K0E 1G0
Sent via email: mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Greater Napanee passed a resolution at its regular session meeting of April 22, 2025 in support of your correspondence regarding Strong Mayor Powers Legislation. A copy of the resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at jwalters@greaternapanee.com if you require any further information with respect to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Jessica Walters
Clerk

cc: Honourable Premier Doug Ford
Honourable Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
AMO
AMCTO
All Ontario municipalities

RESOLUTION #194/25 Pinnell Jr., Norrie

That the Town of Greater Napanee sends a letter of support to the Township of Rideau Lakes in regard to their opposition of Ontario Expanding Strong Mayor Powers to 169 Additional Municipalities, and that the Town of Greater Napanee also request to be excluded from the Strong Mayor Powers;

And that a copy of the letter of support be sent to the Honorable Premier Doug Ford, the Honorable MPP Ric Bresee; the Honorable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, and all other municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and support.

For: 5 Opposed: 2 Abstained:0 Absent: 0

CARRIED.

For:

Councillor Schenk, Councillor Hicks, Councillor Pinnell Jr., Councillor Norrie, Councillor Martin

Opposed:

Mayor Richardson, Deputy Mayor Calver

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 8, 2025

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: T. Barrie, Clarington
R. Death, Whitby attended the meeting at 7:35 PM
N. Guthrie, Ajax
B. Hulshof, Uxbridge
J. McKay*, Durham Farm Fresh attended the meeting at 7:36 PM
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Member at Large
M. Shiers, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
M. Somerville*, Member at Large
D. Stevenson, Oshawa
N. Swain, Scugog, Vice-Chair
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock
*** denotes Members participating electronically**

Absent: Z. Cohoon, Member at Large, Chair
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
W. Wotten, Regional Councillor

Staff

Present: A. De Vos, Program Specialist, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development
L. Talling*, Acting Manager, Agricultural & Rural Economic Development, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by B. Smith, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting
held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

Moved by H. Schillings, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That an additional 10 minutes of presentation time be added to
Presentation Item 4. A) Fallon Hayes and Patrick Esson, Toronto and
Region Conservation Authority, regarding the Rural Clean Water
Program.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Fallon Hayes and Patrick Esson, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, re Rural Clean Water Program

Fallon Hayes and Patrick Esson, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority,
provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Rural Clean Water
Program.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario
- What is a Watershed?
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Watersheds
- What is the Rural Clean Water Program (RCWP)?
- Full List of RCWP Cost-Share Funding Categories
- Funding Categories Corresponding Benefits
- Past Project Examples
 - Erosion Control Structures
 - Livestock Fencing from Natural Features
 - Irrigation Management
 - Fuel and Chemical Storage
 - Natural Area Creation
- Funding Also Relevant to Non-Farm Properties
- We Have Completed Over 300 RCWP Projects to Protect Our Watersheds
- Summary of Some of Our Accomplishments

F. Hayes responded to questions from the Committee with regards to why
Durham Region is not a participant of the program; whether the Region was
approached at the outset of the program and what the response was; whether an

environmental farm plan is required in order to qualify for the program and who is the authority for determining whether such environmental farm plan is required; the amount of applications received versus the available funding in the program; how other conservation authorities in Durham with similar programs are funded; and the TRCA's position on agricultural tile drainage.

M. Scott advised that the Region is currently examining the program.

M. Scott responded to questions from the Committee with regards what the Region's financial commitment could be to enroll in the program; and whether this would be the Region's first attempt to incorporate this program into the budget.

Discussion ensued with regards to the various crop and soil programs available in the province and how they are funded; and the benefit of bringing this program to the Region.

Moved by M. Somerville, Seconded by G. Taylor,
That we recommend to the Community Growth and Economic
Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation
to Regional Council:

That Council be advised of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee's
(DAAC) support of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's
Rural Clean Water Program, and support of the Region's Community
Growth and Economic Development Department exploring the program
further.

CARRIED

B) Robert Rappolt, WSP Canada Inc., Enabling Agricultural Related Uses & On
Farm Diversified Uses Project

Robert Rappolt, WSP Canada Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation with
regards to Enabling Agricultural Related Uses & On Farm Diversified Uses
Project.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Project Workplan
- What's Changed
 - Final Recommendations
 - Final Application Toolkit
- Next Steps

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

A. De Vos provided the following update:

- Enabling Agricultural Related Uses & On Farm Diversified Uses
Project survey responses and relevant policies have been reviewed with the northern area municipalities. Final recommendations have been determined and will be presented to the northern area municipalities. Presentations will be made to Uxbridge and Scugog on April 14 and to Brock on April 28.
- The Agricultural Leadership Program has concluded. The final module included presentations from Andrew Campbell and Angus Kelly and approximately 40 people were in attendance.
- The Agricultural Butchery and Culinary Tour for high school students has invited Clarington Central Secondary School to attend the tour. Port Perry High School had to back out due to upgrades occurring with its culinary program.
- Preparation for the Precision Agricultural Field Day is underway.
- Staff have been liaising with commodity organizations to best understand the key priorities of the agriculture industry as it relates to tariffs.

B) Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington Update

T. Barrie provided an update regarding the Clarington Agricultural Advisory Committee and stated the Trees for Rural Roads program is currently accepting applications, and that the Hydro One Notice of Preferred Route for Durham Kawartha Power Line Project was discussed at the meeting. He also advised that a farm tour is being planned by Committee members.

C) Durham Farm Fresh Update

J. McKay provided the following Durham Farm Fresh update:

- The Board is currently in the process of reviewing its brochure and preparing for upcoming local fairs.
- Members' maple syrup farms are now up and running and open to the public.
- Preparation is underway for planting season that is expected to begin over the next few weeks.
- Various farmer's markets are preparing to open beginning in May and June.

D) Greater Golden Horseshoe and Farming Alliance Update

M. Scott advised there is no update regarding the Greater Golden Horseshoe and Farming Alliance.

E) Durham Region Federation of Agriculture Update

M. Shiers advised that there is no update regarding the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture.

F) 2025 DAAC Area Municipality Outreach – Committee

M. Scott stated that the first two Area Municipality Outreach presentations have been made to Clarington and Pickering councils and advised that positive feedback regarding the presentations has been received.

M. Scott advised that T. Barrie delivered the presentation in Clarington which prompted discussion and questions relating to farmland trusts; backyard chickens; tariffs; and food bank donations.

M. Scott further advised that N. Swain and G. Taylor delivered the presentation in Pickering which generated questions regarding tariffs; local food sourcing; whether the number and sizes of farms in Durham is increasing or decreasing; wheat production and its connection to the food chain; and avian influenza.

G) 2025 DAAC Farm Tour Discussion – Committee

B. Smith advised that various logistics for the farm tour are being arranged, including the location for tents on the property; and how to organize parking for attendees.

Discussion ensued with regards to speakers who may be invited to speak at the farm tour; and the relevant topics to be covered.

6. Information Items

A) Invitation: Lake Simcoe Watershed Farmer Focus Groups

A copy of the Lake Simcoe Watershed Farmer Focus Groups invitation was provided as Attachment #2 to the agenda and received.

7. Other Business

A) Durham Farm Connections

G. Taylor stated that the Durham Farm Connections Open House was a successful event that included farm tours for grade 3 students and a public night on April 2, 2025.

B) Community Agriculture Wellness Training

M. Scott stated that general mental health training is being offered and encouraged Committee members to register and share the information with the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture and Durham Farm Fresh.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 starting at 7:30 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by T. Watpool, Seconded by N. Guthrie,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

N. Swain, Vice-Chair, Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee

V. Walker, Committee Clerk