



# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, January 31, 2025

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Tara Stephens, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

**DATE:** January 31, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Legislative, Regulatory, and Fee Changes Effective January 1, 2025

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The following changes to legislation, regulations, and fees, which relate to or are relevant to municipal matters, will take effect on **January 1, 2025**. These updates span a range of ministries and aim to streamline processes, enhance safety, improve oversight, and support municipal responsibilities.

### **Ministry of the Attorney General**

- Amendments to the *Legislation Act, 2006* streamline statute commencement via Orders in Council (OICs).
- Reduced licensing barriers under the *Cannabis Licence Act, 2018* to simplify cannabis retail transfers.
- Enhanced child safety under the *Cannabis Control Act, 2017*, prohibiting cannabis cultivation in home-based childcare.
- New *Architects Act* limited license for “Licensed Technologists.”

### **Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

- Removal of land use planning responsibilities from Durham and Waterloo regions.
- Harmonized *Building Code* with national standards, promoting mass timber use.

### **Ministry of Finance**

- Permanent target benefit framework for pension plans.
- Consistent property tax treatment for university-operated student housing.

### **Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks**

- Easier compliance with *Emissions Performance Standards (EPS)* using renewable natural gas.

- Simplified recycling requirements for producers under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016*.

#### **Ministry of Francophone Affairs**

- Service expansions and agency updates under the *French Language Services Act*.

#### **Ministry of Health**

- Consolidation of nine public health agencies into four.
- Enhanced reporting under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004*.

#### **Ministry of Transportation**

- Increased collision damage reporting threshold to \$5,000.
- Deadline extension for Motor Vehicle Inspection Stations to join the DriveON program.

These updates address efficiency, accessibility, safety, and service quality. For further details, you can access and search the legislation and regulations through Ontario's **e-Laws** platform: [www.ontario.ca/laws](http://www.ontario.ca/laws).



The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
[justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

**Sent by E-Mail**

January 23, 2025

**Re: Motion Requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding**

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on January 20, 2025:

**WHEREAS** municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

**AND WHEREAS** the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

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

**AND WHEREAS** redistributing a portion of the LTT and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

**AND WHEREAS** a redistribution of a portion of the existing LTT and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

**AND WHEREAS** on November 27, 2024, Durham Regional Council passed a resolution requesting the Federal and Provincial governments redistribute a portion of the LTT and GST to municipalities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Ajax Council calls on the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities and remind the province that it has been asked by AMO and municipalities to develop a new and comprehensive funding arrangement with municipalities, including the housing affordability taskforce recommendations;
2. Ajax Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the Goods and Services Tax collected on property sales to municipalities;
3. Redistribution of the LTT and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;
4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or [thomas.street@ajax.ca](mailto:thomas.street@ajax.ca)

Sincerely,



Thomas Street  
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Councillor R. Tyler Morin  
Regional Councillor M. Crawford  
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
All Durham Region MPs  
All Durham Region MPPs  
All Ontario municipalities  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

January 24, 2025

**CL 2- 2025, January 23, 2025**

***DISTRIBUTION LIST***

***SENT ELECTRONICALLY***

**Motion Respecting Use of the Notwithstanding Clause to Remove Encampments**

Regional Council, at its meeting held on January 23, 2025, passed the following motion:

**WHEREAS** mayors from several Ontario municipalities have recently petitioned the Premier of Ontario to invoke the notwithstanding clause for the removal of encampments, where no housing or shelter space exists or any action or enforcement for such eviction or displacement thereby undermining and violating the very rights that Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms is in place to protect;

**WHEREAS** the application of Section 7 of the Charter to issues concerning encampments and individuals living in temporary shelters was affirmed in the decision of Justice Valente in *The Regional Municipality of Waterloo v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained*, 2023 ONSC 670;

**WHEREAS** The Regional Municipality of Niagara has declared a state of emergency on homelessness, housing and mental health and addictions;

**WHEREAS** The Regional Municipality of Niagara recently endorsed a motion supporting the Big City Mayors' "Solve the Crisis Campaign", which thoughtfully outlined a path forward including the appointment of ministry and Minister who would be responsible with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports;

**WHEREAS** individuals who remain unhoused are experiencing trauma, mental health challenges, and may be experiencing substance use disorders are among the most vulnerable members of our society, deserving of protection and support rather than further marginalization; and

**WHEREAS** the resources to remove encampments will have a significant impact on our budget and all financial resources should be directed to housing supports.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED:

1. That Niagara Regional Council **SUPPORTS** Section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and upholding the values presented therein;
2. That The Regional Municipality of Niagara **AFFIRMS** that all individuals, regardless of their housing status or personal circumstances, are entitled to the full protection of their Charter rights;
3. That The Regional Municipality of Niagara **RECOGNIZES** that addressing homelessness, mental health issues, and addiction requires trauma-informed, evidence-based solutions that respect the dignity and rights of all individuals;
4. That The Regional Municipality of Niagara **CALLS** upon the provincial government to work collaboratively with municipalities, health experts, and community organizations to develop comprehensive strategies that address the root causes of homelessness, mental health challenges, and addiction, while upholding the Charter rights of all citizens; and
5. That The Regional Municipality of Niagara **COMMITTS** to advocating for increased funding and support for affordable housing, mental health services, and addiction treatment programs as more effective and humane alternatives to encampment evictions and that this motion be shared with all local area municipalities, Ontario Big City Mayors, local MPP's and the Honourable Doug Ford. Attorney General, Doug Downey, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsa, the Finance Minister, Peter Bethlenfalvy and the Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk

:kl  
CLK-C 2025-002

Distribution List:

Premier of Ontario  
Minister of the Attorney General  
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
Minister of Finance  
Minister of Health  
Local Members of Provincial Parliament  
Ontario Big City Mayors  
Local Area Municipalities

**NRH Board of Directors Elects 2025 Officers  
With St. Catharines Mayor Mat Siscoe as new NRH Chair**

NIAGARA REGION, January 17, 2025 – At their January 17 meeting, the Niagara Regional Housing (NRH) Board of Directors elected the following Executive Committee to provide leadership for the Board:

- Chair – Mat Siscoe (Mayor, St. Catharines). Mayor Siscoe is serving his first term on the NRH Board. He held the role of Vice Chair 2023-2024
- Vice-Chair – Jeff Jordan (Mayor, Grimsby). Mayor Jordan is serving his first term on the NRH Board. He held the position of Secretary from 2022-2025
- Secretary – Tom Insinna (Regional Councillor, Fort Erie) He is serving his second term on the NRH Board. He held the position of Secretary in 2022
- Treasurer – Leanna Villella (Regional Councillor, Welland) is serving her second term on the NRH Board and was previously Vice-Chair from 2024-2025

The NRH Board is comprised of five Regional Councillors and four Community Directors. Also on the Board are Betty Ann Baker (Community Director, Welland), David Mole (Community Director, St. Catharines), Betty Lou Souter (Community Director, St. Catharines), Drew Toth (Community Director, Niagara Falls) and Gary Zalepa (Lord Mayor, Niagara on The Lake).

**Quotes:**

“I would like to thank former Chair, Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa, for his exceptional leadership. He has been a tremendous support to our organization and has always been open to creative approaches to address our many challenges. I look forward to working with our new Chair, Mayor Siscoe, who has been a dedicated member of our Board since his 2022.”

**~ NRH CEO Cameron Banach**

"I am honoured to have been elected Chair of the Niagara Regional Housing Board. Community Housing and new development have never been more important in Niagara, as we experience the impact of the desperate shortage of low income rentals. I look forward to leading NRH as we work with the Region, local municipalities and the community to find solutions together. I would like to thank Lord Mayor Zalepa for his contribution as NRH Chair and looking forward to continuing to work with he and the rest of the NRH Board. "

**~ NRH Board Chair, Mat Siscoe**

-30-

**Contact:**

Cameron Banach  
Chief Executive Officer, NRH  
905-682-9201, ext. 3930  
Cameron.banach@niagararegion.ca

Mayor Mat Siscoe  
Board Chair, NRH  
905-688-5601, ext. 1542  
Mat.siscoe@niagararegion.ca





January 15, 2025

Good Roads  
1525 Cornwall Road  
Unit 22  
Oakville, ON L6J 0B2

Sent via email: [info@goodroads.ca](mailto:info@goodroads.ca)

To whom it may concern:

Re: 2025-25

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the January 15, 2025 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

**2025-25**

**That Council receive the Good Road Letter - Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program for information; and**  
**Whereas, official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads; and**  
**Whereas, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads; and**  
**Whereas, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base; and**  
**Whereas, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system; and**  
**Whereas, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles; now**  
**Therefor be it resolved that the Municipality of Grey Highlands requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and**  
**Further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency**

**Preparedness and Response, and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and  
Further that this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.  
CARRIED.**

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

*Amanda Fines-VanAlstine*

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine  
Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk  
Municipality of Grey Highlands



**GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE**  
CITIES INITIATIVE  
**L'ALLIANCE DES VILLES**  
DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

Dear Members,

2025 will be a year of federal government transitions in both our countries. On Monday, Donald Trump was sworn in as President of the United States for a second term in office. Both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate are now controlled by the Republican Party, a departure from the 118th Congress in which Democrats controlled the upper chamber. Meanwhile, in Canada, Justin Trudeau has announced his intention to resign as Prime Minister, prompting a leadership race in the Liberal Party and fueling speculation that federal elections could be held as early as the spring. If current polls are accurate, the incumbent Liberals are likely to lose several seats and Conservative Party leader Pierre Poilievre is, at present, favored to become the next Prime Minister.

Political winds are shifting, but the mission of the Cities Initiative – to promote economic prosperity in our communities and protect our fresh water for the benefit of current and future generations – will remain unchanged. This message of healthy growth is already bipartisan in nature. That said, the priorities of government are changing, and we will adapt our approach and tactics to remain influential in Washington and Ottawa.

We have already begun to adjust our approach in close consultation with our Board of Directors and our two Co-Chairs, Mayor Ryan Sorenson of Sheboygan, WI and Mayor Gino Moretti of Saint-Anicet, QC. We have also established a Mayors Transition Team – led by Mayor Bill Bazzi of Dearborn Heights, MI and Mayor Mat Siscoe of St. Catharines, ON – to provide strategic input as we reposition our organization for sustained success amid government transitions in both the United States and Canada.

As an initial step, the Cities Initiative has sent a [letter](#) to President Trump from Mayor Sorenson, Mayor Moretti, Mayor Bazzi, and Mayor Siscoe in a bid to establish a working relationship with the new administration so that we may continue to advance our region's economic and environmental interests at the national level. Specifically, the letter calls on President Trump to:

- **Support an Integrated Supply Chain with Canada** by strengthening a bilateral relationship that generates \$133.7 billion in economic activity for our region. We caution against the imposition of a blanket 25 percent tariff on all U.S. imports from Canada, as it risks undermining this vital economic partnership
- **Safeguard the World's Largest Freshwater Ecosystem** by fully funding and reauthorizing the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- **Promote American Energy Independence & National Security** by maintaining energy tax credits and direct pay provisions that allow local governments to recoup the costs of their investments in alternative energy sources
- **Modernize Water Infrastructure** by sustaining high levels of federal investment in water infrastructure, including lead service line replacement
- **Maintain Funding for Coastal Resilience** by supporting the full implementation of existing funding streams for coastal resilience

We will continue to encourage action on these vital issues in Washington in the months ahead, but we can't do it without your active engagement. **Please consider [signing up](#) to join us for Great Lakes Day in Washington, taking place March 5 - 7, 2025.** This year's Great Lakes Day will be more important than ever since it will give us our first opportunity to engage the new U.S. Administration on important issues facing our region. We must communicate the urgency of these issues and their impact on economic growth. While our agenda is still coming together, we plan on organizing meetings with U.S. lawmakers on Capitol Hill and senior U.S. officials at the White House, as well as discussions with federal agency heads, industry leaders, and other key stakeholders. We are also planning a press conference to highlight our opposition to blanket tariffs on U.S.-Canadian trade. We encourage all our members, both from the U.S. and Canada, to consider joining us this year in Washington.

Our plans for a Great Lakes Day in Ottawa are in flux as we await confirmation of election dates. Please be assured that similar efforts will be made in Ottawa as a new government will be sworn in regardless of the election results.

As an organization focused on collaboration and convening partners around common issues, we are engaging – and will continue to engage – with like-minded groups and associations that share our priorities to strengthen our collective voice.

Additionally, if you are interested in participating in the Mayors Transition Team, to provide strategic input as we reposition our organization to engage these new federal governments please get in touch with Travis Wheeler from our team at [twheeler@glslcities.org](mailto:twheeler@glslcities.org).

More than ever, the Cities Initiative will serve as a critical voice for advancing solutions to the challenges facing communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region. Thank you for your steadfast local leadership during these government transitions. Please reach out to me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jon Altenberg

President & CEO



January 27, 2025

Local Area Municipal Councils

Subject: Public Engagement for the Facilities, Strategic Asset, and Service Network Master Plan

Niagara Transit is pleased to provide an update on the progress of the Facilities, Strategic Asset, and Service Network Master Plan and to invite participation from you and your municipality's residents. We are currently in the second phase of this initiative and are seeking public input on four proposed network options. This is a critical step in shaping the future of transit services in Niagara.

### **Purpose of the Engagement**

The four proposed network options each present unique approaches to improving transit connectivity and efficiency. Key considerations include:

- **Hours of Service:** Ensuring transit availability aligns with community needs.
- **Frequency:** Enhancing reliability and reducing wait times.
- **Route Coverage:** Expanding access to key destinations.
- **Affordability:** Maintaining cost-effective service delivery.

Residents are encouraged to provide their feedback before Feb. 14, 2025, by participating in the **Exploring Possibilities Survey**, available online at [NRTransit.ca](https://nrtransit.ca). Additionally, a series of in-person public engagement sessions will be held across Niagara to ensure accessibility for all.

### **Public Engagement Sessions**

The schedule for the sessions is as follows:

- **Fort Erie:** Fort Erie Town Hall, 1 Municipal Dr.  
Jan. 30, 2025, 1-3 p.m.
- **Grimsby:** Grimsby Public Library, 18 Carnegie Lane  
Feb. 4, 2025, 3-5 p.m.
- **Lincoln:** Fleming Centre, 5020 Serena Dr.  
Jan. 29, 2025, 1-3 p.m.
- **Niagara Falls:** MacBain Centre, 7150 Montrose Road  
Feb. 3, 2025, 9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- **Niagara-on-the-Lake:** Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre, 14 Anderson Lane  
Feb. 4, 2025, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Pelham:** Meridian Community Centre, 100 Meridian Way  
Feb. 5, 2025, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- **Port Colborne:** Port Colborne Library, 310 King St  
Feb. 6, 2025, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **St. Catharines:** Kiwanis Aquatic Centre, 425 Carlton St.  
Jan. 28, 2025, 4-7 p.m.
- **Thorold:** Thorold Senior Citizens Centre, 8 Carleton Street S.  
Feb. 7, 2025, 9:30-11:30 p.m.
- **Wainfleet:** Wainfleet Firefighters' Community Hall, Park Street  
Feb. 6, 2025, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- **Welland:** Seaway Mall, 800 Niagara Street  
Feb. 3, 2025, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
- **West Lincoln:** West Lincoln Community Centre, 177 West Street  
Feb. 5, 2025, 3-6 p.m.
- **Brock University:** Thistle Complex, 1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way  
Jan. 28, 2025, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Niagara College:** Welland Campus, 100 Niagara College Boulevard  
Jan. 30, 2025, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- **Niagara College Daniel J. Patterson Campus:** 135 Taylor Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake  
Jan. 29, 2025, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

### **Additional Information**

For more details about the Master Plan and to review the network proposals, please visit: [NRTransit.ca/about-nrt/roadmap/master-plan-project](https://nrtransit.ca/about-nrt/roadmap/master-plan-project)

We respectfully request that this memo be included on your next Council agenda. We encourage all Council members to participate in the survey, share it with their constituents, and actively contribute to shaping the future of Niagara's transit network. Your support is invaluable in ensuring all voices are heard as we work toward creating a more connected and accessible transit system.





January 27, 2025  
**SENT ELECTRONICALLY**

3350 Merrittville Hwy. Unit 9  
Thorold Ontario L2V 4Y6  
905.788.3135 | info@npca.ca | npca.ca

City of Hamilton  
Haldimand County  
Niagara Regional Municipality  
Local Area Municipalities

**RE: Report No. FA-65-24 RE: Public Advisory Committee Member Recruitment**

At the Board of Directors meeting held on December 13, 2024, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution No. FA-132-2024  
Moved by: Donna Cridland  
Seconded by: Michelle Seaborn

**THAT** Report No. FA-65-24 RE: Public Advisory Committee Member Recruitment **BE RECEIVED**;

**AND THAT** staff **BE DIRECTED** to proceed with Public Advisory Committee member recruitment as outlined herein;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Report No. FA-65-24 and the Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference **BE CIRCULATED** to partner and local area municipalities to support committee member recruitment.

Attached you will find a Call for Committee Representatives, Report No. FA-65-24 and the Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference. Any questions can be directed to Melanie Davis at [mdavis@npca.ca](mailto:mdavis@npca.ca).

Sincerely,

Melanie Davis  
Manager, Office of the CAO & Board  
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) is seeking candidates to engage on the Public Advisory Committee in three (3) representative roles. Members of the Niagara Peninsula watershed community, especially those engaged in the following industry networks are invited to apply:

- Agriculture & Farming
- Business & Industry
- Development & Building

### About the Public Advisory Committee

The NPCA's Public Advisory Committee (PAC) is a dedicated group of citizen representatives from diverse watershed sectors that provides collaborative, local sector-based perspectives on matters pertaining to the authority.

Meeting approximately four times per year, the PAC serves as a vital platform for community voices. These passionate volunteers bring collaborative, sector-based perspectives to guide specific projects, programs, and other conservation matters as determined by the NPCA Board of Directors or staff.

### Application Process

The application questionnaire and further details can be found on the NPCA's Get Involved engagement platform at: <https://getinvolved.npca.ca/public-advisory-committee>.

The guiding timeline for Committee member recruitment is as follows:

<b>Application Deadline:</b>	Monday, February 3, 2025
<b>Notice to Recommended Appointees:</b>	February 17-27, 2025
<b>Board Consideration of Recommendations:</b>	Friday, March 21, 2025
<b>Notice of Outcome to All Applicants:</b>	Friday, March 21, 2025

### Contact

For more information about NPCA's Public Advisory Committee, please contact:

Melanie Davis  
Manager, Office of the CAO & Board  
905-933-0055 | [mdavis@npca.ca](mailto:mdavis@npca.ca)

**Report To: Board of Directors**

**Subject: Public Advisory Committee Member Recruitment**

**Report No: FA-65-24**

**Date: December 13, 2024**

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**Recommendation:**

**THAT** Report No. FA-65-24 RE: Public Advisory Committee Member Recruitment **BE RECEIVED**;

**AND THAT** staff **BE DIRECTED** to proceed with Public Advisory Committee member recruitment as outlined herein;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Report No. FA-65-24 and the Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference **BE CIRCULATED** to partner and local area municipalities to support committee member recruitment.

**Purpose:**

To advise the Board of Directors about three vacancies on the Public Advisory Committee and seek approval to proceed with recruitment initiatives.

**Background:**

The *Conservation Authorities Act* includes a provision that enables the NPCA to establish advisory boards as it considers appropriate (s.18 (2)). In accordance with the NPCA Administrative By-Law, each established advisory committee must have Board-approved Terms of Reference appended to the By-Law.

The NPCA's Public Advisory Committee (PAC) was established in 2014 and consists of citizen representatives from various watershed sectors to provide collaborative, local sector-based perspectives on specific projects and programs, and other conservation authority matters, as determined by the NPCA. The voluntary group of PAC members has been instrumental in providing valuable input to NPCA staff and the Board of Directors.

In 2022, Public Advisory Committee members provided feedback on the structure, composition, and role of the PAC which resulted in an updated Terms of Reference approved by the Board at the February 17, 2023, Full Authority meeting.

The key changes included the addition of a Vice-Chair, clarification of Staff and Board roles, extension of the Members' terms to align with the Board, and the addition of specific representatives.

At the Public Advisory Committee meeting held on September 17, 2024, Members discussed the decline in attendance that puts a quorum at risk. The Terms of Reference stipulate that three (3) missed meetings may result in termination.

### **Discussion:**

Staff connected with committee members to discuss attendance, scheduling conflicts, and alternative solutions resulting in vacancies identified in the following roles on the PAC:

- One (1) business/industry representative;
- One (1) development/building representative; and
- One (1) agricultural representative.

To ensure diverse perspectives and holistic feedback in Committee discussions, it is recommended that recruitment initiatives launch to appoint new members to the Public Advisory Committee vacant positions by March 2025.

### **Committee Member Recruitment**

The Terms of Reference outlines a member recruitment process for the Committee. A working group, comprised of NPCA staff, will be formed to evaluate applications and provide recommendations that will be brought forward to the Board for approval.

Staff will solicit applications using a variety of mediums such as: newsletters, local newspapers, community groups, social media and the NPCA Get Involved online engagement platform.

Before being assigned to the Committee, candidates will be required to pass a police background check and abide by NPCA policies (i.e., Code of Conduct) and protocols applicable to volunteers. A timeline for the recruitment process is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1. PAC Member Recruitment Timeline

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
December 16-20	Establishment of Recruitment Working Group Review/revision of evaluation matrix Communication assets development
January 6-10	Communication assets finalized Circulate vacancies to municipal partners and First Nations communities
January 20 - February 2	Public engagement begins Application portal opens
February 2	Application portal closes
February 3-14	Recruitment Working Group evaluations
February 16-27	Notification to recommended applicants Completion of background checks
March 21	Recommended Committee appointments brought forward for Board Approval

**Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications identified upon approval of recommendations included.

**Links to Policy/Strategic Plan:**

Goal 4.2: Foster relationships with the community, non-government organizations, businesses, agriculture, industry, and academic institutions for collective outcomes and impact

Goal 4.3: Improving engagement with local First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples that supports shared stewardship

Goal 5.3: Providing high standards of customer service

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

Report No. FA-04-23 RE: Updated Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Report No. FA-15-23 RE: PAC Member Recruitment and Appointment

**Authored by:**

*Original Signed by:*

---

Melanie Davis, M.A.  
Manager, Office of the CAO & Board

**Reviewed by:**

*Original Signed by:*

---

Natalie Green, M.Sc, PMP  
Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate Change

**Submitted by:**

*Original Signed by:*

---

Leilani Lee-Yates, BES, MSPL.RPD, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

# Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

## PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Committee Type

Advisory Committee

### Purpose

To champion the implementation of NPCA's Strategic Plan and other watershed strategies through collaborative action working closely with NPCA staff and community. To provide collaborative, local sector-based perspectives on specific projects/programs and/or other conservation authority matters, as determined by the NPCA Board of Directors or its staff.

### Committee Mandate

The PAC is an advisory committee of the NPCA. The Committee advises NPCA Board and staff on local environmental/watershed matters of community interest. Recommendations made by the PAC are provided to staff and the Board of Directors consideration or approval. The PAC is not a formal commenting body regarding review and approval of permits under Section 28 of Conservation Authorities Act.

### Membership

PAC membership will be determined through an established recruitment and evaluation process with an aim to have equal geographical and demographic representation as well as diverse backgrounds and experiences. All PAC members, except the Métis and First Nations representatives, will be recruited based on a Board-approved process as per Terms of reference, and appointed by the Board.

The PAC shall consist of up to SIXTEEN (16) citizen members comprising of multi-stakeholder and community representation, as follows:

- Up to THREE (3) Public-at-large
- ONE (1) Conservation Areas user and/or volunteer
- ONE (1) Youth
- ONE (1) Academic/Science/Research
- ONE (1) Business/Industry
- ONE (1) Planning
- ONE (1) Development/Building
- TWO (2) Agriculture
- ONE (1) Environment
- ONE (1) Urban Indigenous
- ONE (1) Métis citizen appointed by Niagara Regional Métis Council
- TWO (2) members appointed by First Nations with a Treaty or historical affiliation to the watershed

Note: Indigenous representation on the PAC does not fulfill or replace the NPCA commitments for engaging with Indigenous communities, nor do they affect protocols created by Indigenous Peoples for engaging government, industry or others, or for gathering, documenting, management or sharing Indigenous knowledge.

## **Member Roles and Responsibilities**

The PAC is governed by NPCA's Administrative By-Law (Sec. 4, Committees). All committee members shall follow the NPCA code of conduct and media protocols.

A PAC Chair and Vice Chair will be elected by members of the PAC to serve for a period of TWO (2) years, and may serve for a maximum of TWO (2) consecutive terms (or 4 years). In the event of a resignation or termination of the PAC Chair, the Vice Chair will fulfill the remaining term of the Chair and a Vice Chair will be elected for the remainder of their term.

### Chair and Vice Chair

The Chair will:

- Work with NPCA staff liaison to draft and coordinate committee meeting agendas, work plan and associated documents
- Preside over PAC meetings and aim to build consensus as needed
- Ensure all discussion items end with a decision, action or definite outcome
- Serve as spokesperson for the PAC, only with respect to group recommendations based on consensus during meetings

The Vice Chair will:

- Preside over PAC meetings in the absence of the Chair, or should the Chair be unable to fulfill their duties.
- Fulfill Chair duties as needed in the event of an extended absence.

### Members

All Members, including Chair and Vice Chair will:

- Review meeting materials in advance of the meetings and arrive prepared to provide broad perspective on the items under consideration
- Submit agenda items to the PAC Chair or staff liaison a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date for consideration
- Make every effort to attend regularly scheduled meetings. If not available, notify the Chair or staff liaison at least one day prior to the meeting
- Agree to describe, process and resolve issues in a professional and respectful manner
- Bring forward potential partnership opportunities that align with NPCA strategic priorities
- Act as a liaison with their respective sectors/community/organizations with information and opportunities to provide input where appropriate
- Adhere to the NPCA Administrative by-law, Code of Conduct and media protocols as well as NPCA policies and procedures for volunteers
- Notify the NPCA in writing should they no longer be able to fulfil their term or wish to resign

## **Meetings**

Regular meetings will be held up to 4 times per year subject to agenda content and need. Additional meetings or workshops may be held at the discretion of the Chair and staff liaison if required for timely matters.



Meetings of the PAC will be open to the public.

The PAC will set the meeting schedule annually at their first meeting of the year. An annual workplan for the PAC will be developed and endorsed by its membership, at the beginning of each year.

Meetings may be held virtually, in-person or hybrid, to be determined by PAC Chair, Vice-Chair and staff liaison.

In-person meetings will be held at either NPCA Head Office (250 Thorold Road West, Welland), Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation (3292 Sixth Avenue, Lincoln), or at another location determined by the Chair and staff liaison.

Meetings are expected to take approximately one and a half (1.5) hours. Exceptions may occur from time to time to deal with significant items.

A quorum will consist of minimum of 50% + 1 of members (excluding vacant positions). Consensus-based decision making is preferred procedure and formal decisions will be based on majority vote.

## **Member Recruitment**

When recruitment of PAC members is required, a recruitment working group will be formed. The working group will comprise of NPCA staff, with recommendations for appointment being brought to the Board for approval. The group will be dissolved once members have been recruited.

Applications from watershed residents will be solicited through a public recruitment process including announcements in newsletters, local newspapers, websites, volunteer networks, community groups and various social media and engagement platforms as appropriate.

Applications will be evaluated by the recruitment group using standardized criteria relevant for filling positions on the PAC. Recommended individuals will be submitted to the NPCA Board of Directors for approval and appointment. All appointed members of PAC will be required to qualify based on policies and protocols applicable to volunteers.

Applicants will be assessed and appointed as needed based on vacancies, except for externally appointed members (i.e., First Nations and Métis representatives). Seats may remain vacant until candidates with the requisite background and skills can be identified.

## **Termination**

The NPCA may, or upon receipt of a recommendation from the Chair, Vice Chair or CAO, terminate a member's appointment based on a careful review of conditions including:

- Breach of NPCA Administrative By-law, Code of Conduct and media protocols;
- Absence at PAC meetings (3 meetings in continuation) without satisfactory reason.

## **Administration**

### Secretariat Support

An NPCA staff liaison will be assigned to the PAC by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). As designated by the CAO, appropriate NPCA staff shall provide administrative support, including taking minutes, the distribution of minutes and agendas and the general administrative coordination of meetings, posting of vacancies and communication with the PAC. Staff from various NPCA divisions may provide support to the PAC, including background information, briefings, and formal memos, presentations, and reports as required.

## Reporting

Meeting minutes shall be recorded and circulated to members for their review. Draft (unapproved) minutes will be submitted to the NPCA Board of Directors for information at their earliest meeting, as deemed appropriate, following a PAC meeting.

Approved minutes will be made available to the public on the NPCA website, subject to requirements of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Personal Privacy Act* (MFIPPA).

On occasion, the PAC Chair (or another member who best represents the topic) may request, or be requested to present and speak on behalf of the PAC at NPCA Board meetings with approval from the Board Chair and/or NPCA CAO.

## Travel Expenses & Budget

Members that travel to attend meetings in-person will be compensated for their mileage, in accordance with the established rate for the NPCA, and where these are not covered by other agency or source. Provision of per-diem or honorarium is not available to members of this committee.

The PAC will be allocated \$2,500.00 to cover meeting expenses to be reviewed annually. The budget allocation will be administered by the NPCA staff liaison.

## **Amendments**

The PAC Terms of Reference shall be reviewed and updated every FOUR (4) years. The Terms of Reference may be amended to meet the ongoing needs of the NPCA, through a recommendation by the PAC and by agreement of the majority.



TOWN OF  
**HALTON HILLS**  
*Working Together Working for You!*

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2  
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205  
haltonhills.ca

January 29, 2025

All Municipalities in Ontario  
Via Email

**Re: Sovereignty of Canada**

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

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

Respectfully,

Melissa Lawr, AMP  
Deputy Clerk – Legislation



THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

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

**Item No. 12.2**

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

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

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

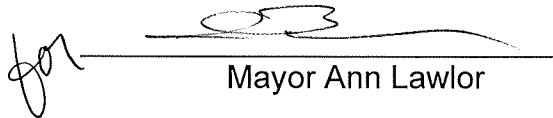
AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

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

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

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

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

  
Mayor Ann Lawlor



## Legal and Legislative Services

January 28, 2025

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

Honourable and Dear Sir,

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of January 27, 2025 received and supported correspondence from the Township of Casselman dated January 16, 2025 requesting the Province to undertake a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.

Attached please find a copy of the Township of Casselman correspondence dated January 16, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Ashlea Carter,  
Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk  
[acarter@forterie.ca](mailto:acarter@forterie.ca)

AC:dlk

Encl.

c.c: The Honourable Paul Calendra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing [paul.calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:paul.calandra@pc.ola.org)  
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](http://amo.on.ca)  
Local Area Municipalities  
Niagara Region

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Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie  
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: [www.forterie.ca](http://www.forterie.ca)

**Sent:** January 16, 2025 8:26 AM

**To:** Mayor and Council <dgMayorandCouncil@forterie.ca>

**Subject:** Support Needed for Fixing Municipal Funding

Name: Genevieve Lajoie

E-Mail: glajoie@casselman.ca

Comments: Support Needed for Fixing Municipal Funding

Dear Mayor Wayne Redekop and Councillors George McDermott, Nick Dubanow, Darren Flagg, Joan Christensen, Tom Lewis, Ann-Marie Noyes, Tom Insinna,

I urge your council to support the resolution calling on the provincial government to undertake a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.

Municipalities like ours provide essential services that people rely on every day, but the way we're funded is broken. Here's why:

- We're asked to do more with less.
- Property taxes can't keep up.
- Costs are rising while funding falls short.

The province continues to offload more responsibilities onto municipalities without enough funding to cover the costs. Unlike income or sales taxes, property taxes don't grow with the economy or inflation. They are based on fixed property values and don't automatically increase as economic conditions change. This leaves municipalities struggling to fund services, while families, seniors, and small businesses shoulder an unsustainable burden.

Our communities are being squeezed. Families and businesses are paying the price as we fight to maintain basic services. The system is broken, and it's time we fix it—property taxpayers can't keep carrying this weight alone.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is calling on the province to sit down with municipalities to review this funding system and find fair solutions. More than 150 municipalities have already joined this effort, and we have a chance to stand with them.

By passing this resolution, we're sending a clear message: enough is enough. It's time to fix this broken system and ensure fair funding for our communities.

Supporting and sharing this resolution means advocating for a system that:

- Invests in what people care about—housing, public safety, and essential services.
- Reduces the burden on property taxpayers.
- Gives municipalities the tools to meet their communities' needs.

Let's stand up for the people who rely on us to fight for their future. Be part of the solution by supporting this resolution and helping spread the message. Together, we can create real, lasting change.

**RECEIVED**  
**JAN 27 2025**  
**BY COUNCIL**



**MUNICIPALITY OF CASSELMAN  
AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Regular Meeting**

**Agenda Number:** 10.1.  
**Resolution Number** 2024-46  
**Title:** Support Resolution - Social and Economic Prosperity Review  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024

---

**Moved by:** Francine Leblanc  
**Seconded by:** Paul Groulx

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal weaken Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

And 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;

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

And whereas unprecedented population and housing growth require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges;

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

And whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

Be it be resolved that the Municipality of Casselman formally expresses its desire for the province of Ontario to conduct, 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.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to the Province of Ontario, MP Francis Drouin and MPP Stéphane Sarrazin.

**Carried**





City Hall  
4310 Queen St.  
P.O. Box 1023  
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6X5  
(905) 356-7521 Ext. 4342  
[billmatson@niagarafalls.ca](mailto:billmatson@niagarafalls.ca)

January 21, 2025

Minister Paul Calandra  
Municipal Affairs and housing  
777 Bay Street  
College Park 17<sup>th</sup> floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**Sent via email:** [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Dear Minister Calandra:

**Re: Governance Review for the Niagara Region**

Please be advised that the City Council of Niagara Falls at its meeting of January 21, 2025, passed the following resolution pertaining to a having a Governance Review in the Niagara Region:

**THAT Council waive the Notice of Motion requirements within the Procedural By-law to allow for an immediate motion, being;**

**THAT Council send a resolution to the Province, in particular Paul Calandra, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Ontario, for a full review of the Governance Model and the provincial committee overseeing the study on regional governance in Niagara, in hopes of stopping the duplication of services by lowering the number of politicians and staff currently working in all of Niagara for long-term fiscal sustainability AND to report back to the City of Niagara Falls with any findings, and;**

**THAT this motion be sent to the Niagara area Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) and local area municipalities in the Niagara Region.**

Attached, please find a copy of the City of Niagara Falls' resolution.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Matson', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Bill Matson  
City Clerk

cc.

MPP, Jennifer Stevens, [jstevens-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jstevens-co@ndp.on.ca)

MPP, Jeff Burch, [jburch-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jburch-qp@ndp.on.ca)

MPP, Wayne Gates, [wgates-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:wgates-co@ndp.on.ca)

MPP, Sam Oosterhoff, [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)

Local Area Municipalities



## The City of Niagara Falls, Ontario

### Resolution

January 21, 2025

#### **No. 5 – Resolution to have a Governance Review for the Niagara Region**

**Moved by: Councillor Mona Patel**

**Seconded by: Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg**

#### **Governance Review for the Niagara Region**

THAT Council waive the Notice of Motion requirements within the Procedural By-law to allow for an immediate motion, being;

THAT Council send a resolution to the Province, in particular Paul Calandra, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Ontario, for a full review of the Governance Model and the provincial committee overseeing the study on regional governance in Niagara, in hopes of stopping the duplication of services by lowering the number of politicians and staff currently working in all of Niagara for long-term fiscal sustainability AND to report back to the City of Niagara Falls with any findings, and;

THAT this motion be sent to the Niagara area Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) and local area municipalities in the Niagara Region.

**AND The Seal of the Corporation to hereto affixed.**

**Carried Unanimously**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Matson", written over a horizontal line.

**WILLIAM G. MATSON  
CITY CLERK**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Diodati", written over a horizontal line.

**JAMES M. DIODATI**



# The Municipality of Dysart et al

## Regular Council Resolution

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

### Motion #25-35

Moved by Tammy Donaldson

Seconded by Pat Casey

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

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

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

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


1. Now therefore be it resolved that Dysart et al Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Further that Dysart et al Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Further that this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and

4. Further that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MP Jamie Schmale and MPP Laurie Scott; and
5. Further that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Carried


Defeated

Deferred



---

Murray Fearrey, Mayor



---

Mallory Bishop, Clerk



## Legal and Legislative Services

January 28, 2025

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

The Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
[Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

Honourable and Dear Sirs,

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of January 27, 2025 received and supported correspondence from the Town of Aurora dated November 27, 2024 requesting the Province to redistribute the Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding.

Attached please find a copy of the Town of Aurora correspondence dated November 27, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Ashlea Carter,  
Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk  
[acarter@forterie.ca](mailto:acarter@forterie.ca)

AC:dlk

Encl.

c.c: The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
The Honourable Paul Calendra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing [paul.calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:paul.calandra@pc.ola.org)  
Niagara Region MPP's [wgates-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:wgates-co@ndp.on.ca); [JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca); [JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca);  
[sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)  
Niagara Region MP's [Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca); [tony.baldinelli@parl.gc.ca](mailto:tony.baldinelli@parl.gc.ca); [Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca);  
[dean.allison@parl.gc.ca](mailto:dean.allison@parl.gc.ca)  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities [resolutions@fcm.ca](mailto:resolutions@fcm.ca)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Niagara Region  
All Ontario Municipalities

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Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie  
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: [www.forterie.ca](http://www.forterie.ca)



Legislative Services  
Ishita Soneji  
905-726-4768  
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora  
100 John West Way, Box 1000  
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

November 27, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada

**Delivered by email**  
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario

premier@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of November 26, 2024  
Member Motion 8.9.1 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request the Redistribution of the  
Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable  
Infrastructure Funding**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on November 26, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

**Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and**

**Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and**

**Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and**

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

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

**Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure**

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 27 2025**

**BY COUNCIL**

**initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;**

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That Aurora Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Ishita Soneji  
Deputy Town Clerk  
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

IS/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)



Town of Aurora Council Resolution of November 26, 2024  
Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to  
Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding  
November 27, 2024

3 of 3

Copy: Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ontario Minister of Finance  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill  
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora  
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora  
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill  
All Ontario Municipalities  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



## 8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of November 5, 2024

**Moved by** Councillor Weese

**Seconded by** Councillor Thompson

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of November 5, 2024, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.5.4, 8.8.1, and 8.8.3, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

**Carried (7 to 0)**

### 8.9 Member Motions

#### 8.9.1 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

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

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and

sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

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

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That Aurora Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

**Carried**



**RE: Land-Transfer Tax and GST**

**JANUARY 09, 2025**

Honourable and Dear Sirs,

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Township of Limerick at its meeting of December 16, 2024 received and supported correspondence from the Town of Aurora dated November 27, 2024 requesting the Province to redistribute the Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding. The Township of Limerick has passed a motion of support for this request.

Attached please find a copy of the Town of Aurora correspondence dated November 27, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Victoria Tisdale

Clerk-Treasurer

Township of Limerick

Encl.

c.c: The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance

[peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)

The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

[paul.calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:paul.calandra@pc.ola.org)

Hastings-Lennox and Addington MPP – Ric Bresee [rick.bresee@pc.ola.org](mailto:rick.bresee@pc.ola.org)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities [resolutions@fcm.ca](mailto:resolutions@fcm.ca)

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

All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer

[clerk@township.limerick.on.ca](mailto:clerk@township.limerick.on.ca)

Telephone: 613-474-2863

Fax: 613-474-0478

Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer

[assistant@township.limerick.on.ca](mailto:assistant@township.limerick.on.ca)

Telephone: 613-474-2863

Fax: 613-474-0478





November 27, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada

**Delivered by email**  
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario

premier@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of November 26, 2024  
Member Motion 8.9.1 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request the Redistribution of the  
Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable  
Infrastructure Funding**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on November 26, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

**Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and**

**Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and**

**Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and**

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

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

**Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure**

**initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;**

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That Aurora Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Ishita Soneji  
Deputy Town Clerk  
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

IS/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of November 26, 2024  
Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to  
Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding  
November 27, 2024

3 of 3

Copy: Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ontario Minister of Finance  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill  
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora  
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora  
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill  
All Ontario Municipalities  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



**8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of November 5, 2024**

**Moved by Councillor Weese**

**Seconded by Councillor Thompson**

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of November 5, 2024, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.5.4, 8.8.1, and 8.8.3, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**8.9 Member Motions**

**8.9.1 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding**

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

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

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and



sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

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

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That Aurora Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

**Carried**



January 30, 2025

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

Dear Prime Minister:

Sent via Email: [justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

**Re: Motion – Support for Sustainable Funding for Our Communities**

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Perth, at their regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, passed the following Motion:

**Motion - Support for Sustainable Funding for Our Communities**

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

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

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

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

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Perth Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That Perth Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Sincerely,



Amanda Noël  
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
Scott Reid, MP, Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, [scott.reid@parl.gc.ca](mailto:scott.reid@parl.gc.ca)  
John Jordan, MPP, Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, [John.Jordan@pc.pla.org](mailto:John.Jordan@pc.pla.org)  
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance,  
[Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)  
The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,  
[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities, [resolutions@fcm.ca](mailto:resolutions@fcm.ca)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario, [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities