



# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, February 23, 2024

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Tara Stephens, City Clerk

**DATE:** February 23, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Procedural By-law Review & Update

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The Procedural By-law is the foundational document outlining the rules, regulations, and processes governing the operations of the municipality.

The Procedural By-law is essential for ensuring compliance, promoting transparency, enhancing efficiency, adapting to changes, preventing legal issues, maintaining trust and confidence and improving governance within the municipality.

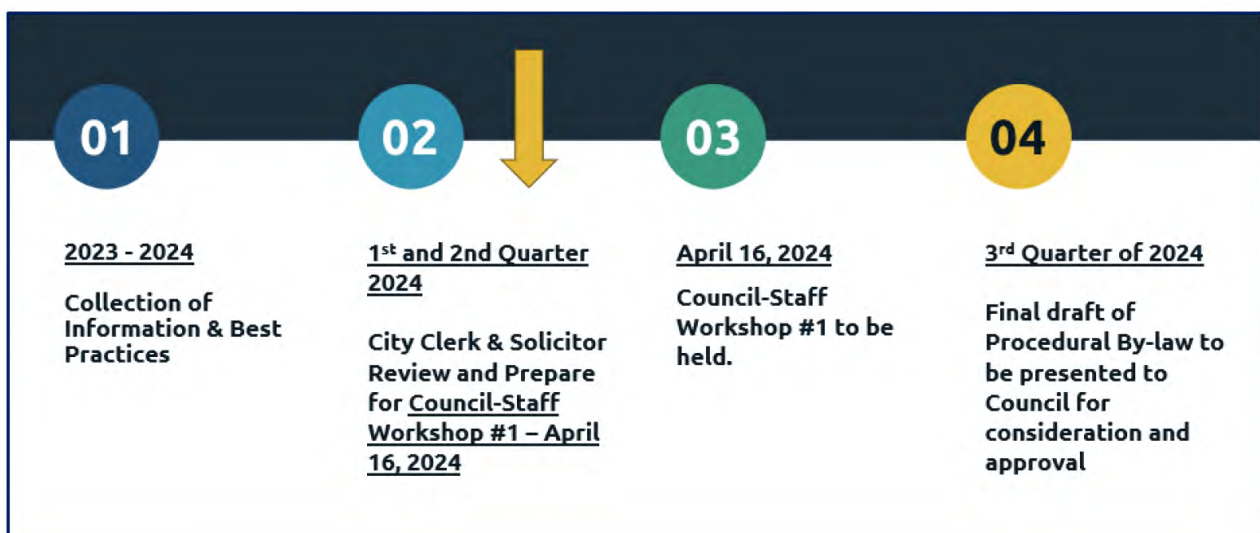
A review of the Procedural By-law is important for ensuring:

1. Legal Compliance
2. Transparency and Accountability
3. Efficiency and Effectiveness
4. Adaptability to Changing Needs
5. Risk Management
6. Stakeholder Confidence
7. Alignment with Best Practices
8. Clarification of Roles and Responsibilities

The current Procedural By-law was approved in 2017, which was then further amended later in 2017 and again in 2020. In 2022 the City Clerk presented report CLK-2022-05: Suggested Recommendations to the Procedural By-law, which included a listing of suggestions for a Procedural By-law update. This document included suggestions from council and staff for consideration. Due to referral and deferral motions, the suggestions were considered in February of 2023. All approved suggestions will be identified in a draft Procedural By-law which will be presented to council at the workshop.

Currently the City Clerk is working with a Solicitor to review our Procedural By-law, along with approved updates from CLK-2022-05, to ensure alignment with legislation in preparation for a workshop to be hosted with Council.

A timeline for completion is identified below:



The City Clerk and Solicitor will be providing a review of the Procedural By-law and previously approved updates to Council at the “Council – Staff Workshop #1” being held on April 16, 2024. By achieving the objectives expressed below, the Procedural By-law review with council will help strengthen governance practices, improve decision-making processes, and enhance transparency and accountability for the organization. The workshop will include the following objectives:

- Evaluating the effectiveness of the current Procedural By-law.
- Identify areas that need clarification, improvement and updates.
- Ensuring compliance with legislation and best practices in governance.
- Promoting transparency and accountability in council proceedings, such as open meeting practices, recording and reporting requirements, and conflict of interest/disclosure protocols.
- Establish procedures and guidelines to facilitate effective decision-making within the council, including voting procedures, agenda setting and public participation process.
- Addressing ethical considerations and best practices in governance, such as confidentiality, impartiality and avoiding conflicts of interest.

- Enhancing communication and collaboration among council members, staff and the community to ensure the Procedural By-law is implemented and followed.
- Empower council members with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate the procedural by-law effectively in order to fulfill their governance responsibilities.
- Creating a process for council members and staff to provide feedback on the Procedural By-law to identify opportunities for continuous improvement.

Next steps related to the Procedural By-law will be presented at the workshop for information (more so, as per above, a workshop for council to be brought into the process). The City Clerk and Solicitor are committed to moving this item forward to finalize and approve a new Procedural By-law for council.

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Welland City Council**

**FROM: Jessica Ruddell, Director, Community Services**

**DATE: February 13, 2024**

**SUBJECT: River Road Boat Launch & Clean-Up Project Update**

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This memo is a response to staff direction, Council Resolution 19-018 from October 1, 2019 and will provide an update on the River Road Boat Launch & Clean-up Project. Back in October 2019, council requested that staff provide a report on costs and feasibility of installing a dock to aid in the launch of motor boats onto the Welland River from the River Road launch site.

In 2023, Council approved a capital budget project to add a basic dock for boats and fishing, clean up the parking area, add signage, and new waste receptacles. Based on the direction provided by Council, and in alignment with the Procurement By-law, Community Services staff secured three quotes for providing and installing the dock. In spring of 2023, the new seasonal dock was installed.

In addition, City staff installed a new sign at the entrance, and a new dual waste receptacle. Trees in the immediate area were elevated and trimmed, and additional stone was added to the parking area. Additional lighting for the parking area will be installed in spring of 2024 in an effort to reduce ongoing reports of vandalism and graffiti.

In summary, Council's directive for the River Road Boat Launch project has been addressed.

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Welland City Council**

**FROM: Jessica Ruddell, Director, Community Services**

**DATE: February 21, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Performance Metrics for Emergency Shelter & Support Systems**

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This memo is to provide an update on the performance metrics that have been established for the emergency shelter in Welland at Holy Trinity church and the respective support systems.

In January 2024, council requested that staff work with Holy Trinity Church to report back on the success of the emergency shelter. To accomplish this in a measurable way, staff worked with housing and homelessness experts at the Region, to develop performance metrics for not only Holy Trinity Church but the respective support systems in Welland. Performance Metrics have been agreed to by all parties involved and are detailed below.

**Performance Metrics for Holy Trinity Church:**

1. Each night, how many women, and men stayed the full night. Include their age.
2. What home community did each participant report?
3. Where did the participant report staying the night before they presented to the shelter? (Options: friends, family, other shelter, street)
4. How many participants were restricted from Holy Trinity site for unsafe behaviours?
5. If an individual was restricted, what type of behaviour(s) was each person restricted for?

6. How many critical incidents occurred? (i.e. Serious injury, serious emergency, loss of consciousness, loss of life, call to emergency services, etc.)
7. Number of unique individuals
8. How many individuals have been turned away?
9. How many referrals are you providing and to whom?

**Performance Metrics for the Hope Centre:**

1. How many individuals were referred from Holy Trinity to Hope Centre?
2. How many from Holy Trinity were then referred to other shelters in the system (For example, women's, youth, family)?
3. How many are referred to Holy Trinity who previously had shelter restrictions?

Note: The Hope Centre regularly tracks available beds and participant information like what is being asked of Holy Trinity above.

**Performance Metrics for Outreach:**

1. How many referrals did they receive from Holy Trinity/Beyond the Streets?

The collection of these performance metrics began on Monday February 12 and will finish at the end of March. At that time, staff will work with the above stakeholders to provide a fulsome report back to Council and recommendations for our future state support systems for the unhoused in late Spring 2024.



**The Corporation of the City of Cambridge**  
**Corporate Services Department**  
**Clerk's Division**  
**Tel: (519) 740-4680 ext. 4585**  
[mantond@cambridge.ca](mailto:mantond@cambridge.ca)

February 14, 2024

**Re: Catch and Release**

At its Council Meeting of February 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

**WHEREAS** this council believes that the safety of our community and its protection from crime in all its forms is of utmost importance.

**WHEREAS** our taxpayer-funded judicial system exists to protect the public, who in return for their tax dollars are entitled to a system that works.

**WHEREAS** the number of charges laid for failure to comply with court orders – primarily failure to comply with the terms of a promise to appear, undertaking, recognizance, probation order, or peace bond – are steadily on the rise in the province of Ontario.

**WHEREAS** there has been a notable increase in the number of violent offences committed in the province of Ontario by individuals who are concurrently subject to release orders.

**WHEREAS** the Ontario justice system is backlogged, court systems under strain, and police and prosecutors overwhelmed by their caseloads.

**WHEREAS** we have seen a dramatic lowering of the threshold for release, resulting in violent, serious, or repeat offenders who should by rights have been reasonably detained in custody, released on supervision plans that are increasingly deficient.

**WHEREAS** the general sense among the criminal population is that breaching bail conditions will not result in much by way of consequence for the offender, as evidenced by a clear pattern province-wide of unjustifiable release, a pattern which is bound to continue given insufficient resources to conduct Crown bail reviews, surety bond estreatment hearings, and ensure the subsequent collection of surety bond funds after judgment.

**WHEREAS** a 'catch and release' system constitutes a failure of government to perform a core function of its existence, that being the protection of public safety and that this failure constitutes a clear and present danger to the public.

**WHEREAS** the current hard drug crisis has contributed to a desperate criminal element that is exacting a significant financial and emotional toll on communities across Canada including Cambridge.

**WHEREAS** our police services are being demoralized by expending precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of these habitual criminal offenders within a system that limits their ability to effectively protect the public.

**AND WHEREAS** this ineffective follow-through by our judicial system unfairly erodes the public's trust in our police services, who consequently become the target of frustrated and angry residents who feel they are no longer being protected from crime.

**AND WHEREAS** the increasing erosion of public faith and trust in our judicial system ultimately brings the administration of justice in the province of Ontario into disrepute and leads to a growing feeling amongst residents that they are no longer protected by a system perceived to prioritize the rights and freedoms of the criminal over the rights and safety of themselves and their families.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge send a letter to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MP Bryan May, MP Valerie Bradford, MPP Jess Dixon, MPP Bryan Riddell, Police Chief Mark Crowell, Waterloo Regional Police Service, all Ontario Police Associations and Police Departments, Ontario Provincial Police, all Ontario MPPs and MPs, and all municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration, requesting additional funding in Ontario's legal system to support a meaningful resistance to the current "catch and release" practice, including hiring sufficient court staff, with a specific focus on additional assistant Crown Attorneys.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Danielle Manton  
City Clerk

Cc: (via email)  
Hon. Prime Minister Trudeau  
Hon. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada  
Attorney General of Ontario  
Ontario Solicitor General  
Hon. Premier Ford  
Ontario Police Associations  
Ontario Police Departments  
Ontario MPPs and MPs  
All Ontario Municipalities

## Economic Development Brief

February 15, 2024

### Statistics and Trends

#### Labour force conditions

Labour force conditions (unadjusted) for Niagara weakened substantially in January 2024. They also weakened for Ontario but at a lesser rate. Labour force conditions have now returned to pre-pandemic levels for both Ontario and Niagara.

Month-over-month data from December 2023 to January 2024 show the following:

- The population of Niagara increased by 0.3% (1,100 people), while the population of Ontario also increased by 0.3%.
- The labour force of Niagara decreased by 2.8% (6,800 people), while the labour force of Ontario decreased by 0.3%.
- Employment in Niagara decreased by 3.6% (8,200 people), while employment in Ontario decreased by 0.4%.
- The unemployment rate for Niagara increased by 0.8% to 7.3%, while the unemployment rate for Ontario increased by 0.2% to 5.8%.
- The participation rate for Niagara decreased by 1.9% to 60.9%, while the participation rate for Ontario decreased by 0.3% to 64.5%.

The slowdown in the economy due to higher interest rates is now fully evident in labour force indicators, with Niagara experiencing a more pronounced impact compared to Ontario overall. The sectors in Niagara that were affected most include healthcare, construction, wholesale and retail trade, and accommodation and food service.

#### **CME suggests over 18,900 manufacturing job vacancies in Ontario**

Manufacturers in Ontario face a critical shortage of skilled workers, with over 18,900 jobs currently unfilled and 7,000 new manufacturing jobs expected to open up soon, particularly in regions like Greater Toronto Area, Kitchener-Waterloo, and Hamilton-Niagara. This shortage is exacerbated by significant retirements expected by 2028 and further strained by upcoming manufacturing investments, particularly in the electric vehicle sector. Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) calls on the Ontario government to enhance training and upskilling initiatives, align immigration programs with industry needs, and improve the province's competitiveness in manufacturing against U.S. counterparts. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

## Economic Development Updates

### **Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre receives \$562,675 federal grant**

Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre has received a federal grant of \$562,675 for their Internationally Educated Health Professionals (IEHP) Hub Pilot Project aimed at integrating foreign health care professionals into the Canadian labour market. This initiative, part of an \$86 million investment across Canada, addresses labour shortages in the health care sector, particularly for physicians, nurses, paramedics, and others, ultimately aiming to improve access to health services and reduce wait times.

### **St. Catharines selected to host 2025 Minto Cup**

St. Catharines has been selected to host the 2025 Minto Cup, the National Junior A Lacrosse Championship of Canada, in collaboration with the Ontario Junior Lacrosse League, Sport Niagara, and the City of St. Catharines. The tournament, taking place from August 16 to 24, 2025, will feature top men's Junior A box lacrosse teams competing at the Meridian Centre. This event follows St. Catharines' successful bid presentation, showcasing the city's commitment to lacrosse and its vibrant sport tourism sector, with previous hosting experiences including the 2001 Minto Cup.

### **Innovate Niagara launches 2023 Year In Success!**

Innovate Niagara has launched its annual report Year In Success! Based on the report, in 2023 Innovate Niagara served 139 local businesses, provided 950 hours in mentorship, provided \$707,000 in market intelligence services, helped clients secure \$12 million in funding, and hosted 2,332 attendees at events. Innovate Niagara also administered the i.d.e.a. Fund initiative which provided 22 businesses with \$660,000 in funding through Cohort 3 of the Fund. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

### **Cogeco announces acquisition of Niagara Regional Broadband Network**

Cogeco Communications Inc. has announced that its subsidiary, Cogeco Connexion, is acquiring Niagara Regional Broadband Network (NRBN), a provider of Internet, telephone, and television services in Niagara. The sellers, City of Niagara Falls and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, will retain minority stakes in NRBN following the acquisition. This strategic move aims to bolster Cogeco's presence in Niagara while facilitating the growth of NRBN.

### **City of Welland and NCDSB partner on Skilled Trades Promotion Night**

The City of Welland and Niagara Catholic District School School Board partnered on the second Skilled Trade Promotion Night held at Denis Morris High School on February 1. The event aims to inspire local youth to consider and pursue rewarding careers in the skilled trades. 350 to 400 students and parents attended this first event for 2024.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

**St. Catharines wins EDCO Award of Excellence for investment attraction**

The City of St. Catharines is being recognized as a leader in economic development with a provincial award for its work promoting the city as a year-round destination for marquee events and festivals that attracts visitors from across the continent. The City's This is How We Live promotional video earned the 2023 Award of Excellence for investment attraction from the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO). Launched in May 2023 to promote tourism season as well as to attract future events to St. Catharines, This is How We Live emphasized the recovery of the tourism, culture and culinary sectors in St. Catharines with dynamic footage captured at in-person events taking place in the city as pandemic restrictions lifted in 2022.

**St. Catharines to receive \$25.7 million from federal housing program**

The federal government announced a \$25.7 million funding deal for St. Catharines to accelerate the construction of almost 700 new housing units, part of a larger initiative to build over 12,000 homes in the next decade through the Housing Accelerator Fund. The funding will support infrastructure enhancements, the creation of a municipal development corporation, and initiatives to streamline the housing application process, aiming to maximize underused city-owned land and encourage the development of additional housing units.

**Niagara-on-the-Lake draft tourism strategy recommends creating tourism director post**

Niagara-on-the-Lake's draft tourism strategy proposes implementing 68 action items, including hiring an economic development and tourism director, with a projected cost exceeding \$550,000 in the first year. The plan, developed by CBRE Tourism Consulting, aims to leverage the municipal accommodation tax to finance the new director's role and fund tourism initiatives. Recommendations also include branding exercises, marketing campaigns, and collaborations with local businesses and Indigenous communities to promote heritage and Indigenous tourism activities. The strategy, set for approval in March, seeks to enhance the town's tourism industry, which attracts millions of visitors annually, generating significant economic impact and supporting thousands of jobs in the region.

**Welland Canal 5-year pilot program a great success**

This year was the final year of a five-year pilot program extending the Welland Canal season one additional week into January. Since the pilot program launched in 2020, Algoma has transported an additional 878,824 metric tons of cargo through the Welland Canal during January. They moved another 66,296 metric tons during the additional 4-day Seaway extension this year, for a total of 945,120 metric tons of additional cargo on one of the most sustainable and dependable supply chains in North America. If transported on our roadways, it would have taken approximately 31,500 trucks to carry the same amount.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.



**The Niagara Falls Exchange set to open February 17**

The Niagara Falls Exchange will be officially open on February 17, 2024. Located on Sylvia Avenue, The Exchange will serve as the city's new cultural hub. It will also be the new home of the Niagara Falls Farmer's Market and also offer a platform for artists to showcase their work through an array of creative spaces including an art gallery, studio, and woodworking facility.

**National Geographic lists eclipse at Niagara Falls as a top 2024 adventure**

Niagara Falls is set to become one of the top travel destinations in the world in 2024 due to a rare total solar eclipse occurring on April 8. National Geographic included this event in its Top 20 Travel Experiences list, ranking Niagara Falls 11th. The eclipse will take place from 2:04 pm to 4:32 pm, with the best views expected from various locations along the Niagara River Parkway, Table Rock Centre, Skylon Tower, and Niagara SkyWheel. National Geographic's Best of the World 2024 travel recommendations highlight unique travel experiences, with the Top 20 Travel Experiences category featuring must-do adventures, including witnessing the eclipse at Niagara Falls.

**Ontario Welcomes \$65 Million Boost to Niagara Region Manufacturing Sector**

The Ontario government is supporting \$65 million in investments by three companies in Niagara through the Regional Development Program. Stanpac Inc., a packaging manufacturer in West Lincoln, will receive \$3.3 million to support a \$35 million investment in equipment and facility upgrades and 30 new jobs; AMSI Inc., a designer and builder of prefabricated buildings that house electrical equipment for various industries in Lincoln will receive \$2.1 million to support a \$20 million investment in constructing a new 67,000 SF manufacturing facility and 9 new jobs; and St. David's Cold Storage, a provider of cold, freezer and ambient temperature storage, will receive \$1.3 million to support a \$9 million investment in facility updates and 7 new jobs.

**Born and Raised Concert Series returning to St. Catharines**

Alexisonfire, City and Colour, Dine Alone Records and Live Nation Canada have announced the return of the Born and Raised Concert Series. Back for its second year, the two-day event will once again take over Montebello Park in the artists' hometown of St. Catharines from July 5-6, 2024. Born and Raised is a celebration and homecoming for Alexisonfire bandmates Dallas Green, George Pettit, Wade MacNeil, Chris Steele, and Jordan Hastings. The music festival is named after the Alexisonfire song of the same name, serving as a tribute to the hometown that witnessed the humble origins of Alexisonfire, City and Colour, Dine Alone Records, and Bedlam Management.

George Spezza, Ec.D., CEcD  
Director, Economic Development

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

# TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound

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February 16, 2024

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

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #2024-53

Moved by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution 2024-46 from the County of Prince Edward relating to a request to the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements. Carried

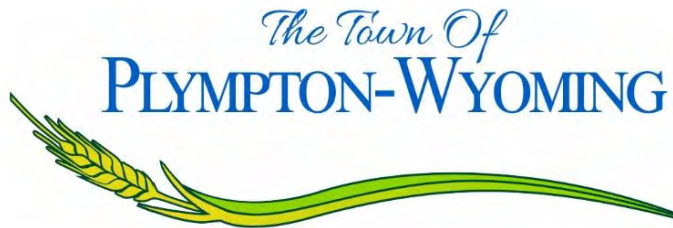
If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com](mailto:clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com)

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall  
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra  
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities





The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
[Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)  
(sent via e-mail)

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Re: Carbon Tax

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

**Motion #12**

Moved by Councillor John van Klaveren

Seconded by Councillor Mike Vasey

That Council support correspondence item 'o' from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

**Carried.**

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca).

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn  
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All Ontario municipalities



**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA  
City Clerk's Department**

255 Christina Street N. PO Box 3018  
Sarnia ON Canada N7T 7N2  
519-332-0330 (phone) 519-332-3995 (fax)  
519-332-2664 (TTY)  
[www.sarnia.ca](http://www.sarnia.ca) [clerks@sarnia.ca](mailto:clerks@sarnia.ca)

January 19, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
[Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Prime Minister:

**Re: Carbon Tax**

At its meeting held on January 15, 2024, Sarnia City Council adopted the following resolution:

***Whereas the federal government recently increased the carbon tax in April 2023 and will almost triple it by 2030; and***

***Whereas the Parliamentary Budget officer has admitted that when fiscal and economic impacts of the federal fuel charge are considered that the vast majority of households will see a staggering loss; and***

***Whereas this tax flows through from producers to transporters to the grocery store floor for our citizens; and***

***Whereas this tax does very little to reduce pollution and emissions; and***

***Whereas two thirds of Canadians are approximately \$200 away or less from not being able to pay all their bills at the end of the month; and***

***Therefore, be it resolved that Sarnia City Council write a Letter to the Federal government (and copied to other Municipalities for their consideration) strongly urging them to cancel the carbon tax which is financially hurting our citizens at a time***

***when affordability concerns are at an all-time high to ease the financial and inflationary pressure on our Citizens.***

Your consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Amy Burkhart', written in black ink.

Amy Burkhart  
City Clerk

cc: All Ontario Municipalities



The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
(sent via e-mail)

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

**Motion #11**

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support correspondence item 'r' from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

***Carried.***

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca).

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn  
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
All Ontario Municipalities

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46**

**DATE: January 16, 2024**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst**

**WHEREAS** By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

**AND WHEREAS** apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

**AND WHEREAS** fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

**AND WHEREAS** Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

**AND WHEREAS** on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

**AND WHEREAS** no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

**THAT** the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

**THAT** this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

**THAT** this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

**CARRIED**

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown



# Township of Central Frontenac



1084 Elizabeth Street, P.O. Box 89, Sharbot Lake, ON K0H 2P0

Tel: 613-279-2935 or 1-800-300-6851, Fax: 613-279-2422

[www.centralfrontenac.com](http://www.centralfrontenac.com)

February 16, 2024

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

Please be advised that Council carried a motion, at its meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>, in support of Prince Edward County's resolution #2024-46, regarding support for the province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements:

RESOLUTION NO.            47-2024  
DATE:                            February 13, 2024  
MOVED BY:                    Councillor Phillip Smith  
SECONDED BY:                Councillor Susan Irwin

**That** Council Support the resolution from Prince Edward County dated January 22, 2024, regarding support for the province to expand the life cycle of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

**And Further That Council** authorize the CAO/Clerk to send a letter of support to Premier Doug Ford, Honourable David Piccini Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

**CARRIED**

Kind Regards,

Cathy MacMunn AMCT ACST  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
[cmacmunn@centralfrontenac.com](mailto:cmacmunn@centralfrontenac.com)

cc.     Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing- Paul Calandra  
       Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skill Development- David Piccini  
       Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
       Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
       All Ontario Municipalities

CM/jl



# Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: February 13, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024- 55

## 9.1.2 AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Municipality Review

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Grant

### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

**Whereas** current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

**Whereas** nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

**Whereas** municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

**Whereas** unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

**Whereas** municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

**Whereas** inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

**Whereas** property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

**Whereas** the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

**Whereas** municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

**Therefore, be it resolved that** the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; **And further that** a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
MPP Victor Fedeli  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Municipalities

Results: Carried

### Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	





## TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound  
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street  
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0  
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393  
[www.mcmurrichmonteith.com](http://www.mcmurrichmonteith.com) E-Mail: [clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com](mailto:clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com)

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February 16, 2024

Re: support Bill C-310 – increase tax credits for volunteer firefighting

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from the Municipality of Wawa to call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Resolution #2024-53

Moved by: Terry Currie

Seconded by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution RC23265 from Municipality of Wawa calling on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsection 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com](mailto:clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com)

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall  
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>J. Mal</i>

**WHEREAS** Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

**WHEREAS** many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

**WHEREAS** without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

**WHEREAS** in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

**WHEREAS** volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

*p.2...*



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

**FURTHERMORE THAT** a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.



## TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound  
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February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury.

Resolution #2024-51

Moved by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution CC2023-303 from City of Greater Sudbury relating to a request to the Province for an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer". Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com](mailto:clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com)

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Marshall".

Cheryl Marshall  
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra  
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini  
MPP Graydon Smith  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

**\*Sent Via Email\***

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

PO BOX 5000 STN A  
200 BRADY STREET  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCC A  
200, RUE BRADY  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

[www.greatersudbury.ca](http://www.greatersudbury.ca)  
[www.grandsudbury.ca](http://www.grandsudbury.ca)

*CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;*

*AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");*

*AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;*

*AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;*

*AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;*

*AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;*

*AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;*

*AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;*

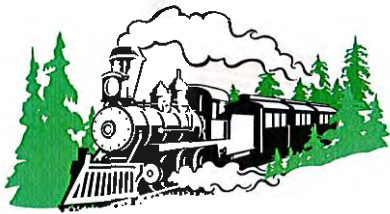
*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.*

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brigitte Sobush', written in a cursive style.

Brigitte Sobush  
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council  
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



## TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound  
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February 16, 2024

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

Re: support of resolution from Township of Conmee

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from Township of Conmee relating to requested changes to the Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act.

Resolution #2024-56

Moved by: Daniel O'Halloran

Seconded by: Wesley Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 2023-0247 from Township of Conmee relating to lobbying the Provincial Government to amend the Municipal Act & Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record pardoned from RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in Municipal Elections or holding office in Municipal Council. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com](mailto:clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com)

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryl Marshall". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cheryl Marshall  
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Attorney General – Doug Downey  
Solicitor General – Michael Kerzner  
Minister of Municipal Affairs – Paul Calandra  
MPP – Graydon Smith  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
All Ontario Municipalities



19 Holland Rd W. RR.#1  
Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0

[www.conmee.com](http://www.conmee.com)

**On December 19<sup>th</sup> 2023, Council passed the following resolution at its regular meeting:**

**RESOLUTION 2023-0247**

**Moved by Councillor Arnold**

**Seconded by Councillor Halvorsen**

WHEREAS duly elected Officials of a Municipality, or a Township are expected to be above reproach and to conduct themselves with integrity, truth, justice, honesty, transparency and courtesy.

AND WHEREAS there are people of dubious character who have a Criminal Record, having been convicted of a Federal Offence of any of the Federal Statutes of Canada, but not limited to the Criminal Code or Narcotic Control Act, who are currently on Council of a Municipality or have let their name stand for election for Mayor, Reeve or Councillor as a municipal candidate.

NOT WITHSTANDING the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Conmee lobby the Provincial Government to amend The Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record pardoned from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in municipal elections or holding office in municipal council

AND THAT an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a criminal offense and must resign

AND THAT Council of the Township of Conmee direct the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, Minister of Municipal Affairs Paul Calandra, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP and Leader of the Official Opposition Marit Stiles, MPP and Critic of the Attorney General Kristyn Wong-Tam, MPP and Critic of Solicitor General John Vanthof, MPP and Critic of Municipal Affairs Jeff Burch, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario





19 Holland Rd W. RR.#1  
Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0

[www.conmee.com](http://www.conmee.com)

Municipal Association, Northern Ontario Municipal Association, Thunder Bay District  
Municipal League, and all Ontario municipalities

**CARRIED**

February 16, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of February 13, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates was carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-81**

**DATE: February 13, 2024**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch**

**WHEREAS** poverty is taking a devastating toll on communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, with people in receipt of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program being disproportionately impacted;

**WHEREAS** the cost of food, housing, medicine, and other essential items have outpaced the highest inflation rates seen in a generation;

**WHEREAS** people in need of social assistance have been legislated into poverty, housing insecurity, hunger, poorer health, their motives questioned, and their dignity undermined;

**WHEREAS** Ontario Works (OW) Financial Assistance rates have been frozen since 2018 (\$733 per month);

**WHEREAS** Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefit rates have been increased by 6.5 per cent as of July 2023 to keep up with inflation, however even with the increase, ODSP rates still fall below their value in 2018 (\$1,376 when adjusted for inflation) and significantly below the disability-adjusted poverty line (\$3,091 per month)

**WHEREAS** OW and ODSP rates do not provide sufficient income for a basic standard of living and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of people across Ontario who rely on these programs live in poverty;

**WHEREAS** the poverty risk profile for Prince Edward County created by Vital Signs states that 10.1% - 13.5% of County residents are living on low income;

**WHEREAS** designated Service Managers are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity, or tools to provide the necessary income and health related supports to people experiencing poverty; and

**WHEREAS** leadership and urgent action is needed from the Provincial Government to immediately develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to address the rising levels of poverty in Ontario, in particular for those on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs;

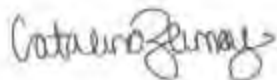
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of Prince Edward County joins the Town of Orangeville to calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation, answering calls already made by “Raise the Rates” campaign and the “Income Security Advocacy Centre”;
- b) Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;
- c) Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch, and Marcia Wallace, CAO



## Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340  
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0  
T: 613-269-4791  
W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

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February 16, 2024

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

### **Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its regular meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, passed the following motion endorsing the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

**Resolution #:** R-21-12-02-24  
**Moved by:** Deputy Mayor Barr  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Ireland

**THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford endorse the resolution received from Prince Edward County regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements Fire Underwriters Survey requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca).

Your truly,

Julia McCaugherty-Jansman  
Clerk

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46**

**DATE: January 16, 2024**

**MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman**

**SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst**

**WHEREAS** By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

**AND WHEREAS** apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

**AND WHEREAS** fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

**AND WHEREAS** Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

**AND WHEREAS** on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

**AND WHEREAS** no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

**THAT** the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

**THAT** this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

**THAT** this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

**CARRIED**

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown

## AMO's Advanced Councillor Training Series

As an elected official the demands never stop. The expectations to lead, solve problems and build the economic and social sustainability of your community are high. At the same time, this diversity and energy is the beauty of local leadership.

AMO has expanded its councillor education offerings understanding the expectations and demands you face every day. The 3 sessions available through our **Advanced Councillor Training Series** explores everything from creating and maintaining good and ethical governance, strategic planning, community engagement and fiscal sustainability.

Mid-way through your council term is a prime time to hone your skills and revitalize your leadership.

For full information including workshop descriptions, dates and registration visit [amoeducation.ca](http://amoeducation.ca)

### Advanced Councillor Training Series:

- **Session 1:**

This training focuses on the ABCD's of governance and leadership. You will explore foundational governance, ethical responsibility, council-staff relations, and code of conduct.

- **Session 2:**

As an elected official, your understanding and approach to planning and leadership will be one of your lasting legacies on your organization and community. This session will look into various elements of leadership and actions you should be undertaking including stewardship, strategic planning and fiscal sustainability.

- **Session 3:**

Budget and strategic planning are a great internal exercise but if your constituents and community members don't really understand what you are doing, why you are doing it and how priorities are identified and planned for, well, we all understand what the fallout can look like. This session explores the importance of and options to community engagement and how your leadership in this area is the key ingredient to meaningful and impactful local engagement.

If you have questions please reach out to [events@amo.on.ca](mailto:events@amo.on.ca)

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Inquires: [events@amo.on.ca](mailto:events@amo.on.ca)

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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





Box 608, Little Current, Ontario, POP 1K0  
705-368-3500

Please find below a motion of support for the recent motion shared by Renfrew County. We would also like to bring to everyone's attention a motion that we recently passed and forwarded on.

This is an issue that seems to be affecting many small communities and in these tight economic times an important factor to keeping residents in their homes and our water systems safe.

Resolution No. 38-02-2024

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: L. Cook

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands supports the resolution put forth by the County of Renfrew to advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine of the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

Carried

**Resolution No. 29-02-2024**

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: M. Erskine

where they do not have sufficient financial resources to meet the ongoing demands of everyday living. This has created a situation where residents who are struggling to pay their daily expenses lack the financial resources to maintain the critical infrastructure required to sustain the water and wastewater systems that service their homes. It is critically important that the other levels of government recognize this fact and provide funding assistance that can be accessed based on operational and financial need. Whereas the current housing accelerator fund provides financial support for small communities and water and distribution systems are considered eligible under the program guidelines, And whereas one of the primary criteria for this funding is the ability to prove that the funds will accelerate the development of housing stock on the water or distribution system, And whereas many smaller communities are not experiencing the level of growth necessary to meet the requirements of the program for growth in housing stock, And whereas the water and wastewater systems in those communities represents a higher cost to operate per capita than the systems in larger built-up areas, And whereas the cost of maintaining those systems on a user-pay basis is creating undo financial hardship for the limited number of residents on those systems Therefor be it resolved that the Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands requests that the Province of Ontario implement a funding stream for water and wastewater systems that primarily utilizes operational and financial need as a criteria. And furthermore that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Ford, the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of the Environment and Michael Mantha, MPP

Carried



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24016	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: <i>M. Hatfield</i>	Seconded by: <i>John W. Opato</i>

**WHEREAS** By-Law 1070-96, being a By-Law to continue and regulate a Fire Department for the Corporation of the Municipality of Fire Department;

**AND WHEREAS** apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 1070-96, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

**AND WHEREAS** fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

**AND WHEREAS** Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

**AND WHEREAS** on January 24, 2024, Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa received the 2024 Wawa Fire Service Review by The Loomex Group that identifies and evaluates Wawa's current and anticipated fire protection needs, Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

**AND WHEREAS** no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

p.2...





The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt;

AND FINALLY RESOLVE THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence

Clerk, \_\_\_\_\_

DEPUTY MAYOR - JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

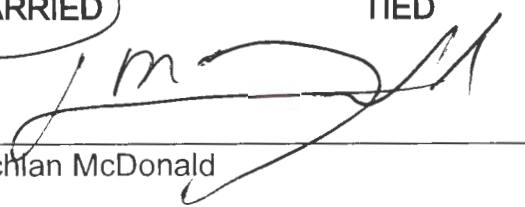
Resolution Number 2024-046  
Title: Support Resolution - Fire Apparatus Life Span  
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2024

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Moved by Councillor Jaworski  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Long

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Glengarry hereby supports the resolution passed by the County of Prince Edward and the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities  
AND FURTHERMORE that this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the County of Prince Edward.

CARRIED                      TIED                      DEFEATED                      POSTPONED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Lachlan McDonald



# Northumberland County Council Resolution

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**February 22, 2024**

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Northumberland County Resolution –  
'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify  
the Definition of Employer'**

---

At a meeting held on February 21, 2024 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109 adopting the below recommendation from the February 6, 2024 Corporate Support Committee meeting.

**Moved by:** Councillor Lucas Cleveland  
**Seconded by:** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

**Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109**

**Carried**

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



**The Corporation of the  
County of Northumberland**

555 Courthouse Road  
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,  
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M Maddison".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk  
Northumberland County

# Council Resolution

Moved By L. Cleveland Agenda Item 10 Resolution Number 2024-02-21- 109  
 Seconded By O. Ankovsky

Council Date: February 21, 2024


"That Council adopt all recommendations from the four Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held February 6 and 7), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
		- Social Services Committee, Item 7.a, 'Correspondence, '310 Division Street, Cobourg' – Held by Councillor Cleveland	

**And Further That** the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote Requested by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Councillor's Name

Deferred \_\_\_\_\_  
 Warden's Signature

Carried  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Warden's Signature

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_  
 Warden's Signature

## Corporate Support Committee Resolution

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**Committee Meeting Date:** February 6, 2024

**Agenda Item:** 7.b

**Resolution Number:** 2024-02-06-077

**Moved by:** S. Dibb

**Seconded by:** B. Ostrander

**Council Meeting Date:** February 21, 2024

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"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

**Carried**   
Committee Chair's Signature

**Defeated** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**Deferred** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature





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The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
*DELIVERED VIA EMAIL*

January 15<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'**

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2024, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

***Motion 14***

*Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett*

*Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues*

*That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.*

***Carried.***

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca).

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak  
Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Bob Bailey, MPP – Sarnia-Lambton  
Association of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ontario's Big City Mayors  
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario  
Council of Ontario Construction Associations  
Ontario Chamber of Commerce  
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

**\*Sent Via Email\***

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of “Employer”

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

*CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the “City”) entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City’s downtown core;*

*AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the “Act”);*

*AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;*

*AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;*

*AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;*

*AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City’s appeal;*

*AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;*

PO BOX 5000 STN A  
200 BRADY STREET  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCC A  
200, RUE BRADY  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

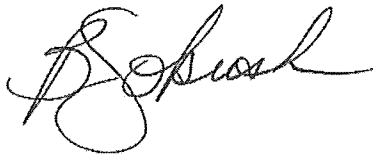
www.greatersudbury.ca  
www.grandsudbury.ca

*AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.*

Yours truly,



Brigitte Sobush  
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council  
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE**  
**69 FOURTH AVENUE, P. O. BOX 40, LARDER LAKE, ON P0K 1L0**  
**PH: 705-643-2158 FAX: 705-643-2311**  
**LARDERLAKE.CA**

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

***\*Sent Via Email\****

**Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"**

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the following resolution of support was adopted:

**Resolution: 4**

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

**Carried**

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

**Crystal Labbe**  
**CAO/ Clerk Treasurer**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE**

**69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON**

Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



**MOVED BY:**

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

**SECONDED BY:**

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette
- Mayor Quinn

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities OF Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Reginal Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Recorded vote requested:

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull		
Paul Kelly		
Lynne Paquette		
Patty Quinn		

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*

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of Public and  
Business Service Delivery  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
VIA EMAIL:

[Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org)

MPP Jill Dunlop  
Unit 9  
575 West St. S  
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6  
VIA EMAIL:  
[Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org](mailto:Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org)

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim  
CEO/Registrar  
100 Sheppard Avenue East,  
Suite 500  
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5  
VIA EMAIL:  
[info@thebao.ca](mailto:info@thebao.ca)

MPP Brian Saunderson  
Suite 28  
180 Parsons Rd.  
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8  
VIA EMAIL:  
[Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org](mailto:Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0  
[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-003:** Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

**CARRIED**



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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

CC: Ontario Municipalities



CLEARVIEW  
TOWNSHIP

**Clerk's Department**  
Township of Clearview  
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street  
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0  
[clerks@clearview.ca](mailto:clerks@clearview.ca) | [www.clearview.ca](http://www.clearview.ca)  
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery  
777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

**RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support**

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Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;



And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha Helmkey-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC  
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar  
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson  
Ontario Municipalities



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**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

**Date:** December 11, 2023

**Subject:** Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

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## Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

## **Background**

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

### Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

## Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

### Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- Increased regulatory processes

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- Inconsistent cemetery regulations

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

### **Operational Impact**

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- High maintenance costs

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- Cost of cemetery management software

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

### **Support Request**

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

### **Clearview's Strategic Plan**

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

### **Financial Implications**

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

### **Report Appendices**

Not applicable.

### **Approvals**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
<b>Financial Implications Reviewed by:</b>	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
<b>Approved by:</b>	John Ferguson, CAO



# TAY TOWNSHIP

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Victoria Harbour, Ontario  
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December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email [Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org)

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

## **Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township**

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

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And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,



Katelyn Johns, MPPA  
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.