



## The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, June 13, 2025

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- Resolution adopted at their Economic and Development Committee meeting held on June 2, 2025, regarding City Comments on Bill 17, the Proposed “Protect Ontario By Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025”

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- May 22, 2025

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

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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Chief Administrative Officer  
Report: #2025-INFO-50  
Date: June 13, 2025

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**Subject:**

Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan Implementation Update

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To share the 2025-2028 Action Plan, and the related corporate performance measures, to advance [Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan](#).
- 1.2 To share the community indicators presented in the [Community Dashboard](#) that demonstrate progress towards the Vision and Strategic Directions within the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In January 2025, Council endorsed Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan and directed staff to:
  - a. Develop the community indicators to demonstrate progress;
  - b. Develop the first supporting implementation plan to outline the key initiatives and related corporate performance measures to advance the Strategic Directions and Pathways; and
  - c. Align with the annual business planning and budget process.

**3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 3.1 [Regional Council January 29, 2025](#)

**4. 2025-2028 Action Plan**

- 4.1 Shorter-term Action Plans will be created over the 10-year course of the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.
- 4.2 The 2025-2028 Action Plan offers an accompanying strategic narrative to the annual Business Planning and Budget documents by providing a coherent set of actions in relation to the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.
- 4.3 Attachment #1 presents the 2025-2028 Action Plan that includes the key actions and desired results, aligned with the Strategic Directions and supporting Foundation.

**5. Community Indicators and the Community Dashboard**

- 5.1 Community indicators are broad measures that show how well Durham Region is progressing towards the Vision and Strategic Directions identified in the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.
- 5.2 Community indicators represent trends and/or issues present in the wider population of Durham Region. The Region of Durham will contribute to the wider community effort in moving the indicator trends in the desired direction.
- 5.3 A total of 20 community indicators have been developed to support the five Strategic Directions within Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.
  - a. Access to Broadband;
  - b. Access to Public Transit;
  - c. Housing Affordability;
  - d. Transportation Mode Share;
  - e. Vision Zero;
  - f. Carbon Footprint;
  - g. Waste Generation;
  - h. Childhood Vaccinations;
  - i. Children's Early Development;
  - j. Household Food Insecurity;
  - k. People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness;
  - l. Self-Rated General Health;

- m. Self-Rated Mental Health;
- n. Employment Growth;
- o. Gross Farm Receipts;
- p. Import-Export Businesses;
- q. New Business Starts;
- r. Real Median Household Income;
- s. Sense of Belonging to the Local Community; and
- t. Strategic Plan Performance.

5.4 The Community Dashboard has been updated to present the community indicators.

5.5 Each indicator on the Community Dashboard contains the following components:

- a. A description of the indicator and why it is important;
- b. A desired trend direction (increase or decrease);
- c. An explanation of how the indicator is calculated;
- d. Data sources and limitations;
- e. Currently available data;
- f. Trend status (improving, not improving, stable, not available); and
- g. References and other resources.

## **6. Reporting**

6.1 Staff will update Regional Council annually on the status of the 2025-2028 Action Plan to advance the Strategic Directions and Pathways within the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.

6.2 The Region of Durham will continue to update Regional Council and community members on overall progress via the Community Dashboard.

## **7. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

7.1 This report presents the 2025-2028 Action Plan to advance Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan.

## 8. Conclusion

- 8.1 The 2025-2028 Action Plan offers an accompanying strategic narrative to the annual Business Planning and Budget documents by providing a coherent set of actions in relation to the [2025-2035 Strategic Plan](#).
- 8.2 A total of 20 community-level indicators have been developed to support the five Strategic Directions within Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan and are presented on the [Community Dashboard](#).
- 8.3 Staff will continue to share annual updates with Regional Council and community members on our progress.

## 9. Attachments

Attachment #1: Durham Region's 2025-2028 Action Plan

Prepared by: Andrea Smith, Policy Advisor, Corporate Initiatives, and Lesley-Ann Foulds, Manager, Corporate Initiatives.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed by

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Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer



# Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan 2025-2028 Action Plan



# Connected and Vibrant Communities

Together, we will create connected and vibrant communities that take a proactive and responsible approach to growth and infrastructure. The physical spaces around us will be more connected and safe, to make people's days in Durham Region better. Durham Region will be more inclusive and welcoming, with an opportunity for all to find connection and community.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on leading the **creation of affordable housing stock** in the community, **expanding public transportation systems**, and **managing critical regional infrastructure needs** to advance this Strategic Direction.



# Connected and Vibrant Communities

## Key Actions

### Housing and Homelessness Service and Financing Strategy

- At Home Incentive Program
- Rent supplements and housing benefits
- Tenant Support Program
- Rent-Geared to Income supplements
- Create new Durham Region Local Housing Corporation (DRLHC) community housing stock
- Affordable Housing Redevelopment Program
- Increase affordable rental housing supply through partnerships (e.g. Ritson School Site Revitalization)
- 1635 Dundas Street Development – Phase 2
- DRLHC Community Housing Capital Repair Program
- Supporting the delivery of Regional Housing initiatives
- Life Cycle Asset Management of the Affordable Housing Stock
- Transitional Housing
- Winter Warming and Emergency Shelter Spaces
- Homelessness System Supporting individuals to housing

### Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy

- Availability of a range of housing options around existing and future planned transit
- Access to transit analysis

### Transit Service and Finance Strategy (2023-2032)

### Durham Region Transit (DRT) 5-year Service Strategy (2026-2030)

### 2025 DRT Fare Strategy

### Transit Infrastructure

- GO East Extension
- Highway 2 Bus Rapid Transit
- Simcoe Street Rapid Transit

### Regional Broadband Network Expansion and Connections (Durham OneNet Inc.)

### Pre-Servicing of Employment Lands

### Active Transportation

- Active Transportation Map Viewer
- Regional Cycling Plan
- Durham Meadoway
- Complete streets approach in planning and designing the Regional road network
- Waterfront trail

### Region's Asset Management Plan and Policy

- DRT Stations, Terminals, and Hubs Infrastructure
- Works Capital Projects

### Transportation and Water/Wastewater Master Plans

### Public Art and Creative Placemaking Program

### Community Investment Grant Program

### Vision Zero Road Safety Program



# Connected and Vibrant Communities

## Desired Results

- An increase in affordable housing units, including rentals, social housing, and transitional housing
- An increase in the mix of medium and high-density residential development near transit
- An increase in Durham Region Transit service hours delivered
- Improved fibre optic infrastructure coverage across Durham Region
- Expansion of the Primary Cycling Network facilities on Regional roads
- Improved condition ratings for Regional infrastructure and compliance with provincial asset management regulations
- An increase in public art and placemaking initiatives sites across the Region
- Improved speed enforcement and pedestrian safety on Regional roads



## Community Indicators ([durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard](https://durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard))



Access to Broadband



Access to Public Transit



Housing Affordability



Transportation Mode  
Share



Vision Zero

# Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

We recognize the unique natural environment in Durham Region and will continue to respect greenspaces, waterways, and agricultural lands. Together, we will transition to low-carbon solutions, sustainable living practices, and make the necessary adaptations to withstand the impacts of severe weather.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **responding to climate change** to advance this Strategic Direction.



# Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

## Key Actions

### Corporate Climate Action Plan

- Sustainable Infrastructure Policy
- Corporate Climate Service and Financing Strategy
- Energy Conservation Demand Management Plan
- Water and Wastewater Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) Management Strategy

### Fleet Electrification

- E-Mission Zero – DRT Fleet Electrification Plan
- DRT Clean Fuel Regulation
- Light-Duty Fleet Electrification Plan

### Durham Community Energy Plan

- District Energy Heating/Cooling
- Durham Greener Homes Program
- Durham Greener Buildings Program

### Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan

- LEAF Program
- Durham Trees
- Durham Greener Homes

### Long-Term Waste Management Plan

### Natural Capital Asset Framework

### Sustainability Bond Framework



# Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

## Desired Results

- Reduced corporate GHG emissions and energy use
- An increase in zero emission vehicles in Regional fleets
- Improved Regional support for home energy retrofits
- An increase in Regional sustainability bonds

Community Indicators ([durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard](https://durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard))



Carbon Footprint



Waste Generation



# Healthy People, Caring Communities

Durham Region will offer programs and services that meet the needs of the growing and changing communities across the region. We will continue to promote health and well-being and are committed to caring for those who are most in need. We will strive to improve the quality of life for all residents in the region.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **supporting populations most in need** and **overall community health** to advance this Strategic Direction.



# Healthy People, Caring Communities

## Key Actions

Active and Sustainable School Travel program  
Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System  
Paramedic Services Service and Financing Strategy  
Community Safety and Well-being Plan  
Community Hubs  
Bridging the Gap – Developing Culturally Responsive Mental Health Care for and with Black Communities  
Initiatives to Address Indigenous Public Health Priorities  
Immunizations  
Primary Care Outreach Program Program Expansion  
Increase pathways to accessible and affordable mental health and counselling services  
Durham Region Vector-borne Disease Response  
Durham Region Poverty Response Program

- Community Social Investment Program
- Housing Stability Program

Humanitarian Response Framework  
Durham Local Immigration Partnership 2025-2030  
Community and Inclusion Plan

Emotional Model of Care  
Seaton Long Term Care Facility  
Expansion of the Mental Health Outreach Program  
Mental Health Promotion  
Durham Region Opioid Response Plan  
Mobile Dental Clinics in Regional Long-Term Care homes  
Mobile Dental Clinics in Regional Child Care Centers  
Ontario Senior Dental Care Program to Address Oral Health Inequalities



# Healthy People, Caring Communities

## Desired Results

- An increase in new licensed child care spaces created
- Improved Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale 1 (CTAS 1) response times
- Improved vaccination rates for student population
- An increase in dental care for eligible seniors (65+) and children
- An increase in clients served through the Primary Care and Mental Health Outreach Programs
- An increase in mental health promotion strategies implemented
- Improved Regional counselling wait times and client outcomes
- Improved supports for newcomers to Durham Region
- Improved Long-term Care resident satisfaction
- An increase in local opioid response and prevention, including Naloxone kit distribution



## Community Indicators ([durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard](https://durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard))



Childhood Vaccination



Children's Early Development



Household Food Insecurity



People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness



Self-Rated General Health



Self-Rated Mental Health

# Resilient Local Economies

Durham Region will be a place of opportunity where people can gain new skills, grow, and prosper. We will continue to support current industries, including agriculture, and develop emerging economic sectors. Local business growth and tourism will continue to create a vibrant economy, highlighting the distinct cultural identities across the region.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **supporting local economies** to advance this Strategic Direction.



## Key Actions

Growing Agri-Food Durham Plan  
Growing North Durham Plan  
Investment Attraction Plan  
Durham Tourism Strategic Action Plan 2024-2028  
2023-2027 Invest Durham Marketing Plan  
Integrated Employment Services  
Child Care System Expansion  
Durham Local Immigration Partnership Employer Engagement Strategy for Immigrants and Newcomers  
Durham Economic Task Force  
DRT Employer Pass Program  
Durham Region Business Count



# Resilient Local Economies

## Desired Results

- An increase in businesses supported through the Business Visitation Program
- An increase in social media presence and investment inquiries
- An increase in clients employed through Integrated Employment Services
- An increase in new licensed child care spaces created
- An increase in DRT Employer Pass Program users

## Community Indicators ([durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard](https://durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard))



Employment Growth



Gross Farm Receipts



Import-Export  
Businesses



New Business Starts



Real Median  
Household Income



# Strong Relationships

In Durham Region, people will feel engaged and involved in their communities. Through open collaboration, dialogue, and partnerships, we will build trust and work to advance the Community Vision for the future of Durham Region.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **building and strengthening relationships with Indigenous communities** and **improving partnerships and engagement** to enhance Regional service offerings and to advance this Strategic Direction.



# Strong Relationships

## Key Actions

### Indigenous Relations

- Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nations (MSIFN) Bilateral Agreement

Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessment, in collaboration with MSIFN  
Durham Region's 311 Customer Experience Management and Municipal Integration

Digital Communications and Engagement

Annual Government Relations Priorities and Action Plan



# Strong Relationships

## Desired Results

- Improved understanding of Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action for Legal staff
- Completed Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessment reports
- Improved 311 service efficiency and customer satisfaction
- Improved 311 municipal integration and overall channel adoption and usage
- An increase in digital engagement opportunities and subscribers to the Regional digital engagement platform
- Enhanced social media presence
- An increase in funding and policy changes that support the Region's advocacy priorities

## Community Indicators ([durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard](https://durham.ca/StratPlanDashboard))



Sense of Belonging to the Local Community



Strategic Plan Performance





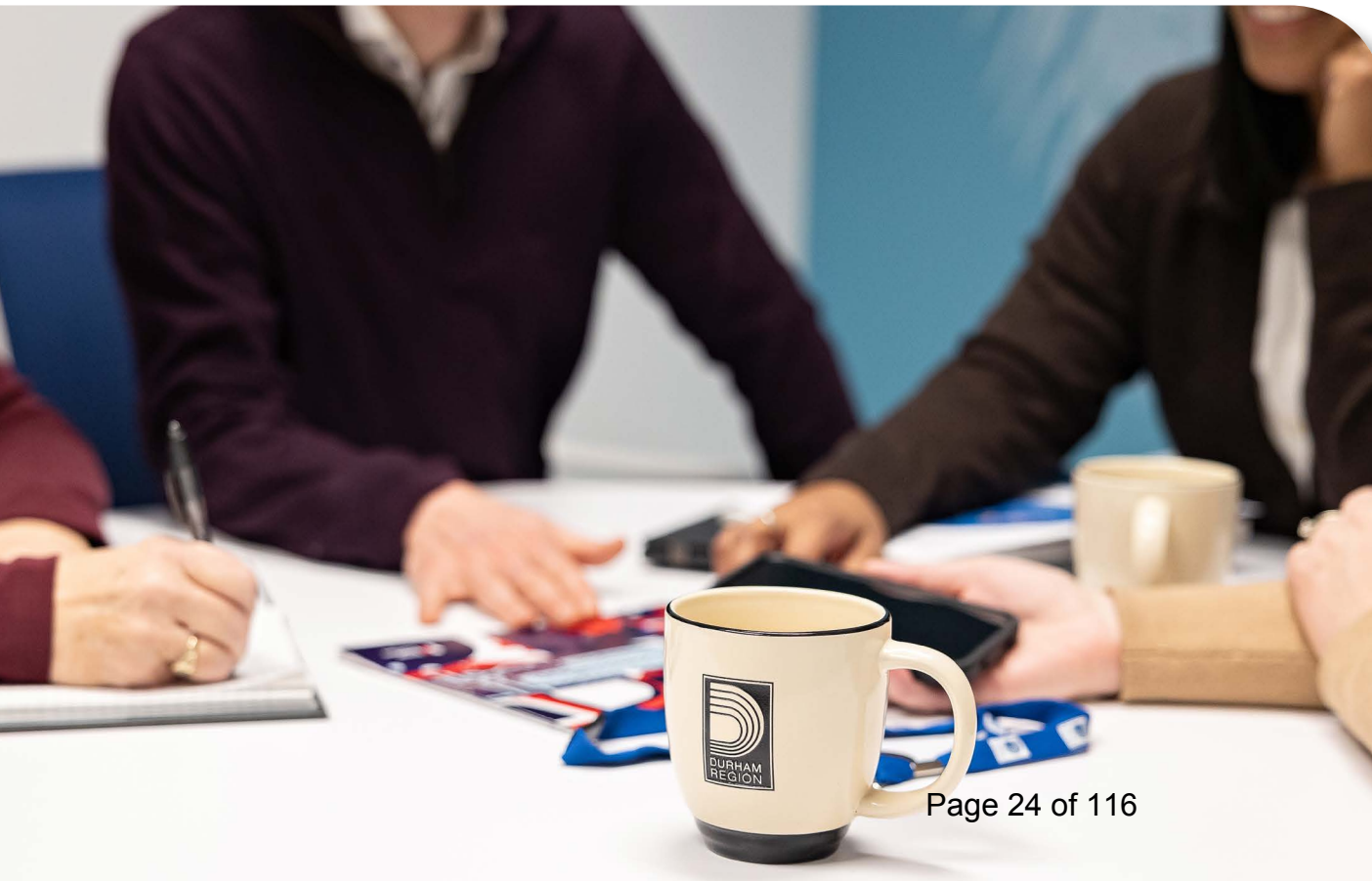
## Foundation: People

### Description

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Making the Region of Durham a great place to work, attracting, and retaining talent. We will implement a future-focused staffing strategy that supports the health, safety, wellness, and skill development of staff and will take actions toward improving diversity, equity, and inclusion outcomes.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **attracting, retaining, and supporting employees** and **advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** initiatives.





## Foundation: People

### Key Actions

#### Region of Durham People Strategy

- Future-focused staffing strategy
- Skill development of staff
- Health, Safety and Wellness of staff
- Improving Diversity, Equity and Inclusion outcomes

#### Accessibility Initiatives

- Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
- DRT Accessibility Strategy
- DRT Sunflower Program
- Finance Water Bill Portal Refresh

#### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategy

#### Region's Equity Audit Action Plan

### Desired Results

Improved employee inclusion rates



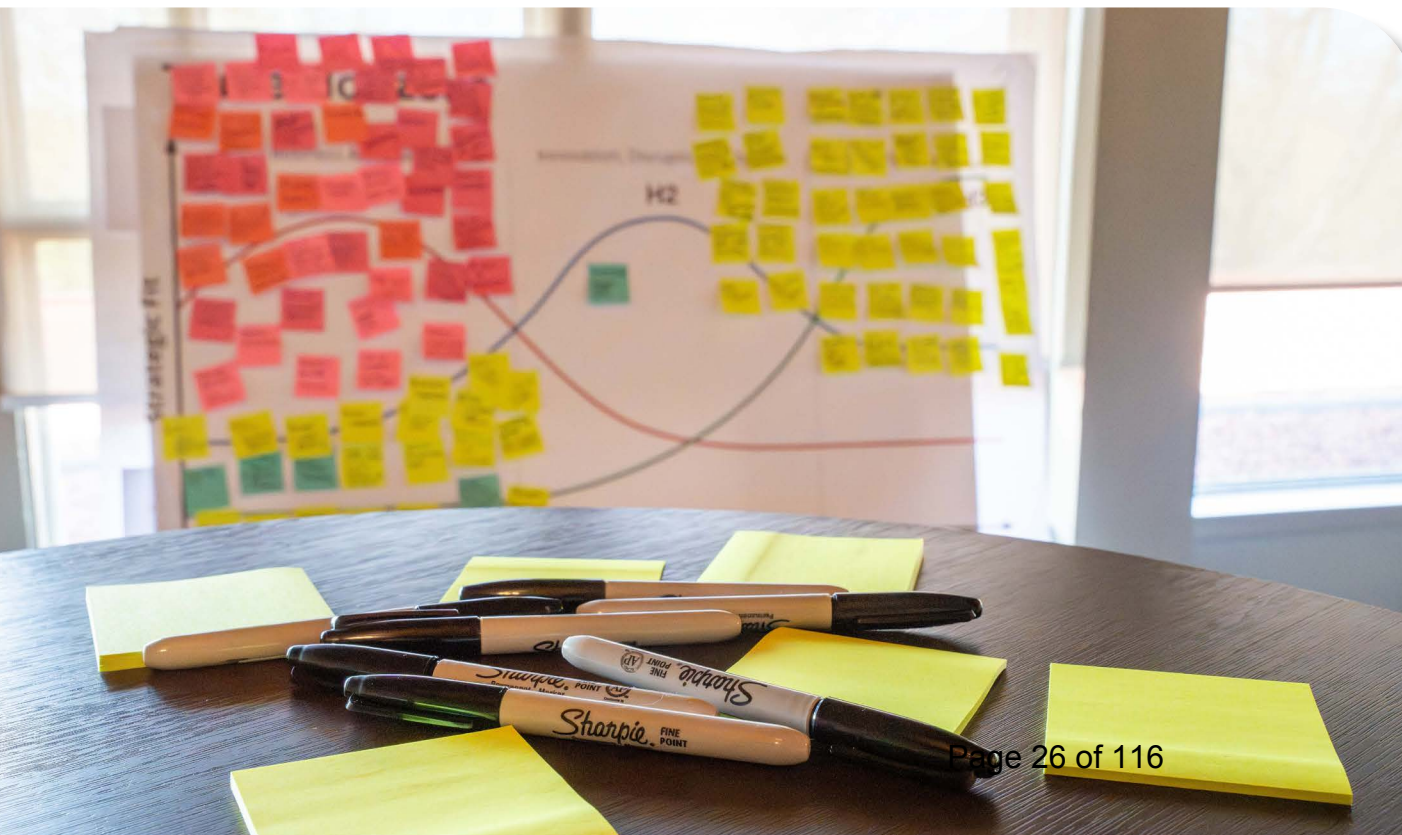
## Foundation: Processes

### Description

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Continuously improving processes to ensure we are responsive to community needs. We will improve data analytics and information sharing to support data-informed decision-making. Internal business processes will be enhanced to improve cross-functional issue monitoring and action. We will continue to modernize our budget and business planning processes.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **enhancing continuous improvement** and adaptability, proactive **risk and issue management**. We will focus on **key information and technology policies**, and **financial stability** and accountability. Additionally, we will **maintain and enhance service delivery systems/processes** that include resident engagement and service delivery partnerships.





## Foundation: Processes

### Key Actions

Business Planning and Budget Process Enhancement

311 Customer Experience Enhancements

Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Enhancements

- Finance – ERM
- Health – Comprehensive ERM
- Social Services – Centralized Risk Management and Business Continuity planning
- Information Technology (IT) Risk Management

Business Continuity Plans

Innovation Strategy

Organizational Capabilities

- Departmental Reviews
- Organizational Capabilities Project

Cybersecurity Enhancements

- Financial Application Cybersecurity
- Works systems

Information Technology Policies

- ISO 27001:2022 Regional IT policies

Enterprise Information Management

Financial Information Management System Technology Transformation

Property Reassessment by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

DRT IT Roadmap

MyDurham Water

Debt Management Policy and Treasury Management Solution

Grant Strategy

Durham Region Police Service - Service and Financing Strategy

Technology Expense Management

### Desired Results

- Enhanced community engagement opportunities within the Budget process
- Improved 311 service efficiency and customer satisfaction
- Enhancements to risk management processes
- An increase in the Region's Innovation Maturity Level
- Enhancements in electronic documents management
- An increase in MyDurham Water enrollment and reduction in paper billing
- An increase in grant success rates and value of new funding received
- Enhanced automated data collection and tools for data-informed insights
- An increase in the Region's Data and Analytics Maturity Level



## Foundation: Technology

### Description

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Keeping pace with technological change to ensure efficient and effective service delivery. We will modernize our internal systems and use new technology to improve customer experience, service delivery, and efficiency. We will proactively enhance key technology policies, including artificial intelligence and cyber risk management strategies, to ensure they keep pace with advancements in technology.

Over the next 4 years, we will focus on **advancing data analytics**.





## Foundation: Technology

### Key Actions

#### Performance Measurement and Dashboards

- Strategic Plan Community Dashboard
- Operational Dashboard
- Housing Dashboard
- Capital Projects Tracking
- Debt Syndicate Scorecard
- Council Decision Tracker
- IT Quality Management System

#### Regional Data and Analytics Strategy

- DRT Predictive Analytics

### Desired Results

- Enhanced automated data collection and tools for data-informed insights
- An increase in the Region's Data and Analytics Maturity Level



## Contact Us

The Regional Municipality of Durham  
605 Rossland Road East Whitby, Ontario L1N 6A3  
Telephone 311 (within Regional limits)  
Toll-Free 1-800-372-1102  
Accessible version available at [durham.ca/StratPlan](http://durham.ca/StratPlan)



Visit [durham.ca/StratPlan](http://durham.ca/StratPlan) for more information



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development  
Report: #2025-INFO-51  
Date: June 13, 2025

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**Subject:**

BACD Starter Company Plus Update

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information.

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight the activities and notable statistics from the Starter Company Plus Program for the last reporting year of April 2024 to March 2025.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Starter Company Plus Program, fully funded by the Province of Ontario and managed through the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, is an initiative that provides business training and mentorship geared towards assisting those entrepreneurs in need of business knowledge and support as well as providing the opportunity to apply for a business grant of up to \$5,000. This program has been running since 2014.
- 2.2 Upon completion of three days of mandatory hybrid training, applicants that pursue the \$5,000 financial grant are required to submit a viable, sales-ready business plan as well as a two-year cash flow forecast. This is a competitive process, and a limited number of grants are awarded after each training session held four times per year.

Applicants must be able to contribute cash or in-kind of at least 25% of the grant amount.

2.3 Eligibility for the program is as follows:

- 18 years of age or older at the time of application
- Proposing a new company, expansion of an existing company or buying a business in Ontario
- Not attending school full-time or not returning to school
- Be a resident of Ontario
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Have not previously participated in the Starter Company Plus Program
- Not enrolled in other provincially employment or self-employment related programs that include or do not include financial assistance Starter Company Plus – Successful Applicants 2
- Not currently enrolled concurrently in any self-employment or entrepreneurship training/financing programs offered by government funded organizations.

2.4 Proposed Businesses must:

- Be an independent, for-profit business venture based in Durham Region
- Not be a business that relies on commissioned sales (MLM)
- Be a legal business in Ontario
- Not be a franchise
- Operated at arms-length from family business ventures
- Operate full-time as defined in the business plan
- Have a Master Business License or Articles of Incorporation, or register the business prior to launch
- Maintain a business banking account
- Follow all government rules and regulations and applicable by-laws for the operation of the business
- Demonstrate a viable and sales-ready business plan at the time of funding

**3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

3.1 There have been no previous reports or decisions on this topic.

#### **4. Starter Company Plus Program Update**

4.1 Notable statistics for the Starter Company Plus Program for the prior fiscal year are as follows:

- 34 Completed program participants
- 34 Grants issued
- \$170,000 Ministry funded grants
- 16 Businesses started
- 17 Jobs Created
- 18 Businesses expanded (new location, physical location, large contracts)
- \$876,744 Investment leveraged

4.2 Select Starter Company Plus companies that were supported by BACD through this program are showcased in Appendix A.

#### **5. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

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

- **Resilient Local Economies**
  - R2. Support the growth of new business startups and small to medium local businesses.
  - R3. Develop, attract, and support a skilled and qualified workforce, including youth and newcomers.

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

- People: Making the Region of Durham a great place to work, attracting, and retaining talent.

#### **6. Conclusion**

6.1 The Starter Company Plus Program continues to play a vital role in supporting the growth of new and expanding businesses across Durham Region. The results from April 2024 to March 2025 demonstrate meaningful economic and community impact—supporting 34 entrepreneurs, helping launch 16 new businesses, expanding 18 existing ones, and contributing to the creation of 17 new jobs.

- 6.2 The program's ability to unlock nearly \$900,000 in leveraged investment highlights its value as a catalyst for small business success. Through targeted training, mentorship, and funding, Starter Company Plus aligns with the Region's strategic goals of fostering resilient local economies and supporting a skilled workforce.
- 6.3 Continued investment in programs like Starter Company Plus will be critical to sustaining local entrepreneurship, driving innovation, and creating inclusive economic opportunities across Durham Region.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Appendix A: Showcased Select Businesses Supported in Starter Company Plus Program****Granny Lee's Kitchen: Ajax, Ontario Owner: Leonie Johnson Segall**

**Website:** [www.grannyleeskitchen.com](http://www.grannyleeskitchen.com)

Granny Lee's Kitchen Limited is a home-based bakery located in Ajax, Ontario, founded in 2016 by Leonie Johnson Segall. They specialize in made-from-scratch baked goods and dry mixes, including muffins, cookies, gluten-free treats, and pancakes and offer a mobile pancake bar service for events, providing pancakes made to order with various mix-ins and toppings. Their products are made from locally sourced ingredients, aiming to bring families together through wholesome food. Granny Lee's Kitchen serves both local customers and the Greater Toronto Area. In 2021, with demand for GLK's pancake mix and baked goods growing online, Leonie entered the Starter Company Plus program with the Business Advisory Centre Durham ("BACD") and received a grant and participated in the training and mentorship program. At the same time, using family savings, Leonie started working with the food industry consultant The Greater Goods on a marketing strategy for the GLK pancake mix and other dry mixes.



**RNRC Aesthetics:** Whitby, Ontario. Owner: Rochele Carpio.

**BACD Profile:** [www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/rnrc-aesthetics/](http://www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/rnrc-aesthetics/)

Website: <https://www.rnrcaesthetics.com/>



RNRC Aesthetics is a growing cosmetic injectables clinic in Durham Region, founded by registered nurse and certified aesthetic injector, Rachelle Carpio. With a professional background spanning medicine, orthopedics, public health, and emergency care, Rachelle brings a deeply rooted commitment to ethical practice and patient care to every aspect of her business.

At RNRC Aesthetics, the mission is simple but powerful: to help women feel confident in their own skin. The clinic offers a range of personalized, non-surgical aesthetic treatments including neuromodulators (like Botox), dermal fillers, and skin boosters. Each service is designed to enhance natural beauty—not mask it—while educating clients on safe, responsible cosmetic care.

Since launching, RNRC Aesthetics has become a trusted name in the community for high-quality, ethical cosmetic services. As a graduate of the BACD's entrepreneurship programs, Rachelle has used the tools, mentorship, and business training provided to build a strong foundation for growth. Her practice is now expanding through thoughtful branding, client education, and a loyal client base built on word-of-mouth and professional reputation.

RNRC Aesthetics is a clear example of how skilled professionals in the healthcare field are successfully transitioning into entrepreneurship—bringing both heart and integrity into the business world. This business represents the kind of quality, community-driven enterprise that enriches the Durham Region economy and contributes to its reputation as a hub for innovation, wellness, and women-led entrepreneurship.

**Ajax Family Physiotherapy and Sports Medicine Centre Owner: Jennifer Brown**

Three locations, Ajax, Bowmanville & Courtice.

**BACD Profile:** [www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/ajax-family-physiotherapy-and-sports-medicine-centre](http://www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/ajax-family-physiotherapy-and-sports-medicine-centre)

Website: <https://www.ajaxfamilyphysio.ca/index.html>



Ajax Family Physiotherapy and Sports Medicine Centre, co-founded and led by Clinic Director Jennifer Brown, has been a cornerstone of rehabilitative care in South Ajax since 2016. The clinic was established to address a growing need for accessible, evidence-based physiotherapy and wellness services in the Durham Region. The clinic offers a comprehensive suite of services, including physiotherapy, massage therapy, chiropractic care, custom orthotics, and wellness coaching. These services are designed to cater to a diverse clientele, from athletes seeking performance optimization to individuals recovering from injuries.

A hallmark of Ajax Family Physiotherapy is its commitment to patient-centered care. The clinic operates with a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals who collaborate to create personalized treatment plans. This approach ensures that each patient receives holistic care tailored to their specific needs and goals.

As a participant in the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) Starter Company Plus program, Ajax Family Physiotherapy has leveraged local resources to strengthen its operations and community outreach. Their model exemplifies how healthcare businesses can thrive by focusing on accessibility, personalized care, and community engagement.

## Crave Doughnuts: Two locations, Whitby and Oshawa, Ontario

**Owner:** Nicole Morais and Jeremy Black

**BACD Profile:** [www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/crave-doughnuts](http://www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/crave-doughnuts)

**Website:** <https://cravedoughnuts.com/>



Crave Doughnuts is a boutique doughnut shop founded in 2018 by Nicole Morais and her partner Jeremy Black. Born from a passion for creating unique, handcrafted doughnuts, Crave has quickly become a local favourite. Each doughnut is made from scratch using locally sourced, quality ingredients, offering a fresh twist on the classic treat.

The journey began in their home kitchen, where Nicole and Jeremy experimented with flavours and techniques. Crave's growth is a testament to their commitment to excellence and community engagement.

Crave's marketing strategy leverages social media and creative thinking to stand out in the market. Their unique approach has resonated with customers, fostering a loyal following. Nicole emphasizes the importance of passion and community resources, advising aspiring entrepreneurs to seek help when needed and to remain dedicated to their vision.

The Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) has been instrumental in Crave's success. Nicole credits BACD's Starter Company Plus Program, mentorship and resources for enhancing their business knowledge and confidence, contributing significantly to their growth.

Crave Doughnuts exemplifies the spirit of local entrepreneurship, combining culinary artistry with a strong community focus. Their story is an inspiration for small business owners and a delightful addition to Whitby's vibrant food scene.

## **Louies Cafe and Dessert: Port Perry. Owner: Imran Mohammad.**

**BACD Profile:** [www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/louies-cafe-port-perry/](http://www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/louies-cafe-port-perry/)

Digital Presence

[https://www.google.com/search?safe=active&sca\\_esv=98c6703634b67c62&rlz=1C1GCEA\\_enCA1129CA1129&kgmid=/g/11nmn5ntbm&q=Louies+Cafe+And+Dessert&shndl=30&shem=lcuae,uaasie&source=sh/x/loc/uni/m1/1&kgs=e9ffcab17d654ff7](https://www.google.com/search?safe=active&sca_esv=98c6703634b67c62&rlz=1C1GCEA_enCA1129CA1129&kgmid=/g/11nmn5ntbm&q=Louies+Cafe+And+Dessert&shndl=30&shem=lcuae,uaasie&source=sh/x/loc/uni/m1/1&kgs=e9ffcab17d654ff7)



Nestled along the scenic shores of Port Perry at 94 Water Street, Louie's Café is more than just a cozy spot for a meal—it's a testament to resilience, community spirit, and culinary passion. Founded by Imran Mohammad, the café began with a single portable fryer and has blossomed into a full-fledged commercial kitchen, offering both dine-in and takeout options.

Louie's Café delights patrons with a menu that combines comfort food classics and sweet indulgences. Their offerings include fresh, never-frozen fried chicken, homemade Turkish baklava prepared weekly, and year-round scoops of Kawartha Dairy ice cream served atop freshly made waffles.

Imran's journey from a modest setup to a thriving café underscores the importance of location, exceptional customer service, and leveraging available resources. He shares that the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) for providing invaluable mentorship and innovative ideas that propelled his business forward. His advice to aspiring entrepreneurs is clear: "Location is everything, customer service makes the people come back and seek out startup grants to help with the capital you need."

Louie's Café stands as a shining example of how dedication, community engagement, and strategic support can transform a simple vision into a beloved local establishment. It embodies the entrepreneurial spirit that enriches the Durham Region, offering both locals and visitors a warm, flavorful experience by the waterfront.

**Live Inspired Counselling. Uxbridge, Ontario. Owner, Elaine Dickens**

**BACD Client Profile** [www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/live-inspired-wellness-inc/](http://www.bacd.ca/client-profiles/live-inspired-wellness-inc/)

Website: <https://www.liveinspiredwellness.ca/>



Live Inspired Wellness Inc., located at 37 Main Street North in Uxbridge, Ontario, is a multidisciplinary practice founded by Registered Psychotherapist Elaine Dickens. The clinic offers a range of services, including psychotherapy, counselling, and ADHD coaching, tailored to individuals, couples, and families, including children as young as 10. Specializing in supporting neurodiverse clients and those dealing with anxiety, depression, grief, life transitions, and burnout, the team is dedicated to fostering emotional well-being and personal growth.

Elaine's personal journey as a female entrepreneur and burnout survivor deeply informs the practice's ethos. She emphasizes creating genuine, judgment-free connections, particularly focusing on men's mental health to break down stigmas surrounding topics like depression and anxiety.

The clinic has grown into a team of three clinicians, offering both in-person and online services across Ontario. Their approach is grounded in professional expertise and personal experience, utilizing evidence-based therapies like CBT, EMDR, and EFT to build emotional intelligence and resilience.

Support from the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) was instrumental during the clinic's transition to a multidisciplinary model. Through the Starter Company Plus Grant, Live Inspired Wellness rebranded and expanded its online presence, enhancing accessibility and reach. Elaine highlights the importance of networking and building authentic relationships as key drivers of the clinic's growth and success.



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health  
Report: #2025-INFO-52  
Date: June 13, 2025

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**Subject:**

Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessments; Vector-borne Disease Report

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

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

**2. Background**

- 2.1 DRHD is mandated to conduct health vulnerability assessments under the [Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability](#) (OPHS).
- 2.2 The [Healthy Environments and Climate Change Guideline](#) of the OPHS requires DRHD to assess health impacts related to climate change.
- 2.3 DRHD is completing the following seven reports in a special CCHVA series called Understanding the Local Health Impacts of Climate Change:
- a. A [background primer on climate change and health](#) in Durham Region, which was released on August 12, 2024, followed by six CCHVAs on:
    - [Extreme heat](#) (released September 23, 2024)
    - [Solar UV radiation](#) (released February 6, 2025)
    - Vector-borne disease (VBD)
    - Air quality
    - Extreme weather

- Food and water impacts

2.4 The report series aims to:

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

2.5 The VBD CCHVA entitled [Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Vector-borne Disease](#) was released on June 5, 2025.

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

2.7 The report, along with an executive summary are available at [durham.ca/ClimateAndHealth](https://durham.ca/ClimateAndHealth).

### 3. Report Highlights

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

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

3.3 It provides a knowledge base to support strategies to prepare and protect residents, particularly those most exposed and sensitive to VBD.

3.4 Key findings of the report:

- Climate change is increasing the spread of VBD in Durham Region, mainly Lyme disease (LD) and West Nile virus (WNV) disease.
  - LD is one of the most rapidly emerging infectious diseases in Canada, due in large part to a warming climate.
  - The areas of Durham Region with blacklegged ticks that carry LD have rapidly expanded and they are now established in all municipalities.
  - The health burden of LD in Durham Region is increasing and appears to be outpacing the provincial average.
  - The health burden of WNV disease has increased over time and has exceeded the Ontario average since 2020.
  - Mosquito surveillance indicates that WNV is increasing in Durham Region and is expected to continue, due to warmer temperatures.
  - Climate change may also increase the spread of other VBDs such as anaplasmosis, Powassan virus disease, and babesiosis (tick-borne diseases), as well as mosquito-borne diseases such as eastern equine encephalitis.

- b. Health impacts can range from mild to severe, and some people experience greater health risks than others.
- In some cases, these diseases are mild but in other cases they can be debilitating, cause neurological symptoms, and in rare cases, death.
  - People at greater risk of serious illness and complications from VBDs include older adults, infants and young children, pregnant individuals, Indigenous Peoples, people with a weakened immune system or chronic illness, and those who lack access to protections such as shelter and insect repellent.
  - People who work or spend many hours outdoors may be more exposed to VBD than other Durham residents.
  - First Nations Peoples asserting their harvesting, gathering, and fishing Rights face greater risk of VBD.
- c. There is overall low awareness and poor uptake of VBD prevention measures among Durham Region residents.
- Among LD cases reported in Durham Region from 2019 to 2023, 80 per cent of people reported that they spent time in a tick-prone location, yet most did not check for ticks, wear protective clothing, or use insect repellent.
  - A local public health survey of Durham Region residents found that:
    - a) Fewer than half of adults took consistent measures to protect themselves after visiting a tick-prone area;
    - b) Almost all (90 per cent) reported they do not use any type of insect repellent;
    - c) Only 30 per cent wore protective clothing; and
    - d) Most could not name symptoms associated with a LD infection.
  - Among WNv disease cases in Durham Region from 2014 to 2023, most were involved in activities that exposed them to mosquitoes, and most did not wear protective clothing or insect repellent.
- d. Local strengths to protect Durham Region residents from VBD include:
- Durham Region's VBD Prevention and Response Plan, established to provide surveillance and programming to prevent LD, WNv, and other emerging VBDs. The Plan includes:
    - a) Mosquito surveillance and population reduction;
    - b) Site inspections in response to Durham Region resident complaints;
    - c) Active tick surveillance;
    - d) Health promotion to prevent infections; and
    - e) An active Durham Region Vector-borne Disease Response Committee comprised of Regional, municipal, conservation authorities, and public representatives.

- e. Local needs to increase awareness and prevention of VBD include:
- Targeted health promotion strategies to address the overall low awareness and poor uptake of LD and WNV disease prevention measures;
  - Prevention strategies and health promotion to protect outdoor workers;
  - Community engagement to improve understanding of barriers to VBD prevention among equity-deserving priority populations;
  - Community engagement and collaborative approaches to VBD prevention and response planning to help support context-specific and culturally appropriate solutions; and
  - Promotion of the links between VBD risk and climate change.

#### **4. Previous Reports**

- 4.1 Report [2024-INFO-49](#) provided an update on DRHD's CCHVAs and highlighted the release of the first report which was a background primer entitled: [Understanding the Local Health Impacts of Climate Change](#).
- 4.2 Report [2024-INFO-58](#) highlighted the release of [Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Extreme Heat](#).
- 4.3 Report [2025-INFO-13](#) highlighted the release of [Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Solar Ultraviolet Radiation](#).

#### **5. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Strategic Directions and Pathways in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:
- a. Healthy People, Caring Communities
- H1. Implement preventive strategies to support community health, including food security.
  - H4. Support the development of healthy children and youth, including access to affordable and quality child care.
  - H7. Prepare for and respond to local health emergencies in partnership with the community.
- b. Strong Relationships
- S2. Build and strengthen respectful relationships with First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and urban Indigenous communities.
  - S3. Collaborate across local area municipalities, with agencies, non-profits, and community partners to deliver co-ordinated and efficient services.

**6. Next Steps**

- 6.1 The VBD report will be shared and promoted to municipal and community partners. The communication plan includes a news release and social media messages to build public awareness of VBD as one of the six climate hazards of concern for communities, as well as the link between VBD exposure and health.
- 6.2 The remaining reports of the CCHVA series will be completed, published and promoted in sequence.
- 6.3 The next report entitled, Climate Change and Health in Durham Region: Assessing the Impact of Air Quality, is expected in the fall.
- 6.4 The report development process will continue to integrate the review and feedback of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and Regional Sustainability staff.

**7. Conclusion**

- 7.1 The CCHVA report series is intended to help decision-makers better understand the health risks that Durham Region residents will face in the coming years.
- 7.2 It will help guide equity-focused adaptation plans to protect residents, especially those who are most affected and least protected.
- 7.3 The CCHVA report series will help support municipalities, community organizations and residents respond to the growing impacts of climate change.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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



# Interoffice Memorandum

**Date:** June 13, 2025

**To:** Health & Social Services Committee

**From:** Dr. Robert Kyle

**Subject:** Health Information Update – June 8, 2025

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Health  
Department

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

*“Service Excellence  
for our Communities*

**UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**June 8, 2025**

**Health Department Media Releases/Publications**

**[tinyurl.com/3653uh27](https://tinyurl.com/3653uh27)**

- Health Department celebrates World No Tobacco Day, May 31 (May 26)

**[tinyurl.com/4y7dmejx](https://tinyurl.com/4y7dmejx)**

- 2025 Health Plan (May 26)

**[tinyurl.com/55sm8kxu](https://tinyurl.com/55sm8kxu)**

- Durham Region celebrates Recreation and Parks Month with a passport adventure initiative (May 29)

**[tinyurl.com/5xb6j9z6](https://tinyurl.com/5xb6j9z6)**

- Durham Region Health Department advising of potential exposure to confirmed measles case (Jun 4)

**[tinyurl.com/nhdz8upb](https://tinyurl.com/nhdz8upb)**

- Health Department releases report on climate change and vector-borne diseases in Durham Region (Jun 5)

**[tinyurl.com/bdc9ucua](https://tinyurl.com/bdc9ucua)**

- Climate change and your health (Jun 6)

**GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

**Department of Finance Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/yc8hdyjf](https://tinyurl.com/yc8hdyjf)**

- Government tables a Motion to bring down costs for Canadians (May 27)

**Governor General of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/2hjc7exw](https://tinyurl.com/2hjc7exw)**

- Message from the Governor General of Canada on Canadian Environmental Week (Jun 1)

**Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/3y4w4y9c](https://tinyurl.com/3y4w4y9c)**

- Canada signs statement of intent with CERN to strengthen scientific collaboration (May 30)

**Prime Minister's Office**

**[tinyurl.com/76mybcwm](https://tinyurl.com/76mybcwm)**

- First Ministers' statement on building a strong Canadian economy and advancing major projects (Jun 2)

**[tinyurl.com/5n7b2629](https://tinyurl.com/5n7b2629)**

- Prime Minister announces new parliamentary secretary team (Jun 5)

**[tinyurl.com/yefd5xpt](https://tinyurl.com/yefd5xpt)**

- Statement by Prime Minister Carney on World Environment Day (Jun 5)

**[tinyurl.com/2tm2vbn5](https://tinyurl.com/2tm2vbn5)**

- Statement by Prime Minister Carney on National Day Against Gun Violence (Jun 6)

### **Public Safety Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/3vrdu7yk](https://tinyurl.com/3vrdu7yk)**

- Government of Canada strengthens border security (Jun 3)

## **GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO**

### **Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response**

**[tinyurl.com/4kvc8u9s](https://tinyurl.com/4kvc8u9s)**

- Ontario Strengthening Emergency Preparedness (May 26)

### **Ministry of Energy and Mines**

**[tinyurl.com/utzv9vfd](https://tinyurl.com/utzv9vfd)**

- Ontario Securing Affordable Energy for Future Generations (Jun 3)

### **Ministry of Health**

**[tinyurl.com/d9x3fuus](https://tinyurl.com/d9x3fuus)**

- Ontario Honours Outstanding Bravery of Paramedics (May 26)

**<https://tinyurl.com/4wvbkdzs>**

- Province Making It Easier for American Doctors and Nurses to Work in Ontario (Jun 5)

**[tinyurl.com/2sdneeb4](https://tinyurl.com/2sdneeb4)**

- Ontario Continues to Expand Nursing Workforce (Jun 5)

### **Ministry of Natural Resources**

**[tinyurl.com/ndc98xsk](https://tinyurl.com/ndc98xsk)**

- Annual Rabies Bait Drop Begins (Jun 6)

### **Premier's Office**

**[tinyurl.com/s4kx2njs](https://tinyurl.com/s4kx2njs)**

- Government Delivering on Mandate to Protect Ontario (Jun 5)

## **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Canadian Cancer Society**

**[tinyurl.com/e8nar96x](https://tinyurl.com/e8nar96x)**

- World-first clinical trial confirms exercise improves survival for colon cancer (Jun 1)

### **Canadian Institute for Health Information**

**[tinyurl.com/52t4a5zc](https://tinyurl.com/52t4a5zc)**

- CIHI and GEMINI team up to modernize hospital data and improve care (Jun 4)

### **Canadian Medical Association**

**[tinyurl.com/46swzb5r](https://tinyurl.com/46swzb5r)**

- Statement – CMA looks to health care solutions in throne speech (May 26)

**[tinyurl.com/5n6dt4dj](https://tinyurl.com/5n6dt4dj)**

- Canadian Medical Association welcomes Dr. Margot Burnell as new president (May 31)

### **Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission**

**[tinyurl.com/255py9hf](https://tinyurl.com/255py9hf)**

- Commission amends Ontario Power Generation's operating licence for the Darlington Nuclear Generation Station to authorize the production of lutetium-77 and yttrium-90 (May 26)

### **Financial Accountability Office of Ontario**

**[tinyurl.com/rw5hdst6](https://tinyurl.com/rw5hdst6)**

- FAO releases 2025 Ontario budget note (May 29)

### **Heart and Stroke Foundation**

**[tinyurl.com/24ar6b5a](https://tinyurl.com/24ar6b5a)**

- What you don't know about stroke may surprise you (Jun 3)

### **Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control**

**[tinyurl.com/yc2sz4np](https://tinyurl.com/yc2sz4np)**

- Health Groups call on Federal Health Minister Marjorie Michel to ban vape flavours within her first 100 days (May 26)

**[tinyurl.com/4cmpfhvs](https://tinyurl.com/4cmpfhvs)**

- World No Tobacco Day: Some twenty Quebec groups call for major investment in prevention drawn from provincial tobacco-settlement windfall (May 31)

### **World Health Organization**

**[tinyurl.com/39tvbjuw](https://tinyurl.com/39tvbjuw)**

- Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly concludes: historic outcomes, consequential highlights (May 28)

**[tinyurl.com/3r6ap7vs](https://tinyurl.com/3r6ap7vs)**

- WHO calls for urgent action to ban flavoured tobacco and nicotine products (May 30)

**[tinyurl.com/2zsp6c8j](https://tinyurl.com/2zsp6c8j)**

- WHO outlines recommendations to protect infants against RSV – respiratory syncytial virus (May 30)


**[tinyurl.com/3axfmn5u](https://tinyurl.com/3axfmn5u)**

- WHO releases new recommendations for clinical management and infection prevention and control for mpox (Jun 5)

June 5, 2025

Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent via email to: [PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca](mailto:PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca)  
[chetan.kania@ontario.ca](mailto:chetan.kania@ontario.ca)  
[mto.ero@ontario.ca](mailto:mto.ero@ontario.ca)

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 06, 2025 8:59 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

File: 12-03-3626

**Re: City Comments on Bill 17, the Proposed "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025"**

Please be advised that the Economic and Development Services Committee at a meeting held on June 2, 2025 dealt with the above-noted matter and adopted the following recommendation:

"That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025, including Attachment 3, be endorsed as the City's comments on the Province's proposed amendments to certain Acts under Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025".
2. That Economic and Development Services staff be authorized to submit the comments contained in Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 related to Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025" in response to the associated proposals posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario website, together with the related resolution of the Economic and Development Services Committee, to the Province for its consideration, and to provide a subsequent follow-up once Council has considered this matter.
3. That staff be authorized to forward a copy of Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 and the related Council resolution to the Region of Durham, Durham area municipalities, and Durham area M.P.P.s."

Please find enclosed a copy of Report ED-25-81 for your consideration in response to Bill 17, the Proposed "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025".

Please be advised that Report ED-25-81 is being sent in advance of City Council's endorsement in order to meet the commenting deadline. In the event that Report ED-25-81 is not supported by City Council, staff will ask the Province to consider the comments as withdrawn.

If you require further information or clarification, please contact Raisa Chowdhury at the address shown or by telephone at (905) 436-3311, extension 2052 or by email to [rchowdhury@oshawa.ca](mailto:rchowdhury@oshawa.ca).



Meaghan Harrington, MCIP, RPP, Manager  
Policy

RC/k

Attachment

- c. Region of Durham  
Durham area municipalities  
Durham area M.P.P.s

To: Economic and Development Services Committee

From: Anthony Ambra, P.Eng., Commissioner,  
Economic and Development Services Department

Report Number: ED-25-81

Date of Report: May 28, 2025

Date of Meeting: June 2, 2025

Subject: City Comments on Bill 17, the Proposed "Protect Ontario by  
Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025"

Ward: All Wards

File: 12-03-3626

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## **1.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this Report is to obtain Council's endorsement of City comments on Bill 17, the Province's proposed "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025", being an Act to amend various statutes to "help make it easier and faster to build new homes, businesses, and infrastructure" ("Bill 17"), in response to May 13, 2025 correspondence received from Minister Flack.

Bill 17 consists of proposed amendments to the following Acts:

- Building Code Act, 1992
- Building Transit Faster Act, 2020
- City of Toronto Act, 2006
- Development Charges Act, 1997
- Metrolinx Act, 2006
- Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011
- Planning Act
- Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020

For the purposes of this Report to the Economic and Development Services Committee and Council, staff are only providing comments on the Province's proposed amendments under Bill 17 to:

- Building Code Act, 1992;
- Building Transit Faster Act, 2020;
- Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020; and,
- The Planning Act.

Additional information on Bill 17 and the proposed amendments to the various Acts can be found at the following link: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-44/session-1/bill-17>

The proposed amendments to the various Acts under Bill 17 were posted on the Province's Environmental Registry of Ontario ("E.R.O.") website on May 12, 2025 in order for the Province to seek feedback on the proposed amendments.

Staff are seeking Council authority to send City comments on the E.R.O. postings in advance of Council's endorsement of the comments in order to meet the commenting deadlines.

Attachment 1 is a copy of Bill 17, which was introduced into the Ontario Legislature with first reading on May 12, 2025. Owing to the size of the document, it is not attached to this Report but a copy of the proposed Bill 17 can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-44/session-1/bill-17>

Attachment 2 is a list of E.R.O. postings under Bill 17 for which staff have prepared comments for Council's endorsement through this Report.

Attachment 3 presents staff comments on each E.R.O. posting listed in Attachment 2.

Attachment 4 is a copy of the May 13, 2025 correspondence received from Minister Flack.

## **2.0 Recommendation**

That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025, including Attachment 3, be endorsed as the City's comments on the Province's proposed amendments to certain Acts under Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025".
2. That Economic and Development Services staff be authorized to submit the comments contained in Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 related to Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025" in response to the associated proposals posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario website, together with the related resolution of the Economic and Development Services Committee, to the Province for its consideration, and to provide a subsequent follow-up once Council has considered this matter.
3. That staff be authorized to forward a copy of Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 and the related Council resolution to the Region of Durham, Durham area municipalities, and Durham area M.P.P.s.

## **3.0 Input From Other Sources**

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this Report:

- Chief Administrative Officer
- Commissioner, Corporate and Finance Services Department

- City Solicitor

## **4.0 Analysis**

### **4.1 Overview of Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025**

On May 12, 2025, the Province released five (5) bulletins on the E.R.O. website concerning Bill 17 titled:

- “Proposed Planning Act and City of Toronto Act, 2006 Changes (Schedules 3 and 7 of Bill 17 – Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025)”;
- “Proposed Regulations – Complete Applications”;
- “Proposed Regulation – As-of-right Variations from Setback Requirements”;
- “Bill 17 – Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 – Accelerating Delivery of Transit-Oriented Communities”; and,
- “Bill 17: Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 – Amendment to the Building Transit faster Act, 2020”.

Additional posting details for each of the above-noted bulletins are contained in Attachment 2 of this Report, including weblinks to each posting. Also included is Minister Flack’s May 13, 2025 correspondence contained in Attachment 4.

Bill 17, as it relates to infrastructure, housing and transit initiatives, is proposing a suite of legislative, regulatory and policy initiatives. This includes initiatives to:

- speed up the construction of infrastructure and homes;
- support economic and community growth;
- accelerate provincial transit and other critical provincial infrastructure projects; and,
- work with municipalities to simplify and standardize municipal development approval processes and charges to help increase housing supply in Ontario.

### **4.2 Proposed Amendments Resulting from Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025**

The following subsections outline the proposed changes to various Acts resulting from Bill 17.

#### **4.2.1 Proposed Amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992**

The proposed amendments to the Building Code Act under Schedule 1 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Include a new subsection to clarify that certain sections of the Municipal Act, 2001 do not authorize a municipality to pass by-laws respecting enforcing its own standards for construction or demolition of buildings, such as green building standards.

#### **4.2.2 Proposed Amendments to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020**

The proposed amendments to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020 under Schedule 2 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Add a new definition of “Provincial Transit Project”:
  - The proposed amendment adds a new definition of “provincial transit project” to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020 meaning a “transit project that Metrolinx has authority to carry out.”
  - If passed, this amendment will expand the application of the Act to all provincial transit projects without having to name them in the Act or prescribe them via regulatory amendments.

#### **4.2.3 Proposed Amendments to the Development Charges Act, 1997**

The proposed amendments to the Development Charges Act, 1997 under Schedule 4 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters include the following:

- New exemption for long-term care homes:
  - The proposed amendment introduces a new Section 4.4 to the Development Charges Act, 1997 which exempts long-term care home development from development charges.
- New rules for administrative amendments:
  - An amendment to Subsection 19(1.1) to similarly specify that Sections 9 to 18 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 will not apply to an amendment to a Development Charge By-law that:
    - Repeals a provision providing for the indexing of a development charge or amends such a provision to provide for a development charge not to be indexed; or
    - Decreases the amount of a development charge that is payable for one or more types of development in the circumstances specified in the amendment.
- Development charge payments and interest:
  - Development charges for institutional and rental housing development may be prepaid at any time without requiring an early payment agreement.
  - Amendments regarding the rules for interest payments on development charge installments may prohibit a municipality from charging interest on installments that come due after a yet-to-be-determined date.
  - Amendments to Section 26.1 would require development charges for all residential development that is not rental housing to be paid upon occupancy of the building.

- Cap for frozen Development Charges:
  - Amendments to Section 26.2 to provide that the development charge freeze does not apply to a development charge if the total amount of all charges, including any interest, exceeds the total amount of all charges that would be payable if the freeze had not applied.
- Development charge credits:
  - Amendments to Section 41 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 to provide that, if two or more services are deemed to be one service, a credit that relates to any one of those services may be used against development charges charged under the larger service category.
- Defining “local service” :
  - The proposed amendment adds a new regulation-making authority to empower the province to create regulations specifying what constitutes a local service.

#### **4.2.4 Proposed Amendments to the Metrolinx Act, 2006**

The proposed amendments to the Metrolinx Act, 2006 under Schedule 5 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Prescribe that the Minister of Transportation may direct a municipality, including certain municipal agencies, to provide information that may be required to support the development of a provincial transit project or transit-oriented community project such as data, contracts, reports, surveys, plans and other documents that the Minister of Transportation believes are necessary to support a provincial transit project or transit-oriented community project.

#### **4.2.5 Proposed Amendments to the Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011**

The proposed amendments to the Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011 under Schedule 6 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Amend the Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011 to reflect the proposed amendments to the Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020 that remove the Minister of Transportation’s authority related to “provincial transit projects” and place this authority with the Minister of Infrastructure and their delegates.
- Amend the Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011 to add a new section that would require municipalities and municipal agencies to comply with the Minister of Infrastructure’s directives for the provision of information.

#### **4.2.6 Proposed Amendments to the Planning Act**

The proposed amendments to the Planning Act under Schedule 7 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Streamline planning approvals for schools:
  - Amendments to the Planning Act to provide permission to allow for publicly funded elementary and secondary schools and associated childcare on urban lands zoned for residential uses.
  - Amendments to the Planning Act and the City of Toronto Act, 2006 to exempt the placement of portable classrooms on all school sites from municipal site plan control.
- Regulate as-of-right variations from setback requirements (Minor Variances):
  - Through an amendment to the Planning Act, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing would have the regulation-making authority to allow variations to be permitted “as-of-right” if a proposal is within a prescribed percentage (e.g. 10%) of setback requirements in specified lands.
- Limit complete application study requirements:
  - Through legislative changes to the Planning Act and the City of Toronto Act, 2006, municipalities would no longer have the ability to require new complete application studies/reports beyond what is currently identified in their official plans except where/if the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing approves new requirements.
  - The changes would enable the Minister, by regulation, to:
    - Prescribe a list of subject matters for which studies cannot be required as part of a complete application;
    - Identify the only studies that could be required as part of a complete application;
    - Specify certified professionals from whom municipalities would be required to accept studies.
  - The proposed changes would have the effect of reducing the number of studies that make up a complete application when proponents submit development proposals to municipalities.
- Regulate conditional Minister’s Zoning Orders (“M.Z.O.s”):
  - The Minister would have the authority to impose conditions that must be met before a use permitted by an M.Z.O. comes into effect.
  - This would involve actions for municipalities and/or proponents, helping to improve accountability and ensure projects meet provincial objectives.

In addition to the proposed changes to the Planning Act under Bill 17, on May 12, 2025, the Province published a notice that changes were made to O. Reg. 232/18 – Inclusionary Zoning under the Planning Act. These changes establish:

- A maximum 25 year period during which Inclusionary Zoning units must be maintained as affordable;
- An upper limit on the number of units that can be required to be set aside as affordable, at 5% of the total number of units or 5% of the total gross floor area of the total residential units, not including common areas.

#### **4.2.7 Proposed Amendments to the Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020**

The proposed amendments to the Transit-oriented Communities Act, 2020 under Schedule 8 of Bill 17, if passed, would among other matters:

- Change the definition of Transit-Oriented Communities (T.O.C.):
  - The Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020, currently defines a T.O.C. project as part of a priority transit project; and located on transit corridor land. This definition excludes transit projects along the GO and LRT networks, reducing opportunities to develop mixed-used communities along these networks. The proposed changes include expanding the scope of a priority transit project under the Act to include provincial transit projects such as T.O.C., mirroring the proposed amendments to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020.

#### **4.2.8 Technical Briefing and Future Consultation**

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing released a Technical Briefing which outlines additional matters including future consultations and reviews. A copy of the Technical Briefing can be viewed at the following link: [Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025](#)

### **4.3 Next Steps**

Staff are seeking Council's endorsement of the staff comments contained in Attachment 3 of this Report as City comments regarding various E.R.O. postings concerning proposed changes to various Acts through Bill 17.

As mentioned in Section 1.0 of this Report, staff are seeking Council authority to send City comments on the associated E.R.O. postings in advance of Council's endorsement of the comments in order to meet the commenting deadlines.

In the event that the comments are not supported by City Council, staff will ask the Province to consider the comments as withdrawn.

In the event Bill 17 receives Royal Assent, Economic and Development Services staff would report back to the Economic and Development Services Committee and Council with any necessary amendments to City By-laws to implement the changes, including potential amendments to the City's Zoning By-law and Official Plan.

## 5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this Report.

## 6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This Report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area:

“Lead: Governance and Service Excellence” with the goal to embrace innovation and advance continuous improvement initiatives and actions.



Tom Goodeve, M.Sc.Pl., MCIP, RPP, Director,  
Planning Services



Anthony Ambra, P.Eng., Commissioner,  
Economic and Development Services Department

**Relevant E.R.O. Posting Details under Bill 17**

<b>Legislation/Policy Review</b>	<b>E.R.O. Number</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Commenting Deadline</b>
Bill 17- Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 - Accelerating Delivery of Transit-Oriented Communities	025-0504	<a href="https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0504">https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0504</a>	June 12, 2025
Bill 17: Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 – Amendment to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020	025-0450	<a href="https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0450">https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0450</a>	June 11, 2025
Proposed Planning Act and City of Toronto Act, 2006 Changes (Schedules 3 and 7 of Bill 17 – Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025)	025-0461	<a href="https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0461">https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0461</a>	June 11, 2025
Proposed Regulations – Complete Application	025-0462	<a href="https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0462">https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0462</a>	June 26, 2025
Proposed Regulation – As-of-right Variations from Setback Requirements	025-0463	<a href="https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0463">https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-0463</a>	June 26, 2025

## **Bill 17 – Proposed Amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992**

### **Description**

- The proposed amendment includes a new subsection to clarify that certain sections of the Municipal Act, 2001 do not authorize a municipality to pass by-laws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings.

### **Staff Comments**

- By-Law 33-2009 of the City of Oshawa governs the administration and enforcement of the Building Code Act, 1992 which authorizes the Council of a municipality to pass certain by-laws prescribing classes of permits, permit application documents, fees, inspections and other related matters. However, it does not enforce alternative construction standards to the Building Code Act, 1992, such as green building standards.

## **Bill 17 – Proposed Amendments to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020**

### **Description:** New Definition of “Provincial Transit Project”

- The proposed amendment adds a new definition of “provincial transit project” to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020 meaning a “transit project that Metrolinx has authority to carry out.”

### **Staff Comments**

- Staff support policies aimed at accelerating the delivery of public transit projects. The proposed amendment will assist Metrolinx by providing the necessary tools to advance all provincially led transit initiatives more efficiently.

## **Bill 17 – Proposed Amendments to the Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020**

### **Description:** Changing the Definition of Transit-Oriented Communities (“T.O.C.”)

- The Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020, currently defines a T.O.C. project as part of a priority transit project; and located on transit corridor land. This definition excludes transit projects along the GO and Light Rail Transit (“L.R.T.”) networks, reducing opportunities to develop mixed-used communities along these networks. The proposed changes include expanding the scope of a priority transit project under the Act to include provincial transit projects such as Transit-Oriented Communities, mirroring the proposed amendments to the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020.

### **Staff Comments**

- Staff support the proposed amendment to expand the definition of T.O.C. to include GO Transit and L.R.T. networks, as it aligns with the related amendment under the Building

Transit Faster Act, 2020. While the Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020 currently excludes GO and L.R.T. projects, the Province's T.O.C. webpage indicates that "TOC and other transit developments will be located along the province's four subway projects, GO Transit and Light Rail Transit projects." Updating the Act to reflect this language would ensure consistency between legislation and publicly communicated policy.

## **Bill 17 – Proposed Amendments to the Planning Act**

### **Description: Planning Approvals for Schools**

- Amendments to the Planning Act are proposed to provide permission to allow for publicly funded elementary and secondary schools and associated childcare facilities on urban lands zoned for residential uses.
- Amendments to the Planning Act are proposed to exempt the placement of portable classrooms on all school sites from municipal site plan control.

### **Staff Comments**

- Staff note that the City of Oshawa Official Plan already designates specific sites for school use. While this amendment has minimal direct impact on the City of Oshawa, staff recognize that it could encourage land acquisition and accelerate school construction timelines across municipalities.
- Staff note that there will be minimal effects on the City of Oshawa if portable classrooms are exempt from site plan control on all school sites. Staff are generally in support of this amendment.

### **Description: As-of-right Variations from Setback Requirements**

- Through an amendment to the Planning Act, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing ("M.M.A.H") would have the regulation-making authority to allow variations to be permitted "as-of-right" if a proposal is within a prescribed percentage (e.g. 10%) of setback requirements in specified lands.

### **Staff Comments**

- Staff note that the M.M.A.H. Technical Briefing does not accurately reflect the City of Oshawa's timelines and fees for minor variance applications. While the briefing indicates that such applications cost between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and may add 12 to 15 months to a development project, in Oshawa, minor variance applications are typically processed within 3 to 4 weeks, with associated fees ranging from approximately \$831 to \$1,989.
- Staff note that certain development projects are subject to site-specific zoning regulations established through rezoning applications, which may already incorporate reduced minimums or increased maximums. As such, staff recommend that the M.M.A.H. include a provision ensuring that the proposed 10% reduction in setback requirements applies only to the parent standards in the Zoning By-law or to site-

specific zoning permissions that exist in the Zoning By-law as of the effective date of the new regulation.

**Description:** Complete Application Study Requirements

- Through legislative changes to the Planning Act, municipalities would no longer have the ability to require new complete application studies/reports beyond what is currently identified in their official plans except where/if M.M.A.H. approves new requirements. The changes would enable the Minister, by regulation, to:
  - prescribe a list of subject matters for which studies cannot be required as part of a complete application;
  - identify the only studies that could be required as part of a complete application; and,
  - specify certified professionals from whom municipalities would be required to accept studies.
- The proposed changes would have the effect of reducing the number of studies that make up a complete application when proponents submit development proposals to municipalities.

**Staff Comments**

- Staff note that the City of Oshawa Official Plan was previously amended to include a fulsome list of plans and studies that may be required for development projects.
- Staff recommend that the Province undertake extensive consultation with municipalities and industry professionals to better understand the value and appropriate application of various technical studies in the development review process. It is important to note that while certain studies may not be required as part of a complete application, municipalities may still require them as conditions of approval for subdivisions, consents, or site plan applications. Municipalities frequently collaborate with external agencies during the development review process, many of whom require these studies to ensure that the proposed development is appropriate and responsible. As such, staff recommend that agencies such as pipeline companies, hydro providers, railway companies, conservation authorities, Metrolinx, federal airport and aviation authorities, and relevant provincial ministries be consulted as part of the proposed amendment process.
- Staff request that the following studies, plans and materials be included in the complete application requirements as outlined in the City of Oshawa's Official Plan:

**Planning**

- Planning Rationale/Justification Report
- Draft Zoning By-law Amendment
- Draft Official Plan Amendment
- Public Consultation Strategy

- Rental Conversion Study
- Condominium Declaration
- Draft Plan of Subdivision
- Draft Plan of Condominium
- Municipal Comprehensive Review

### **Urban Design**

- Urban Design Study
- Urban Design Guidelines
- Architectural Control/Streetscape Guidelines
- Shadow Study
- Park Concept Plan
- Campus Master Plan
- Site Development Phasing Plan
- Scenic Vistas and Views Impact Analysis
- Site Plan
- Elevations
- Floor Plans
- Landscape Plan and Details
- Landscape/Site Improvement Cost Estimate
- Concept Plan for Blocks in Subdivision

### **Environment**

- Environmental Impact Study
- Environmental Appraisal Report
- Tree Preservation Study/Inventory
- Hydrological Evaluation
- Watershed Study
- Sub-Watershed Study
- Landform Conservation Plan
- Water Budget and Conservation Plan
- Wildlife Risk Management Assessment
- Hydrogeological Assessment
- Reliance Letter for Hydrogeological Assessment
- Fluvial Geomorphology Assessment
- Stream Corridor Protection Limit Study
- Arborist Report
- Development Limits/Constraints Map
- Bird Friendly Design Details

### **Servicing**

- Stormwater Management Study
- Master Environmental Servicing Plan
- Functional Servicing Report
- Calcium Carbonate Assessment
- Storm Drainage Scheme
- Erosion and Sediment Control Plans
- Grading Plan

- Servicing Plan
- Phasing Plan
- Soils Study (Geotechnical)
- Reliance Letter for Soils Study (Geotechnical)
- Slope Stability Assessment

### **Transportation**

- Transportation Analysis Report/Study
- Functional Alignment Study
- Traffic Impact Study
- New Development Checklist for Traffic Calming
- Traffic Calming Report
- Parking Study
- Vehicle Queuing Study
- Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
- Truck Maneuvering/Swept Path Analysis Plan

### **Nuisance**

- Noise Study
- Vibration Study
- Dust Study
- Odour Study
- Lighting Study/Photometric Plan
- Land Use Compatibility/Air Quality Assessment
- Development Viability Assessment regarding adjacency to rail

### **Financial**

- Fiscal Impact Study
- Reserve Fund Analysis

### **Aggregates**

- Mineral Aggregate Extraction Plan/Study

### **Heritage/Archaeological**

- Archaeological Assessment
- Ministry Clearance of Archaeological Assessment
- Heritage Impact Assessment/Study
- Heritage Research Report
- Cultural Heritage Resource Assessment
- Conservation Plan

### **Other Information**

- Written response to pre-consultation comments
- Record of completion of pre-consultation in accordance with any applicable pre-consultation by-law
- Cover letter
- Application Fee Calculation

- Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment
  - Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment
  - Record of Site Condition
  - Reliance Letter for Environmental Site Assessment
  - Minimum Distance Separation Information
  - Waste Disposal Assessment
  - Retail/Market Impact Study
  - Airport Compatibility Study
  - Airport Ceiling Plan/Flight Path Plan
  - Building Audit
  - Well and Septic Review
  - Draft 40R Plan
  - Survey
  - Oshawa Ontario Building Code Design Information Sheet
  - Development Review Checklist: Front End (Waste) Collection Services on Private Property
  - Accessibility Plan
- Staff do not support the proposed amendment that would require municipalities to accept studies only from provincially specified certified professionals. Municipal requirements for studies can vary significantly depending on the nature and scope of the development and the specific study in question. The ability to request revisions and updates enables municipalities to work collaboratively with professionals to ensure that submitted materials meet the defined scope of work. Rather than prescribing a list of accepted professionals, the Province should focus on identifying the types of studies that must be prepared by certified professionals, with the understanding that such studies are only valid if they conform to the municipality's terms of reference or scope of work. Furthermore, staff recommend that the regulation include a provision allowing municipalities to request a reliance letter from the consultant to confirm accountability and use of the study.

**Description:** Conditional Minister's Zoning Orders ("M.Z.O.s")

- The Minister would have the authority to impose conditions that must be met before a use permitted by an M.Z.O. comes into effect. This would involve actions for municipalities and/or proponents, helping to improve accountability and ensure projects meet provincial objectives.

**Staff Comments**

- Staff have no concerns with the implementation of conditions that must be satisfied prior to permitting a use approved through an M.Z.O. However, staff note that the process of clearing these conditions may extend development timelines, which could be counterproductive to the intent of M.Z.O.s – namely, to expedite development.

**Description:** Inclusionary Zoning

- M.M.A.H. would establish a 5% maximum set-aside rate and a 25-year maximum affordability period in Protected Major Transit Station Areas.

## **Staff Comments**

- Policy 5.2.21 of the Region of Durham's Official Plan – Envision Durham encourages area municipalities to consider the application of inclusionary zoning within their respective Protected Major Transit Station Areas.
- As the City of Oshawa does not currently have any inclusionary zoning policies in place, staff have no additional comments on this regulation.

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel.: 416 585-7000

777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 585-7000

234-2025-2204

May 13, 2025

Dear Head of Council,

On May 12, 2025 I introduced the *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* ([Bill 17](#)). Through this legislation, and other changes, we are responding to recommendations and requests from municipal leaders to make it easier and faster to build new homes and infrastructure Ontario needs like transit, roads, water, and wastewater systems.

The bill contains bold actions to protect Ontario from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Transportation. Details about the range of measures can be found in the [news release](#).

**Building Code Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Schedule 1 of the Bill proposes changes to the *Building Code Act* which include:

- Adding a provision to clarify that municipalities do not have the authority to create or enforce their own construction standards.
- Eliminating the requirement for a secondary provincial approval of innovative construction products for products that have already undergone a “Canadian Code Compliance Evaluation” by the federal Canadian Construction Materials Centre ([25-MMAH0042](#)). Comments can be made through the Regulatory Registry of Ontario (RR) from May 12, 2025, to June 11, 2025.

**Development Charges Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Schedule 4 of the Bill proposes changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, to standardize the development charge (DC) methodology and framework and improve predictability of costs, include:

- Creating a regulation-making authority to merge service categories for DC credits.
- Creating a regulation-making authority to specify what constitutes a “local service.”
- Expanding the DC deferral to non-rental residential developments. Related changes include:

.../2

- Providing municipalities authority, in circumstances set out in regulation, to require financial security for payment of deferred DCs for non-rental residential developments; and
- Removing authority for municipalities to charge interest on any legislated DC deferral amounts.
- Enabling municipalities to make any changes to their DC by-laws for the sole purpose of reducing DCs or removing indexing without undertaking certain procedural requirements.
- Creating a regulation-making authority to prescribe exceptions, including conditional exceptions, to capital costs that are eligible to be recovered from DCs.
- Providing that the frozen DC rates on a development would not be applicable if the current DC rates in effect would result in a lower payment.
- Exempting long-term care homes within the meaning of subsection 2 (1) of the *Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021* from municipal DCs.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Regulatory Registry of Ontario (RR) from May 12, 2025, to June 11, 2025:

- [RR 25-MMAH003](#): Changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, to Simplify and Standardize the Development Charge (DC) Framework.

### **Planning Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Schedules 3 and 7 of the Bill propose changes to the *Planning Act* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* that would help streamline and standardize municipal development processes. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Provide authority for regulations to limit municipal complete application studies and provide greater recognition of planning reports prepared by prescribed certified professionals,
- Remove the need for certain minor variances,
- Give the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing the authority to impose conditions on a use permitted by a Minister's zoning order, and
- Streamline planning approvals for publicly funded kindergarten to grade 12 schools.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario from May 12, 2025, to June 11, 2025:

- [ERO 025-0461](#): Proposed Planning Act and City of Toronto Act, 2006 Changes (Schedules 3 and 7 of Bill 17- Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025).

We are also interested in receiving any comments you may have on associated regulatory changes. The government is undertaking 45-day consultations on the following proposals from May 12, 2025, to June 26, 2025:

- [ERO 025-0462](#): Proposed Regulations – Complete Application (seeking feedback on proposed regulations to address complete application requirements (study/report requirements) and submissions from certified professionals)
- [ERO 025-0463](#): Proposed Regulation – As-of-right Variations from Setback Requirements (seeking feedback on a proposed regulation that would allow variations to be permitted “as-of-right” if a proposal is within 10% of requirements for setbacks from property lines applicable to specified lands)

The Environmental Registry postings provide additional details regarding the proposed changes.

### **Ministry of Infrastructure Act – Ministry of Infrastructure**

Schedule 6 of the Bill proposes changes to the *Ministry of Infrastructure Act, 2011* (MOIA), to provide the Minister of Infrastructure with the authority to request information and data from municipalities and municipal agencies, where needed to support provincially funded infrastructure projects. This would help speed up the delivery of critical infrastructure that our growing communities need, while also supporting jobs and economic growth. Comments can be made through the Regulatory Registry of Ontario ([RR-25MOI003](#)) from May 12, 2025, to June 11, 2025.

### **Transit-Oriented Communities Act – Ministry of Infrastructure**

Proposed changes to the *Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Act, 2020*, would reduce barriers to implementing the Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) by:

- Amending the definition of a “Transit Oriented Communities project” to include projects along the GO and LRT network more efficiently,
- Removing OIC approval requirements for any agreements between the Minister (or an entity with delegated powers) and a municipality, and
- Enabling the Minister to delegate certain responsibilities to Infrastructure Ontario for the purpose of developing TOCs.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed changes. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario from May 12, 2025, to June 11, 2025:

- [ERO 025-0504](#): Proposed *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020*, changes to reduce barriers to implementing municipal agreements.

### **Ministry of Transportation**

Schedule 2 of the bill proposes a change to the *Building Transit Faster Act, 2020* (BTFA) that, if passed, would extend the use of the BTFA measures to all provincial transit projects. This change would remove barriers to building transit faster and get shovels in the ground quicker to build major provincial transit projects that connect communities.

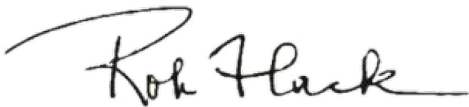
A proposed amendment to the *Metrolinx Act, 2006*, permits the Minister of Transportation to request certain information and data from municipalities or municipal agencies necessary to support the development of provincial transit projects or Transit-Oriented Communities projects.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the BTFA through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [ERO 025-0450](#) and the Ontario Regulatory Registry notice ([RR 25-MTO005](#)) and the Metrolinx Act ([RR 25-MTO006](#)) from May 12, 2025 to June 11, 2025.

The government invites you to review the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) and [Regulatory Registry of Ontario](#) posting links provided above and share any feedback you may have. If you have any questions, please reach out to my Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Tanner Zelenko, at [Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca](mailto:Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca).

In the face of economic uncertainty, we must protect Ontario by speeding up construction so we can lower housing costs and keep workers on the job. I look forward to continued collaboration with you, our municipal partners, to create the homes that Ontario need today, tomorrow, and in the decades to come.

Sincerely,



Hon. Robert J. Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure  
The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation  
The Honourable Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office  
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Laura Smith, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Brian Saunderson, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Caspar Hall, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Municipal Chief Administrative Officers



THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MARKSTAY-WARREN  
RESOLUTION


Agenda Item # 12.a

NO: 2025-RCM - 62

DATE: May 20, 2025

MOVED BY: Rachelle Poirier

SECONDED BY: Laura Schell

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 10, 2025 1:50 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

**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, effective May 1, 2025;

**And whereas** Strong Mayor Powers erode the 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 Municipality of Markstay-Warren ("Council") **opposes** the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025;
- That Council **directs** the CAO/Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; All Local MPPs; AMCTO, AMO and All Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

  
MAYOR

**DIVISION VOTE**

	YEA	NAY		Disclosure on interest
Steven Olsen				
Rachelle Poirier				
Laura Schell				
Ross Evans				
Francine Bérubé				



May 21, 2025

Honourable Premier Doug Ford Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Via Email: [rob.flack@ontario.ca](mailto: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 Tuesday, May 20, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren passed the following resolution respecting the matter referenced in the above subject line:

**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, effective May 1, 2025;

**And whereas** Strong Mayor Powers erode the 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 Municipality of Markstay-Warren ("Council") **opposes** the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025;



- 
- That Council **directs** the CAO/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

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

Sincerely,



Kim Morris, CAO  
The Corporation of the Municipality of  
Markstay-Warren

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)

Date & Time Received:	June 06, 2025 8:51 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

### Council Members

**Mayor Neil Nicholson**  
**D-Mayor Cathy Regier**  
**Councillors:**  
Mark Bell  
Connie Tabbert  
Chris Olmstead  
Micheal Moore  
Joey Trimm

Honorable Rob Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
777 Bay Street, 17th floor Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2J3

June 4, 2025

### **RE: Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities**

Dear Minister Flack,

Thank you for your letter dated April 9, 2025, regarding the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to the Township of Whitewater Region. Our Council discussed this issue in an open forum at our council meeting on May 22 and are firmly of the belief that this effort undermines the value of collaboration between the Mayor, Councillors, and Staff. Increasing the powers of the Mayor eliminates shared decision making, create divisiveness at the council table, and blurs the lines between administrative and political roles. Our council believes that this would result in an erosion of the democratic process at the Municipal level, especially in small municipalities like Whitewater Region.

Our council works as a cohesive unit, firmly focused on the goals of advancing and encouraging growth and making our community a wonderful place in which to live and invest. Each of member of council brings their own set of skills, knowledge, values and perspectives to achieve these goals, and has worked extremely well together.

Since it was sworn in, our Council has been collectively focused on advancing provincial priorities by delivering much needed housing, building infrastructure that supports community growth and the construction of new homes, including housing-enabling infrastructure such as water and wastewater. The Township of

(613) 646-2282



P.O. Box 40,  
44 Main Street  
Cobden, ON  
K0J 1K0



www.whitewaterregion.ca



# WHITEWATER

## REGION

### Council Members

**Mayor Neil Nicholson**

**D-Mayor Cathy Regier**

#### Councillors:

Mark Bell

Connie Tabbert

Chris Olmstead

Micheal Moore

Joey Trimm

Whitewater Region has grown significantly over the last decade (the fourth fastest growing municipality in the County of Renfrew) and, as a rural municipality, we have added a large amount of new housing to meet market demands.

Whitewater Region has invested in our planning department with delegated planning authorities from the County of Renfrew. With a qualified planner, we can very quickly process most planning matters with the exception of plans of subdivisions. With our expanded building inspector staff, we have been able to reduce permit processing times. We do all of this while keeping permits and planning application fees suppressed, augmenting our planning and building department with general taxation revenues to support growth in our community and contribute to meeting Provincial priorities.

Whitewater Region averages approximately 30 new single family detached homes per year over the past 10 years. Although we only have one of our rural communities with both water and wastewater services, it is positioned well for additional development; with one subdivision partly built out and a second subdivision in its planning stages. This sizeable development is constrained by water and wastewater services, stormwater management and road access to the provincial highway.

Our challenge is not with the balance of power around our Council table or our relationship with staff, it is that we simply do not have the funds (or technical staff) needed to update or expand our infrastructure services to support development. Whitewater has implemented Development Charges as a means of raising additional funds, and have purposefully suppressed them to \$5,000/home in order to promote affordable development. Whitewater staff have applied to grants made available by the Province of Ontario, but with no success. Our Council has plans to use your governments' increases to our OCIF and OMPF but these only barely satisfy 20% of our existing Asset Management Program shortfall. This shortfall was further exasperated when OPP billing has increased at the same rate as our OMFP increases. Whitewater Region simply cannot afford to support additional development, let alone invest in our current infrastructure.

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Cobden, ON  
K0J 1K0



[www.whitewaterregion.ca](http://www.whitewaterregion.ca)



# WHITEWATER

## REGION

### Council Members

**Mayor Neil Nicholson**

**D-Mayor Cathy Regier**

#### Councillors:

Mark Bell

Connie Tabbert

Chris Olmstead

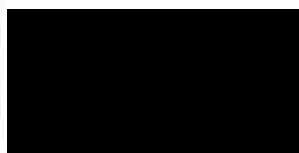
Micheal Moore

Joey Trimm

In closing, our Council requests that the Ontario Government excludes the Township of Whitewater Region from its proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities, and work with us to identify funding to support expansion of its infrastructure systems to support existing and future residential and commercial growth. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Please feel free to contact me through our offices if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely,



Mayor Neil Nicholson

(613) 646-2282



P.O. Box 40,  
44 Main Street  
Cobden, ON  
K0J 1K0



[www.whitewaterregion.ca](http://www.whitewaterregion.ca)



## Council Members

Mayor Neil Nicholson

Deputy Mayor Cathy

Regier

Councillors:

Mark Bell

Michael Moore

Chris Olmstead

Connie Tabbert

Joey Trimm

## Certified True Copy

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

### Re: Resolution - Strong Mayor Powers Update

At its meeting of May 21, 2025, the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Township of Whitewater Region 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 Township of Whitewater Region 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 Township of Whitewater Region 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 Council of the Township of Whitewater Region formally request that the Premier of**

(613) 646-2282

P.O. Box 40,  
44 Main Street  
Cobden, ON  
K0J 1K0

whitewaterregion.ca

**Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Township of Whitewater Region 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 Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.**

Carried - Resolution #2025-5335


Sincerely,



Carmen Miller  
Clerk/CEMC



Norfolk County  
Clerk's and Bylaw Department  
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer  
50 Colborne Street, S., Simcoe Ontario N3Y 4H3  
Telephone: 519-426-5870  
E-mail: [clerks@norfolkcounty.ca](mailto:clerks@norfolkcounty.ca)  
Website: [norfolkcounty.ca](http://norfolkcounty.ca)

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 06, 2025 8:30 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Honourable Rob Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Delivered Electronically to: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Delivered Electronically to: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

June 4, 2025

Dear Hon. Doug Ford and Hon. Rob Flack:

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers

Please be advised of the following motion that was passed at the May 27, 2025, Norfolk County Council meeting:

**Resolution No. C-114**

**Moved By:** Councillor Huffman

**Seconded By:** Councillor Veri

That Council direct staff to prepare and send correspondence to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Premier Doug Ford indicating that Norfolk County does not require Strong Mayor Powers to help achieve the provinces' goals; and

That Norfolk County request an exemption from the associated provincial directive; and

Further That a copy of this motion be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

  
W. Tigert  
Clerk


cc. All Ontario Municipalities



# The Township of Georgian Bay Resolutions Council - 02 Jun 2025

**Date: June 2, 2025**

**Moved by** Councillor Kristian Graziano  
**Seconded by** Councillor Allan Hazelton

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 09, 2025 1:36 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

**Item 11.(b)**

**C-2025-155**

WHEREAS the Floating Accommodations – Position Paper (April 2025) provides detailed guidance to Ontario municipalities on the regulation of Floating Accommodations, highlighting critical legal and environmental challenges; and

WHEREAS the document identifies significant gaps in current provincial and federal frameworks that municipalities are best positioned to address through zoning and land-use bylaws; and

WHEREAS the paper recommends proactive municipal action based on successful case studies and legal precedents such as the Glaspell v. Ontario decision; and

WHEREAS Georgian Bay Township has already taken steps to address Floating Accommodations and has an interest in promoting inter-municipal collaboration on this issue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Floating Accommodations – Position Paper (May 2025) for informational purposes; and

THAT the Clerk be further directed to forward the document and this resolution to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and member municipalities for consideration and potential provincial advocacy.

☒ Carried      ☐ Defeated      ☐ Recorded Vote      ☐ Referred      ☐ Deferred

## **Recorded Vote:**

	For	Against	Absent
Councillor Brian Bochek			
Councillor Peter Cooper			
Councillor Kristian Graziano			
Councillor Allan Hazelton			
Councillor Stephen Jarvis			
Councillor Steven Predko			
Mayor Peter Koetsier			

**Peter Koetsier, Mayor**



Floating  
Accommodations not  
Vessels Coalition



# ***Floating Accommodations Position Paper***

## EXECUTIVE Summary

This position paper provides guidance for Ontario municipalities seeking to regulate or restrict Floating Accommodations within their jurisdictions.

Floating Accommodations are a detrimental presence on Ontario's lakes and rivers. They present multiple environmental, navigational, taxation, and zoning issues. Over the past four years, they have eluded control as the issue of Floating Accommodations fell into a very large gray area when this all began.

The authors of this position paper, the **Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition**, strongly urge you as municipal leaders to pursue **one or a hybrid** of the following two regulatory strategies:

**1. Ban floating accommodations in your jurisdiction.** *They cannot exist within your*



*municipality without putting your natural environment and governance regulations in turmoil. The Township of Severn has led the way with a bylaw banning Floating Accommodations [[Township of Severn Zoning By-law Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations](#)]. The Township of Georgian Bay recently adopted a similar by-law [[Township of Georgian Bay Zoning By-law](#)*

*[Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations](#)]. The intent is to provide clarity in their zoning bylaws in that floating accommodations are not a permitted use. Several municipalities are following their lead and investigating this strategy.*



**2. Restrict floating accommodations to fixed / permanent moorings.** *These locations would be subject to municipal zoning by-laws stipulating appropriate sanitary, hydro, power connectivity, and placed on environmentally safe floatation systems. Floating accommodations are permanently located in a properly zoned facility similar to a trailer park but*

*for floating accommodations on water. This model has several working examples such as Bluffers Park on Lake Ontario or False Creek in downtown Vancouver. For most municipalities, this would be considered a new form of development and require significant policy changes.*

## “Your new neighbours”

### They can suddenly appear on your waterfront at any moment...

Floating Accommodations (FAs) can be a building or structure such as modified shipping containers or wood framed structures placed on floatation devices. They are not primarily intended for navigation and will moor over crown lakebeds or private property lakebeds. FAs can move frequently and are usually equipped with an anchoring system such as steel ‘spuds’ embedded into the lakebed to stabilize the unit at each mooring location. They potentially shed toxic materials and other contaminants into surrounding waters and lakebeds.



## Municipalities Play a Crucial Role in Fully Regulating Floating Accommodations

Municipalities have a crucial role in addressing regulatory gaps and exceptions that fall outside the recent implementation of federal, provincial, and private property trespassing regulations to manage Floating Accommodations. Verifying and strengthening the regulatory framework was a collaboration between Parks Canada (PC - federal), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR - provincial), and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP - provincial).

The following scenarios are not hypothetical. They have all occurred and would fall outside the jurisdiction of new and existing federal, provincial and OPP controls.

- 1) *What happens to an owner of an FA who chooses to float their FA over their personally owned private lakebed property?*
- 2) *What happens to commercial marinas who wish to establish mooring for FAs on their premises in a permanent or semi-permanent manner?*
- 3) *What happens when FA owners floating within a township, move daily to relocate in that same township to avoid confrontation with governing agencies?*

## ***Municipal Bylaws – What Issues Are You Being Asked to Tackle?***

The recently launched PC, MNR, and OPP frameworks can clearly deal with trespassing for stationary (moored) FAs in federal / provincial waters and over private lakebeds.

However, there are 3 scenarios that fall outside of the newly published PC, MNR, and OPP frameworks. They are:

- 1) ***FAs floating over private lakebeds:*** *What is missing is how to deal with an FA owner who chooses to park adjacent to their shoreline where he/she has property 'ownership' rights to the lakebed. This issue is very real and exists in many of Ontario's lakes and rivers. The scenario would allow an FA owner to bypass existing building codes and local taxation to class their structure (be it a boathouse, or residence) as a vessel. This scenario is a "trojan horse" into illegal residential boathouses and homes on water with the very real possibility of being short term rentals.*
- 2) ***FAs floating in a commercial marina:*** *The scenario of a marina establishing an unauthorized temporary (or permanent) mooring location for a FA within a municipality that is not zoned for FAs causes a significant degree of difficulty. Most current municipal zoning does not acknowledge FAs and in a jurisdiction without FA definitions and approved zoning the FA owner can fall back on their vessel designation and potentially use the Transport Canada vessel designation as a shield to avoid any charges. This scenario has already occurred throughout Ontario, including in the Rideau Canal and the Kawartha Lakes region.*
- 3) ***FAs floating freely and/or mooring in a different location each night:*** *The challenge with this scenario is some FA owners have been very creative in where they moor and for how long. They have become very familiar with enforcement processes and time limitations and simply move before charges can be laid. Each situation would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and time limitations may or may not apply.*

All three of these scenarios require a municipal regulatory framework. There are emerging strategies to guide Ontario's municipalities in preventing FAs from further potential abuse and destruction of our natural resources for current and future generations.

## Call to Action To All Ontario Municipalities With Waterfront Assets

Based on our collective learning, experience and history with the FA problem, we believe there are two responses municipalities can utilize to attempt to control FAs participating in one or more of the three scenarios outlined above:

- 1) **FAs cannot exist within the boundaries of a municipality:** *This scenario has recently been enacted in the Townships of Severn and Georgian Bay; although they have not yet been tested in court. These zoning by-law amendments provide clarity in that floating accommodations are not a permitted use. FAs cannot exist on waters within these Townships, under any circumstances, over public or private lakebeds or in commercial marina establishments. Their outright ban of FAs is actively being considered by several other municipalities, [\[Township of Severn Zoning By-law Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations\]](#), [\[Township of Georgian Bay Zoning By-law Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations\]](#)*
- 2) **FAs can only exist as FHs (floating homes):** *When floating accommodations are permanently fixed to an approved dock/mooring with permanent hydro, sanitary, and water connections they are classified by Transport Canada as a Floating Home (FH). Floating Homes are not vessels. This scenario of approved mooring for Floating Homes is well understood, documented and in place throughout British Columbia and Bluffers Park on Lake Ontario and would require significant municipal policy changes for most. One further twist on this scenario is that a FH owner who chooses to untether and go float “free range” for a time and then come back may be banned from the FH mooring location depending upon their Home Owners Agreement. This solution has existed for some 20+ years in both locations and is very well understood.*

It is suggested that municipalities consult with their own legal representatives to determine what regulatory approach is best suited for your jurisdiction.

Need To Find Out More?

If you need more information or further clarification on any aspect of this position paper, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition or to our email address [fanv2025@gmail.com](mailto:fanv2025@gmail.com).

## APPENDIX

### ***Floating Homes versus Floating Accommodations: Definitions and Management to date***

#### **Historical context and definitions:**

Historically, floating residential structures have existed in zoned-for-purpose marinas and permanent mooring locations. These types of structures look and feel like houses. They are typically wood framed units with windows, doors, roofs, and decking and floatation devices. Inside they have bathrooms, kitchens, living rooms and bedrooms... essentially a house on water. They are “permanently” moored / fixed to a docking arrangement and are also permanently connected to sanitary sewers, water supply, power supply, and gas (for heating and cooking) supply.

There are multiple instances of these floating residences, but the most popular and recognized communities are the 24 floating homes in Bluffers Park on the shores of Lake Ontario in Scarborough (Toronto), and 60+ homes in False Creek in downtown Vancouver.



Both of these examples and all other occurrences where a floating residence is fixed permanently to a mooring location are classified by Transport Canada as “Floating Homes”. It is important to understand that Floating Homes are not recognized by Transport Canada as vessels. They are distinct and separate from Floating Accommodations.



### **How do Floating Accommodations differ from Floating Homes?**

The recently emerging challenge is Floating Accommodations, which can be ‘repurposed’ shipping containers modified by DIY individuals or purpose-built wood construction. The units have windows, doors and some form of bathroom, kitchen, sleeping, and living quarters. Floating Accommodations are not restricted to the configuration seen below, as there are numerous examples of residences fabricated with wood frame construction built on floatation devices that appear more like a traditional boathouse.



All of these floating accommodations are not permanently fixed to a mooring location. They are “free range floating residences”; moving, floating and mooring whenever and wherever they wish.

Transport Canada classifies floating residences that are not connected to a permanent mooring location as vessels.

Floating Accommodations until 2023 were largely unregulated within Ontario. The topic had not historically been an issue; therefore, government agencies needed to react to the changing issue and the “vessel” designation being utilized by Transport Canada as well as by the individuals and/or companies exploiting this loophole.

The authors can now report that Parks Canada, MNR, and OPP have separately and collectively identified enforcement avenues where appropriate to attempt to govern Floating Accommodations. To complete the governance framework, appropriate amendments to existing municipal by-laws are required.

### ***What Are the Challenges Associated with Floating Accommodations?***

This table illustrates the complexity of multiple government agencies whose mandates are individually impacted yet require collective collaboration to implement solutions. The following table lists the various issues and respective agencies likely to manage them.

<b>Issue / Concern with Floating Accommodations</b>	<b>Expected Responsible Agency</b>
Potential absence of sanitary capability and dumping of toxic and other harmful substances from FA	Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) (Federal) and Ministry of Environment (Prov.)
Pollution from floatation devices and garbage	Transport Canada & ECCC (Federal); Ministry of Environment (Provincial)
Impact of endangered wildlife when moored in environmentally sensitive areas	Parks Canada or ECCC if outside of Parks Canada sites; Fisheries & Oceans if fish/mussel related; <i>Endangered Species Act</i> administered by Ministry of the Environment (Provincial)
Navigational impediment as a moving vessel	Transport Canada
Navigational impediment as a moored vessel	Transport Canada & Local Municipalities (via VORR's)
No building or construction standards specifically related to FAs exist	Transport Canada
FAs pay no taxation to support consumption of local emergency services or waste management services	Municipality
Mooring in any location	Municipal zoning (not yet tested in court)
Mooring on private lakebeds (must make contact with private property beneath the water)	OPP – Trespass to Property Act

Issue / Concern with Floating Accommodations	Expected Responsible Agency
Spawning ground / fish habitat damage caused by the steel spuds into lakebeds	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) (Federal water control); DFO supported by Parks Canada in National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas; MNR (inland lakes); responsible for the management of fisheries
Floating Accommodations becoming vacation rentals (VRBO or Airbnb)	Municipal by-laws (e.g. Short-Term Rental by-laws and zoning by-laws)
Floating Accommodations becoming an unregulated expansion of a cottage	Federal waters – Parks Canada in National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas Provincial waters- <i>Public Lands Act</i> administered by MNR prohibits FAs from occupying provincial public land through regulation Privately owned waters – Municipality

During our early discussions, each of the agencies that we expected to play a partial and/or full role to control Floating Accommodations felt they were not legislated to manage and regulate Floating Accommodations. Many felt that other agencies were better equipped to regulate the problem or that, given Transport Canada's designation of FAs as vessels, that Transport Canada was the ultimate controlling ministry. Agencies outside of Transport Canada were of the opinion that any attempt to act would result in legal proceedings that given the vessel designation, would likely be unsuccessful with respect to the agency responsible for legal expenses.

### ***What Changes Have Been Made to Support a Regulatory Framework?***

The shift to create enforceable solutions came via 2 separate but foundational insights:

1. ***Glaspell vs Ontario 2015*** – Clarifying lakebed ownership which has become the cornerstone strategy “anchoring” all of the in-force regulatory frameworks.
2. ***Freedom of Information request to Transport Canada*** – Clarified 3 important aspects:
  - a) *Floating Homes vs Floating Accommodations: Floating Homes are not vessels; Floating Accommodations are vessels.*

- b) Transport Canada's primary (and some would say only) objective is vessel safety. They do not believe their mandate / charter per the Canadian Transport Act (2001) mandates them or requires them to control Floating Accommodations.*
- c) Transport Canada has expressed strong public support of the newly launched MNR Floating Accommodation regulatory framework (161/17). Transport Canada's guidance to other agencies interested in governing FAs was very clear – use the MNR framework to guide your actions.*

It is critical to the municipal strategy that readers of this position paper are comfortable with the solid underpinnings of the current provincial, federal and criminal regulatory framework.

The *Glaspell v Ontario* ruling [[Glaspell v Ontario 2015 ONSC 3965](#)] has clarified 3 elements that have been 'baked' into case law informing FA regulations formed by Parks Canada and MNR.

- a) Glaspell ruling established that all lakebeds and riverbeds are the ownership of either federal crown, provincial crown or private ownership, and separately, municipalities have the option to issue zoning controls over those lakebeds.*
- b) The ownership of lakebed can act as a basis to authorize or not permit a floating object overhead to cast a shadow over the lakebed and by definition occupying that lakebed.*
- c) Resulting from the case law establishing enforceable lakebed ownership, the principle of authorized vs unauthorized occupation of crown land (lakebed) has been crystallized into FA regulatory frameworks.*

The importance of *Glaspell* was vital to the success of the regulatory frameworks that have emerged. The critical learning here is that historically all enforcement by Parks Canada, MNR, and OPP was through "land-based" policies. Had any of these agencies sought to remedy through water-based policies, they likely would have lost any court challenge due to the vessel designation that Transport Canada would likely uphold. Seeking to control Floating Accommodations through land-based laws was a masterful stroke of genius and we applaud the leadership of MNR, Parks Canada and OPP.

Municipalities would be advised to consider and build on the positive implications of the *Glaspell* ruling in their formation of FA zoning and governance by-laws.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR Ontario) was first out of the gate to create their regulatory framework based on the *Glaspell* ruling. Specifically, 161/17 which is exactly the right regulatory framework to govern Floating Accommodations.

The full definition of Ontario Regulation 161/17 is found in this link [[MNR Regulation 161/17 governing Floating Accommodations](#)] The fundamentals of 161/17 include:

- a) Defining what is and what is not a floating accommodation.*
- b) Defining occupation of provincial crown land by the shadow of a floating object overhead on crown lakebed.*
- c) Conveying that a floating accommodation is not permitted to occupy provincial lakebed and shoreline.*
- d) The ability to charge the owner of the floating accommodation in the event they are occupying provincial lakebed without permission.*

The principles underlying the MNR 161/17 framework (released in summer of 2023) has since been adopted in principle by both Parks Canada and OPP and both agencies have identified enforcement avenues where appropriate.

Parks Canada's solution was issued in 2024 and mirrors MNR's strategy. The full definition of Parks Canada's regulation can be found in the following link [[Parks Canada Mooring Regulations covering Floating Accommodations](#)]. The fundamentals of Parks Canada's framework include:

- a) Defining what is a floating accommodation in a manner similar to MNR.*
- b) Requiring all floating accommodations secure a permit to lawfully moor over federal lakebeds overnight.*
- c) Failure to obtain a permit constitutes "unauthorized occupation" of federal lands and the occupying person(s) will be charged accordingly.*

Lastly, the OPP have embraced a similar lakebed ownership strategy for privately owned lakebed. They have case law where they have successfully prosecuted a floating accommodation that was making actual contact with a private lakebed in an unauthorized manner and consequently the FA owners were charged and successfully prosecuted with trespassing.

### ***The Townships of Severn and Georgian Bay Experience***

As we described in the first few pages, the existing regulatory framework created by MNR, Parks Canada and OPP has a few gaps. Severn Township recognized that early on and amended their by-law in 2024 [[Township of Severn Zoning By-law Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations](#)]. A similar by-law amendment was enacted in the Township of Georgian Bay in 2025 [[Township of Georgian Bay Zoning By-law Amendment to regulate Floating Accommodations](#)].

The essential element of these amended by-laws, described in this position paper as Response #1 on page 5, is very simple... FAs cannot exist on waters within the boundaries of these two townships.... period. While they have not been tested in court, one by-law has already been successfully used as a deterrent to an FA presence. Several other townships are actively studying and considering implementing similar by-laws for their respective jurisdictions.

## ***There Are Numerous Lessons Gained Along This Journey***

Our grass roots organization **Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition** experienced many peaks and valleys in the journey to facilitate the appropriate agencies to successfully manage and control the new “issue” of Floating Accommodations.

It would be an accurate reflection to say that only if we knew then what we know now...

### **There are six key learnings:**

- 1) *It takes a team of motivated, passionate, patient people to stick with it... we discussed after year one and two – was this worth it? Yes! While it took our coalition four years to get here, we believe our efforts have been instrumental in facilitating the right framework that can be applied province-wide.*
- 2) *When working with federal and provincial agencies who say no, don't take that for an answer, keep up the pressure, continue to make your issue their issue. At some point in time the right set of agencies will step forward and get to the solution. In our case that was a combination of Parks Canada, MNR, OPP and our local municipalities – the Townships of Severn and Georgian Bay.*
- 3) *Broad based support by multiple grass roots organizations was key to our combined success. In our case that consisted of numerous local Cottage Associations large and small who all successfully raised their voices. We would do it again in the same way.*
- 4) *While appeals by local politicians and provincial MPP's and federal MP's to both provincial and federal ministers didn't directly solve the issue, it greatly helped to communicate the seriousness of the issue.*
- 5) *Sometimes, it takes a change in basic assumptions and in this case it was the insights gained from the Glaspell ruling to get to the right answer. Together with MNR, Parks Canada and OPP we were fortunate enough to understand the pathway and leverage Glaspell.*
- 6) *Media! We were fortunate to tap into print, tv, radio, social media – it all helped. We brought on partners like Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA) and Cottage Life to spread the message. Had we had more financial resources we would have stepped up our investment in social media... maybe next time!*

## ***Acknowledgements and Thank You.***

We would like to thank in no particular order...

- *Working group members from our partners at Parks Canada, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ontario Provincial Police.*
- *Working group members from our municipal partners - Mayors, Councillors and Staff from Severn Township, Township of Georgian Bay, Tay Township and Township of the Archipelago.*
- *Gloucester Pool Cottagers' Association & Georgian Bay Association*
- *The Decibel Coalition*
- *Safe Quiet Lakes Coalition*
- *Cottage Life*
- *Many cottage associations, and the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA)*
- *And lastly, the Floating Accommodations Not Vessels Coalition members who authored this position paper*

While we did strive to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this information, the authors assume no responsibility for any omissions to or errors that may be contained within this position paper.

We the members of the Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition wish to express our deep gratitude and thanks to all the members mentioned above that have been instrumental in this journey.... Thank you!

# Municipality of *Bluewater*

June 6, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Legislative Building  
Queens Park  
TORONTO ON M7A 1A4  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford:

At the Municipality of Bluewater's regular Council meeting held on June 2, 2025, Council received a resolution distributed by the Town of LaSalle regarding the Northern Health Travel Grant Program. Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution:

**MOVED:** Councillor Bailey **SECONDED:** Councillor Walden  
THAT the Council of the Municipality of Bluewater supports the resolution passed by the Town of LaSalle regarding the Northern Health Travel Grant Program; and


THAT this resolution of support be circulated to all Ontario municipalities, Premier Doug Ford, Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron Bruce, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Ms. Sylvia Jones.  
**CARRIED.**

Attached is the resolution passed by the Town of LaSalle.

Sincerely,

Chandra Alexander  
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc:  
Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce MPP  
Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier  
Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk  
Ontario Municipalities

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 11, 2025 1:31 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	



February 4, 2025

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

Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Northern Health Travel Grant Program

---

Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, January 28, 2025, passed the following resolution:

14/25

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata  
Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

Whereas the Northern Health Travel Grant program (the "Program") offers financial assistance to Northern Ontario residents who need to travel long distances for specialized medical services or procedures at a ministry funded health care facility;

And Whereas, the grants for this Program are based on the distance residents must travel to reach the nearest medical specialist or ministry funded healthcare facility;

And Whereas, residents must travel at least 100 kilometers one-way to access the nearest medical specialist or ministry-funded healthcare facility for services that are not available locally to qualify for the grant;

And Whereas, there are many occasions in which residents of Windsor-Essex County must travel at least 100 kilometers one way to access health care facilities or services that are not available locally; And Whereas, there are four primary children's hospitals across the province, located in London, Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa, and none of these facilities are within 100 kilometers of Windsor-Essex County;

And Whereas, it has been reported that more than 5,000 times each year pediatric patients across Windsor-Essex County must drive to London Health Sciences Centre for treatment at its Children's Hospital, which places a financial strain on families and care-givers;

Now Therefore, the Town of LaSalle calls upon the Provincial Government and Ministry of Health to establish a grant system similar to the Northern Health Travel Grant program in Windsor-Essex County to provide support to the residents of Windsor-Essex County when they need to travel long distances for specialized medical services or procedures at ministry funded health care facilities;

And that, this motion be circulated to all municipalities for support, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Anthony Leardi, MPP Andrew Dowie, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Ms. Sylvia Jones and all local municipalities.

**Carried.**

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

Yours Truly,



Jennifer Astrologo  
Director of Council Services/Clerk  
Town of LaSalle  
[jastrologo@lasalle.ca](mailto:jastrologo@lasalle.ca)

Cc: (via email)  
MPP Anothony Leardi [Anthony.Leardi@pc.ola.org](mailto:Anthony.Leardi@pc.ola.org)  
MPP Andrew Dowie [Andrew.Dowie@pc.ola.org](mailto:Andrew.Dowie@pc.ola.org)  
MPP Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones [sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities




*Annette Groves*  
*Mayor*

Her Worship, Mayor Annette Groves  
Office of the Mayor  
6311 Old Church Road  
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford,  
Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office, Room 281  
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5  
[Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

 Corporate Services Department <b>Legislative Services Division</b>	
Date & Time Received:	June 06, 2025 8:25 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Dear Premier Ford,

Illegal land use, including unauthorized development, unapproved land alterations, and other non-compliant activities, poses significant threats to the Town's agricultural viability, water quality, and ecosystem health, in addition to decreasing adjacent land values and undermining public trust in land-use governance enforcement.

There have been approximately 1,300 properties investigated in Caledon for illegal land use since 2015, with the majority of instances being for the operation of illegal transportation depots.

Illegal transportation depots and parking lots undermine the success of Caledon's largest industry and employment sector. The prevalence of illegal transportation depots and parking lots, and their disregard for architectural and landscape standards, reduce the appeal for investment in prestige employment lands.

Penalties prescribed by the Planning Act are insufficient to deter violations, as they do not adequately reflect the economic gains derived from illegal land use activities and even maximum fines are difficult to obtain. The existing provisions in the Municipal Act specifically disallow municipalities from licensing transportation depots and truck parking.

In June 2023, the Town of Caledon wrote to your office requesting increased authority for municipalities to manage illegal land use including the ability to physically bar entry to properties and increase maximum penalty amounts for individuals and corporations. The Town has also made similar requests to the Honourable Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones, the Ministry of the

Attorney General, the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

At the June 3, 2025 General Committee Meeting, Council expressed support for a motion to strengthen municipal authority to effectively manage illegal land use by:

1. Amending the Planning Act to allow for a municipality to:

- a. require a person to pay an administrative penalty if the municipality is satisfied that the person has contravened section 41, section 46, subsection 49 (4) or section 52 or who contravenes a by-law passed under section 34 or 38 or an order made under section 47; whereas municipalities cannot currently administer administrative penalty systems under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act and Building Code Act,
- b. issue orders to discontinue a contravening activity or perform work to correct a contravention under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act, whereas the Act does not currently allow it.
- c. enable a matter or thing to be done at a person's expense in default of it being done in accordance with an order made under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act; further, that the costs of such action taken by a municipality may be recovered by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes, whereas municipalities cannot currently perform remedial work under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act,
- d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it,
- e. increase the maximum penalty amounts to \$50,000 for an individual and \$100,000 for a corporation on a first conviction and \$25,000 for each day the contravention continues after a conviction for an individual and \$50,000 for a corporation, additionally, amending the Act to allow municipalities to establish minimum fines under Zoning and Site Plan Control by-laws and continuing offence penalties on a first conviction.

2. Amending the Municipal Act to allow for a municipality to:

- a. provide a system of licenses under a business licensing by-law for the local parking and storage operations of transportation businesses, including transportation depots and parking lots, whereas municipalities cannot currently regulate the minimum standards appropriate for the community through Ontario Regulation 583/06 (Licensing Powers),
- b. close a business operating without a license or engaged in egregious illegal land uses that significantly harm nearby residents, the environment, and public safety; whereas municipalities cannot currently close or prevent illegal land use or operations from continuing,
- c. physically bar entry to properties where illegal land uses that have significant detrimental impacts on adjacent residential properties, the environment or create unsafe situations,

d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it

A copy of the notice of motion has been enclosed for your reference. For more information regarding this matter, please contact my Chief of Staff, Catherine Monast, directly by email at [catherine.monast@caledon.ca](mailto:catherine.monast@caledon.ca) or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4539. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mayor Annette Groves

Town of Caledon

The Honourable Ruby Sahota, Minister of Democratic Institutions and MP for Brampton North-Caledon, [ruby.sahota@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ruby.sahota@parl.gc.ca)

Kyle Seeback, MP for Dufferin—Caledon, [Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Transport and Internal Trade  
[chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca](mailto:chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,  
[sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation [minister.mto@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mto@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, [doug.downey@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.downey@pc.ola.org)

Association of Municipalities of Ontario, [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

Rural Ontario Municipal Association, [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca)

City of Toronto, [clerk@toronto.ca](mailto:clerk@toronto.ca)

York Region, [regional.clerk@york.ca](mailto:regional.clerk@york.ca)

City of Vaughan, [clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:clerks@vaughan.ca)

Town of Richmond Hill, [clerks@richmondhill.ca](mailto:clerks@richmondhill.ca)

Town of Markham, [customerservice@markham.ca](mailto:customerservice@markham.ca)

Town of Aurora, [info@aurora.ca](mailto:info@aurora.ca)

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, [clerks@townofws.ca](mailto:clerks@townofws.ca)

King Township, [clerks@king.ca](mailto:clerks@king.ca)

Town of Newmarket, [clerks@newmarket.ca](mailto:clerks@newmarket.ca)

Township of East Gwillimbury, [clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca](mailto:clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca)

Town of Georgina, [info@georgina.ca](mailto:info@georgina.ca)

Region of Durham, [clerks@durham.ca](mailto:clerks@durham.ca)

Town of Ajax, [clerks@ajax.ca](mailto:clerks@ajax.ca)

Township of Brock, [Clerks@brock.ca](mailto:Clerks@brock.ca)

Municipality of Clarington, [clerks@clarington.net](mailto:clerks@clarington.net)  
City of Oshawa, [clerks@oshawa.ca](mailto:clerks@oshawa.ca)  
City of Pickering, [clerks@pickering.ca](mailto:clerks@pickering.ca)  
Township of Scugog, [mail@scugog.ca](mailto:mail@scugog.ca)  
Township of Uxbridge, [info@uxbridge.ca](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)  
Town of Whitby, [clerks@whitby.ca](mailto:clerks@whitby.ca)  
Brant County, [info@brant.ca](mailto:info@brant.ca)  
City of Brantford, [clerks@brantford.ca](mailto:clerks@brantford.ca)  
Region of Peel, [regional.clerk@peelregion.ca](mailto:regional.clerk@peelregion.ca)  
City of Brampton, [cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca](mailto:cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca)  
City of Mississauga, [city.clerk@mississauga.ca](mailto:city.clerk@mississauga.ca)  
Dufferin County, [info@dufferincounty.ca](mailto:info@dufferincounty.ca)  
Township of Amaranth, [info@amaranth.ca](mailto:info@amaranth.ca)  
Township of East Garafraxa, [clerks@eastgarafraxa.ca](mailto:clerks@eastgarafraxa.ca)  
Town of Grand Valley, [mail@townofgrandvalley.ca](mailto:mail@townofgrandvalley.ca)  
Township of Melancthon, [info@melancthontownship.ca](mailto:info@melancthontownship.ca)  
Town of Mono, [ClerksOffice@townofmono.com](mailto:ClerksOffice@townofmono.com)  
Township of Mulmur, [info@mulmur.ca](mailto:info@mulmur.ca)  
Town of Orangeville, [clerksdept@orangeville.ca](mailto:clerksdept@orangeville.ca)  
Town of Shelburne, [clerk@shelburne.ca](mailto:clerk@shelburne.ca)  
Haldimand County, [info@haldimandcounty.on.ca](mailto:info@haldimandcounty.on.ca)  
Halton Region, [accesshalton@halton.ca](mailto:accesshalton@halton.ca)  
City of Burlington, [cityclerks@burlington.ca](mailto:cityclerks@burlington.ca)  
City of Hamilton, [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
Town of Halton Hills, [clerks@haltonhills.ca](mailto:clerks@haltonhills.ca)  
Town of Milton, [townclerk@milton.ca](mailto:townclerk@milton.ca)  
Northumberland County, [matherm@northumberland.ca](mailto:matherm@northumberland.ca)  
Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, [info@ahtwp.ca](mailto:info@ahtwp.ca)  
Municipality of Brighton, [general@brighton.ca](mailto:general@brighton.ca)  
Town of Cobourg, [clerk@cobourg.ca](mailto:clerk@cobourg.ca)  
Township of Cramahe, [clerk@cramahe.ca](mailto:clerk@cramahe.ca)  
Township of Hamilton, [clerks@hamiltontownship.ca](mailto:clerks@hamiltontownship.ca)  
Municipality of Port Hope, [admin@porthope.ca](mailto:admin@porthope.ca)  
Municipality of Trent Hills, [info@trenthills.ca](mailto:info@trenthills.ca)  
Peterborough County, [info@ptbocounty.ca](mailto:info@ptbocounty.ca)  
Township of Asphodel-Norwood, [info@antownship.ca](mailto:info@antownship.ca)  
Township of Cavan Monaghan, [services@cavanmonaghan.net](mailto:services@cavanmonaghan.net)  
Township of Douro-Dummer, [info@dourodummer.on.ca](mailto:info@dourodummer.on.ca)  
Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, [havbelmet@hbmtp.ca](mailto:havbelmet@hbmtp.ca)  
Township of North Kawartha, [reception@northkawartha.on.ca](mailto:reception@northkawartha.on.ca)  
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, [info@osmtownship.ca](mailto:info@osmtownship.ca)  
Township of Selwyn, [clerkadmin@stjosephstownship.com](mailto:clerkadmin@stjosephstownship.com)  
Municipality of Trent Lakes, [info@trentlakes.ca](mailto:info@trentlakes.ca)  
City of Peterborough, [clerk@peterborough.ca](mailto:clerk@peterborough.ca)  
Wellington County, [kimc@wellington.ca](mailto:kimc@wellington.ca)  
Town of Erin, [clerks@erin.ca](mailto:clerks@erin.ca)  
Town of Minto, [info@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:info@town.minto.on.ca)  
Township of Centre Wellington, [clerks@centrewellington.ca](mailto:clerks@centrewellington.ca)  
City of Guelph, [clerks@guelph.ca](mailto:clerks@guelph.ca)  
Township of Mapleton, [clerk@mapleton.ca](mailto:clerk@mapleton.ca)  
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Township of Wellington North, [township@wellington-north.com](mailto:township@wellington-north.com)  
Simcoe County, [info@simcoe.ca](mailto:info@simcoe.ca)  
City of Barrie, [cityinfo@barrie.ca](mailto:cityinfo@barrie.ca)  
Town of Innisfil, [inquiry@innisfil.ca](mailto:inquiry@innisfil.ca)  
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, [clerk@townofbwg.com](mailto:clerk@townofbwg.com)  
Town of New Tecumseth, [info@newtecumseth.ca](mailto:info@newtecumseth.ca)  
City of Orillia, [clerks@orillia.ca](mailto:clerks@orillia.ca)  
Town of Collingwood, [townhall@collingwood.ca](mailto:townhall@collingwood.ca)  
Township of Essa, [llehr@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:llehr@essatownship.on.ca)  
Township of Oro-Medonte, [info@oro-medonte.ca](mailto:info@oro-medonte.ca)  
Town of Wasaga Beach, [clerk@wasagabeach.com](mailto:clerk@wasagabeach.com)  
Town of Midland, [clerks@midland.ca](mailto:clerks@midland.ca)  
Town of Clearview, [info@clearview.ca](mailto:info@clearview.ca)  
Township of Severn, [info@townshipofsevern.com](mailto:info@townshipofsevern.com)  
Township of Tiny, [jreid@tiny.ca](mailto:jreid@tiny.ca)  
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio, [clerk@adjtos.ca](mailto:clerk@adjtos.ca)  
Township of Tay, [deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca](mailto:deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca)  
Township of Ramara, [ramara@ramara.ca](mailto:ramara@ramara.ca)  
Town of Penetanguishene, [scooper@penetanguishene.ca](mailto:scooper@penetanguishene.ca)  
City of Kawartha Lakes, [clerks@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:clerks@kawarthalakes.ca)  
Regional Niagara, [clerk@niagararegion.ca](mailto:clerk@niagararegion.ca)  
Town of Fort Erie, [clerk@forterie.on.ca](mailto:clerk@forterie.on.ca)  
Town of Grimsby, [Administration-Office-General@grimsby.ca](mailto:Administration-Office-General@grimsby.ca)  
Town of Lincoln, [clerks@lincoln.ca](mailto:clerks@lincoln.ca)  
City of Niagara Falls, [clerk@niagarafalls.ca](mailto:clerk@niagarafalls.ca)  
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, [clerks@notl.com](mailto:clerks@notl.com)  
Town of Pelham, [clerks@pelham.ca](mailto:clerks@pelham.ca)  
City of Port Colborne, [CustomerService@portcolborne.ca](mailto:CustomerService@portcolborne.ca)  
City of St. Catharines, [clerks@stcatharines.ca](mailto:clerks@stcatharines.ca)  
City of Thorold, [clerk@thorold.com](mailto:clerk@thorold.com)  
Township of Wainfleet, [mkirkham@wainfleet.ca](mailto:mkirkham@wainfleet.ca)  
City of Welland, [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca)  
Township of West Lincoln, [clerk2@westlincoln.ca](mailto:clerk2@westlincoln.ca)  
Regional Waterloo, [regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)  
City of Kitchener, [clerks@kitchener.ca](mailto:clerks@kitchener.ca)  
City of Waterloo, [olga.smith@waterloo.ca](mailto:olga.smith@waterloo.ca)  
City of Cambridge, [servicecambridge@cambridge.ca](mailto:servicecambridge@cambridge.ca)  
Township of Wilmot, [info@wilmot.ca](mailto:info@wilmot.ca)  
Township of Wellesley, [gkosch@wellesley.ca](mailto:gkosch@wellesley.ca)  
Township of Woolwich, [mail.woolwich@woolwich.ca](mailto:mail.woolwich@woolwich.ca)  
Township of North Dumfries, [mail@northdumfries.ca](mailto:mail@northdumfries.ca)




**Office of the City Clerk**  
Woodstock City Hall  
P.O. Box 1539  
500 Dundas Street  
Woodstock, ON  
N4S 0A7  
Telephone 519-539-1291

June 6, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 09, 2025 8:59 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Re: Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025

At the regular meeting of Woodstock City Council held on June 5, 2025, the following resolution was passed:

“That Woodstock City Council support the resolution from the City of Kingston opposing all provisions in Bill 5 that reduce environmental protections and Ontario’s proud legacy of protections of Endangered Species, and that override the rule of law and that nullify municipal planning authority;

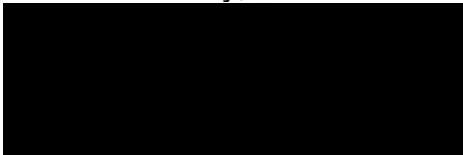
And further that City Council urge the Province of Ontario to support housing and infrastructure development in ways that align with sound environmental planning and wildlife protection and empower municipalities with appropriate planning tools;

And further that City Council call on the provincial government to rescind Bill 5 and return to consultation with the public, Ontario Municipalities, and First Nations;

And further that City Council voice opposition to the establishment of a Special Economic Zone within the City of Woodstock, as currently defined in Bill 5;”

And further that this resolution be circulated to The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development; Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MPP; and all Ontario Municipalities.

Yours Truly,



Amy Humphries  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/City Clerk  
City of Woodstock

Cc.

The Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines – [stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org](mailto:stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org)

The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

The Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks –  
[todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development – [vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org](mailto:vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org)

Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MPP - [ernie.hardemanco@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardemanco@pc.ola.org);

And all Ontario Municipalities



## Office of the City Clerk

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May 21, 2025

Via email

All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Kingston City Council Meeting, May 20, 2025 – Resolution Number 2025-197; Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025**

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At the regular Council meeting on May 20, 2025, Council approved Resolution Number 2025-197 with respect to Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025 as follows:

**Whereas** the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning policies, including replacing the Endangered Species Act with a new framework that reduces protections for at-risk species, and enabling the creation of Special Economic Zones that may override local planning authority and environmental oversight; and

**Whereas** the City of Kingston supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be done in a way that upholds environmental responsibility and maintains the integrity of local planning processes; and

**Whereas** Bill 5, as proposed, weakens safeguards for natural heritage systems, threatening biodiversity, and diminishing the authority of municipalities to manage growth in accordance with local needs and official plans; and

**Whereas** the Canadian Environmental Law Association submits that all of the Bill 5 schedules, with minor exceptions, should be withdrawn and not further considered by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario until they are substantially modified to ensure robust protection for the environment, human health, and vulnerable members of the Ontario public, including Indigenous peoples, who may otherwise be harmed by the amendments contained in the various schedules; and

**Whereas** the Canadian Civil Liberties Association finds that Schedule 9, in allowing the Minister of Economic Development to exempt “trusted proponents”

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The Corporation of the City of Kingston

216 Ontario Street, Kingston, ON K7L 2Z3

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cityclerk@cityofkingston.ca

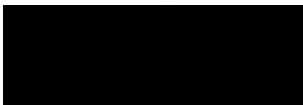
from compliance with municipal and provincial law within the special economic zones, promotes abandonment of the rule of law subjecting Ontario's lands and peoples to the possibility of arbitrary and non-transparent decision-making and effectively nullifying decades of legacy law-making in those zones;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That** the Council of the City of Kingston oppose all provisions in Bill 5 that reduce environmental protections and Ontario's proud legacy of protections of Endangered Species, that override the rule of law and that nullify municipal planning authority; and

**That** the Council of the City of Kingston urge the Province of Ontario to support housing and infrastructure development in ways that align with sound environmental planning and wildlife protection and empower municipalities with appropriate planning tools; and

**That** a copy of this motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P. Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, M.P.P. Minister of Energy and Mines, The Honourable Rob Flack, M.P.P. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy, M.P.P. Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ted Hsu, M.P.P., Kingston & the Islands, John Jordan, M.P.P., Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, and all Ontario municipalities.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Jaynes  
City Clerk  
/nb



Date & Time Received:	June 11, 2025 1:28 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY**  
**P.O. BOX 99**  
**VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0**  
**705-634-2145, Fax 705-634-2700**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR:**

- ☒ Louanne Caza  
☐ Elaine Fic  
☐ Annie Keft  
☐ Francine Plante  
☐ Mayor Culhane

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR:**

- ☐ Louanne Caza  
☐ Elaine Fic  
☒ Annie Keft  
☒ Francine Plante  
☐ Mayor Culhane

**RESOLUTION #** 204/2025

**DATE : June 10, 2025**

**WHEREAS** Canada and the United States have a shared history of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

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

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

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

**AND WHEREAS** newly elected President Donald trump has suggested that with the use of economics force such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51<sup>st</sup> state of the United States;

**AND WHEREAS** President Trump, has now imposed tariffs on imports from Canada that will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries;

**AND WHEREAS** federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian, at the same time as it seeks to remove inter-provincial trade barriers within Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs and can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support Canadian businesses by their procurement of Canadian products and services;

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

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McGarry categorically rejects any efforts by President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of

Canada, and we stand united with our provincial and federal leaders for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government;

**AND FURTHER** that Council endorses the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian and therefore remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for products and services when appropriate and feasible;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council encourages the provincial and federal governments to remove trade barriers between provinces in support of Canadian businesses;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the current purchasing policy be amended to integrate and address these concerns;

**AND FURTHER** that this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Timmins-James Bay MP Charlie Angus, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal association, Ontario Good Roads Association, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Municipalities in the District of Temiskaming.

Recorded vote requested by \_\_\_\_\_

	For	Against
✓ Councillor Louanne Caza		
Councillor Elaine Fic		
Councillor Annie Keft		
✓ Councillor Francine Plante		
Mayor Bonita Culhane		

I declare this motion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because:
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest *

Signature of Chair:

\_\_\_\_\_

*\* Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.*

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM REGION ANTI-RACISM TASKFORCE**

**Thursday, May 22, 2025**

A meeting of the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce was held on Thursday, May 22, 2025 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:03 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### **1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment**

Vice-Chair Case read the following land acknowledgement:

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

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

#### **2. Roll Call**

Present: S. Bookal, Community Member  
PG Case, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Vice-Chair  
R. Coelho, Community Member  
A. Frempong, Community Member  
B. Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
Councillor Lee, Regional Council  
Councillor Shahid, Regional Council attended the meeting at 7:13 PM  
J. Williamson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative  
G. Wilson-Beier, Community Member  
**\* all Members participated electronically**

Absent: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
J. Munawa, Community Member  
B. Nelson, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative  
N. Samuel, Industry/Association/Public Institution Representative, Chair

**Staff**

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

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by A. Frempong, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

- Regular Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting held on March 27, 2025; and
- Closed Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting held on March 27, 2025.

CARRIED

**5. Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

**6. Presentations**

A) Dr. Kashmala Qasim, Post Doctoral Fellow, University of Toronto – Health Professions Education, re: Impact of Hate in the Community

Dr. Kashmala Qasim, Post Doctoral Fellow, University of Toronto – Health Professions Education, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Impact of Hate in the Community.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Definitions and Statistics
  - Let's get the definitions out of the way
  - Ontario Human Rights Commission
  - Why Muslims – Why Canada?
  - Has Islamophobia Increased?
  - Social Context of Islamophobia
- Real-Life Examples
  - Islamophobia in Durham Region
  - What are your thoughts on seeing religious garb?
- When did Muslims come to Canada?
- Early Muslims

- Slave Trade
- Muslims in Toronto
- Amira Elahawaby
- Muslim Women of Durham Region
- Our Work
- Islamic History Month Events
- How You Can Help
- Be an Ally

D. Qasim responded to questions from the Committee with respect to what steps can be taken by the Committee and leaders in the community to educate and positively influence the public on the impacts of hate and bring positive changes to the community; how to ensure messaging and education is widespread to reach all members of the community; whether there are any aspects where the Region falls short in terms of addressing or responding to incidences of hate; and how peers and bystanders can best respond to hate motivated incidences they are a witness to.

## **7. Information Items**

There were no information items.

## **8. Discussion Items**

### **A) Responding to Hate Incidents**

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A. Sharma stated that at a recent Committee of the Whole meeting, staff were directed to investigate the possibility of establishing a hate reporting protocol or policy at the Region.

A. Sharma advised that data on both hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incidents are important in addressing hate activity in Durham. She further advised that in addition to sharing information on hate activity with relevant human rights organizations, the Region can play a larger part in the collection of data relating to hate activity and the supports provided to individuals and communities.

A. Sharma stated that staff examined hate reporting initiatives in other municipalities in Ontario and developed the proposed community-led hate reporting protocol based off models adopted in Chatham-Kent and Ottawa where hate reporting is led by victims' services staff as the first point of contact. She advised that reporting hate related activity is known to be underreported, and this proposed model seeks to reduce reluctance in reporting incidences of hate. A. Hector-Alexander added that relevant religious and human rights organizations were engaged to provide input on the proposed program.

A. Sharma stated that a staff report will be presented to the Finance and Administration Committee and Council in June seeking approval of a two-year pilot project for the community-led hate reporting program which will include the development of a hate reporting portal and webpage. She further stated that the

staff report will include a recommendation that Regional Council request the Durham Region Police Services Board publicly release data relating to hate activity on an annual basis.

Positive feedback relating to the pilot program was received from members of the Committee. General discussion followed with regards to logistics of the reporting tool and process; and including relevant information and disclaimers within the reporting tool.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the anticipated cost of the pilot program; whether staff will have the ability to authenticate submissions made through the reporting process; whether victims services staff will provide appropriate support and guidance to victims reporting hate motivated incidents; whether relevant departments and external organizations will be informed of report submissions; whether express consent from the victim would be required in order to share submission details with relevant external organizations; and whether data collected through the reporting tool will be publicly available.

B) Together Against Hate – Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) Funded Project

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P. Hines stated that the Region has received funding from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) National Anti-Racism Fund that will be used to launch a Together Against Hate Campaign.

P. Hines advised that the CRRF requires that the campaign align with certain project themes and objectives that focus on public awareness and intercultural community building, with results leading to an increase in public awareness of public policy surrounding race relations and anti-hate within local communities and increasing community knowledge regarding hate activity, racism, and discrimination.

P. Hines outlined the anticipated timelines of the project and detailed the following three primary phases that will comprise the proposed campaign:

- The Coalition Building phase will focus on connecting with various community organizations to build a coalition that ensures subject matter experts and people with lived experiences have an opportunity to collaborate and share information and ideas of what should be included in the other phases of the campaign. This information will also be used to identify gaps in legislation and develop recommendations for policy changes to be presented to Council upon completion of the project.
- The Public Awareness Campaign phase will be centred around the creation and distribution of various educational and capacity-building resources that will focus on how to identify and report hate activity, outline how to support victims of hate, and guide communities on how

to navigate incidences of hate and advocate against it. Resources are expected to include videos, newsletters, posters, brochures, and various online tools, including a Durham-specific online toolkit.

- An Anti-Hate Conference, scheduled to take place in November of this year, will be organized based on input from the Coalition Building phase, and feedback from subject matter experts and people with lived experience. The conference will provide an opportunity for capacity building among attendees, information sharing, and provide helpful tools and resources for navigating hate in the community.

P. Hines stated that upon completion of the three phases of the campaign, a staff report will be submitted to Committee and Council to summarize each phase of the project and identify relevant gaps and propose recommendations for policy changes.

P. Hines stated that there will be opportunities for the DRART to participate in each phase of the program and suggested that as an advisory body to Committee and Council, the DRART could deliver a presentation to the Finance and Administrative Committee to accompany the staff report.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the possibility of utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) to respond to online inquiries with Durham-specific resources; whether the project requires approval from Council; and whether a portion of the funding will be used towards the community-led hate reporting protocol pilot program.

## C) Subcommittee Updates

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### 1. Education Working Group

A. Hector-Alexander provided an update on behalf of the Education Working Group and stated that a community connections event is being organized for June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Audley Recreation Centre in Ajax commencing at 6:30 PM. She advised that the focus of the event is to provide education with respect to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) and explain how DEI benefits the community.

A. Hector-Alexander further advised that the event will include a keynote speech delivered by Camille Dundas, followed by a panelist discussion with opportunities for attendees to ask questions.

### 2. DRPS Working Group

Councillor Lee provided the following update on behalf of the DRPS Working Group:

- The Working Group met with members of the Durham Region Police Services (DRPS) Board and learned about training for board members and the DRPS strategic plan. Board members are required to

complete 20 hours of mandatory training which includes a compulsory hate training component. The strategic plan is completed every four years and follows the requirements contained in the Community Safety and Policing Act.

- DRPS recently presented the results of the Equity Assessment that consists of four key metrics and is structured as a 12-month action plan. The DRPS Working Group will follow the process and provide feedback where appropriate. The Working Group is arranging for Ty Smith, the Equity Assessment lead, to present at a future DRART meeting to provide an opportunity for members to ask questions about the plan.
- The Working Group is arranging a meeting with the chair of the DRPS Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) to discuss the recent committee changes and lack of communication from leadership regarding the changes.

A. Sharma added that the working group also met with DRPS Acting Human Resources Director, Danielle Kent-Johnston, to learn about the hiring and promotion processes at DRPS and advised that DRPS follows a 7-step hiring process. A. Sharma shared insights learned during that meeting with regards to DRPS employee turnover and advised that a new DRPS employee engagement survey and census will be launched this summer.

3. EDI Working Group

There were no new updates from the EDI Working Group.

4. School Board Working Group

There were no new updates from the School Board Working Group.

**9. Other Business**

A) Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART) Meeting Mode Preferences

Members participated in a general discussion with regards to the Committee and sub-committee meeting schedules; members' preferences for attending meetings in-person versus electronically; and whether the Committee's Terms of Reference should be updated to set out an agreed upon meeting delivery format for each meeting.

It was the consensus of the Committee that virtual meetings are generally preferred, with in-person meetings being scheduled up to two times per year.

Moved by A. Frempong, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
That the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting scheduled for June 26, 2025 take place in a hybrid format and Members be encouraged to attend in-person.

CARRIED

B) Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART) Logo Update

Following a question from the Committee regarding whether consideration has been given to updating the DRART logo, A. Hector-Alexander advised that a member of the communications team will be invited to the next meeting to discuss building templates for the Committee's webpage and that this item can be included in that discussion.

C) Durham Region Youth Pride Event

P. Hines stated that the Region is hosting its annual Youth Pride Event, which will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Regional Headquarters from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. She advised that over 30 resource village participants will be in attendance along with various entertainers.

P. Hines welcomed members to attend and to promote the event with their networks.

D) Jewish Heritage Event in Ajax

Councillor Lee shared that the Town of Ajax is hosting a Jewish Heritage Event on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Audley Recreation Centre in Ajax. He added that the event will celebrate Jewish heritage and include a panel discussion and highlight Jewish contributions to the community.

E) Palestinian Film Screening and Discussion Event

Councillor Lee shared that the Pickering Palestinian Association is hosting a film screening and discussion event at the Chestnut Hill Recreation Complex in Pickering from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM on May 30<sup>th</sup> featuring the 2022 documentary 'Tantura'.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce meeting will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by A. Frempong,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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PG Case, Vice-Chair

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V. Walker, Committee Clerk