



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, August 7, 2026

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July 31, 2026

CL 12-2026, July 30, 2026

PHSSC 6-2026, July 14, 2026

COM-C 20-2026, July 14, 2026

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Motion – Community Safety and Shelter Operations Plan

COM-C 20-2026

Regional Council, at its meeting held on July 30, 2026, passed the following recommendation at the Public Health and Social Services Committee:

WHEREAS Niagara Region has proposed relocating the modular shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness from Riordon Street to the area of Bunting Road and Dunkirk Road within the City of St. Catharines;

WHEREAS in recognition that individuals experiencing homelessness, mental illness, substance use disorders and other complex challenges deserve access to safe shelter, compassionate care, evidence-based supports and permanent housing opportunities;

WHEREAS successful emergency shelters require not only appropriate indoor accommodation, but also comprehensive health and social supports, effective neighbourhood management, strong community partnerships and clear accountability to surrounding residents and businesses;

WHEREAS residents, businesses, schools and community organizations surrounding the proposed location have expressed concerns regarding public safety, neighbourhood impacts, cleanliness, behaviour in public spaces and the need for meaningful communication and ongoing oversight;

WHEREAS the proposed shelter is located in close proximity to neighbourhood parks, schools, residential areas and local businesses, making effective management of public spaces and mitigation of visible street disorder essential to maintaining community confidence while supporting successful shelter operations; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines supports approaches that improve housing outcomes while minimizing impacts on surrounding neighbourhoods through proactive planning and collaboration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That, as respectfully requested by the Council of the City of St. Catharines, that Niagara Region **PREPARE AND PUBLICLY RELEASE** a comprehensive Community Safety and Shelter Operations Plan prior to the relocation of the modular shelter to the Bunting Road site, and that the plan include, at minimum, the following components:

a) Community Engagement and Accountability

- i. The designation of a dedicated Housing Services staff member as the primary community liaison, together with a direct telephone number and email address for residents and businesses;
- ii. The establishment of a Community Liaison Committee consisting of representatives from Niagara Region, the shelter operator, Niagara Regional Police Service, City staff, local residents, local businesses, neighbouring schools, Public Health and community organizations, meeting regularly throughout the first year of operation;
- iii. Public information meetings prior to occupancy together with regularly scheduled community update meetings following opening;
- iv. A publicly available Good Neighbour Plan outlining expectations for shelter residents, complaint resolution procedures, communication protocols, neighbourhood maintenance commitments, and the roles and responsibilities of all partner agencies; and
- v. A Frequently Asked Questions document for surrounding residents and businesses;

b) Community Safety and Security

- i. Fully operational security measures in place prior to occupancy, including:
 - 24-hour on-site security personnel;
 - Security patrols extending beyond the shelter property into adjacent parks, trails and surrounding neighbourhoods;
 - Comprehensive CCTV coverage;
 - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) improvements including fencing, lighting, landscaping and other physical security measures;
 - Ongoing review of security staffing levels and patrol frequency; and
- ii. Enhanced proactive community policing in partnership with the Niagara Regional Police Service, focused on public safety, criminal enforcement where appropriate, crisis intervention and referrals to health and social services;

- iii. Coordination with the City of St. Catharines for enhanced municipal by-law enforcement addressing public space concerns, encampments, nuisance issues and property standards;
- iv. Recognition that Niagara Region's operational responsibility extends beyond the shelter property itself and includes reasonable mitigation of impacts within the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- v. A public space management plan that is intended to minimize visible public drug consumption and associated high-risk behaviours in the vicinity of the shelter, particularly within parks, playgrounds, school routes and other publicly accessible spaces frequented by children and families, through proactive security, outreach, timely intervention and access to appropriate indoor services;

c) Shelter Operations

- i. A detailed operational plan describing:
 - what "24-hour shelter" will mean in practice;
 - whether residents may remain inside throughout the day;
 - the size and capacity of indoor common areas;
 - the availability of meaningful daytime programming;
 - the delivery of on-site housing navigation, identification assistance, case management, mental health services, addictions treatment and other social supports;
 - how unnecessary displacement of shelter residents into surrounding neighbourhoods during daytime hours will be minimized; and
- ii. Expanded shelter supports for individuals with pets, behavioural challenges and other barriers to accessing shelter;

d) Mental Health, Housing and Community Supports

- i. Increased onsite access to:
 - mental health services;
 - addictions treatment;
 - crisis intervention;
 - outreach workers;
 - supportive housing;
 - permanent housing pathways; and
 - case management services, with the objective of improving housing outcomes while reducing neighbourhood impacts;

e) Neighbourhood Cleanliness and Maintenance

- i. A proactive neighbourhood maintenance strategy including:
 - continuous litter collection and needle sweeps throughout each day across an expanded perimeter;

- rapid identification and response to emerging hotspots;
- increased garbage collection beyond the current weekly schedule;
- installation of additional garbage and sharps disposal receptacles where appropriate;
- regular neighbourhood clean-up initiatives; and
- consideration of grant funding to assist nearby residents and businesses with anti-vandalism measures;

f) **Infrastructure Readiness**

- i. Confirmation that all required municipal infrastructure and utilities, including water, sanitary servicing, hydro and natural gas, will be fully operational and capable of supporting the shelter prior to occupancy;

g) **Performance Measurement and Public Reporting**

- i. Quarterly public reporting during the first year of operation, including:
 - shelter occupancy;
 - diversion results;
 - outreach contacts;
 - housing placements and successful shelter exits;
 - security incidents;
 - police and by-law response trends;
 - neighbourhood complaints;
 - litter collection and needle recoveries;
 - progress on security improvements;
 - community safety indicators; and
- ii. Representatives of Niagara Region attend St. Catharines City Council at least twice annually during the first year of operation to present updates, answer questions, and receive feedback from City Council and the community;

2. That this list of requirements **BE APPLICABLE** to all shelter locations in Niagara;
3. That Niagara Region **NOT PROCEED** with occupancy of the Bunting Road shelter until the Community Safety and Shelter Operations Plan described in this resolution has been completed, publicly released, and presented to the Council of the City of St. Catharines, demonstrating that appropriate operational plans, security measures, community supports, communications protocols and neighbourhood mitigation strategies are fully in place and ready for implementation on the first day of operation;
4. That the Niagara Region **COMMIT**, prior to occupancy, that the shelter will operate as a comprehensive 24-hour service hub that enables residents to remain on-site throughout the day while accessing housing supports, case management, mental health and addictions services and other programming, and that the shelter is not intended to function solely as overnight accommodation requiring residents to spend significant portions of the day elsewhere in the community;

5. That should quarterly reporting identify significant or persistent concerns relating to public safety, neighbourhood impacts, shelter operations or housing outcomes, that Niagara Region **PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT** a corrective action plan, in consultation with the Community Liaison Committee and the City of St. Catharines, outlining additional mitigation measures, implementation timelines and performance targets; and
6. That copies of this resolution **BE FORWARDED** to St. Catharines City Council; the Commissioner of Community Services; Niagara Regional Public Health; Niagara Regional Police Service; the Niagara Regional Police Service Board; all local Members of Provincial Parliament; all local Members of Parliament; the Local Area Municipalities; the District School Board of Niagara; the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and other relevant community partners for their information and consideration.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk
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CLK-C 2026-061

cc: H. Koning, Commissioner, Community Services
M. Gallardi, Executive Assistant, Community Services

Distribution List: Local Area Municipalities
Niagara Police Services Board
Local Members of Parliament
Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Local Area School Boards

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July 31, 2026

CL 12-2026, July 30, 2026

PWC 7-2026, July 14, 2026

PW 19-2026, July 14, 2026

Local Area Municipalities

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Niagara Region Growth Report 2026 Year-End Summary and 10 Year Growth Forecast
PW 19-2026

Regional Council, at its meeting held on July 30, 2026, passed the following recommendation of its Public Works Committee:

That Report PW 19-2026, dated July 14, 2026, respecting Niagara Region Growth Report 2026 Year-End Summary and 10 Year Growth Forecast, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities.

A copy of Report PW 19-2026 is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

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CLK-C 2026-058

cc: K. Costantini, Manager, Growth Management & Analytics
L. De Angelis, Commissioner, Public Works
K. Ward, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Public Works

Subject: Niagara Region Growth Report 2026 Year-End Summary and 10 Year Growth Forecast

Report to: Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Recommendations

1. That Report PW 19-2026 **BE RECEIVED** for information.
2. That Report PW 19-2026 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities.

Key Facts

- This report provides an overview of 2025 regional growth metrics and future growth forecasting.
- Regional growth forecasting supports data-driven decision-making, aligns with strategic priorities, and guides infrastructure delivery to enable orderly, efficient, and fiscally responsible development.
- Effective growth forecasting requires coordination and collaboration between local area municipalities and the Region.
- Key insights include:
 - Niagara is anticipated to continue growing over the next 10 years with 634,141 people and 251,120 jobs forecasted by 2036.
 - General population growth across the Region has averaged approximately 10,000 people per year since 2016. The current estimated population is 551,128 people.
 - Building permits issued for residential units and housing starts have improved slightly since 2024; however, housing completions continue to trend down reflecting a broader provincial pattern.
 - Development application circulations are generally consistent over the last five years supported by a healthy housing pipeline with approximately 75,000 units at various stages in the development approval process.

Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

Analysis

Regional growth metrics, along with forecasts of future population and employment, form the foundation for capital infrastructure and service planning, financial planning and the calculation of development charges in Niagara Region.

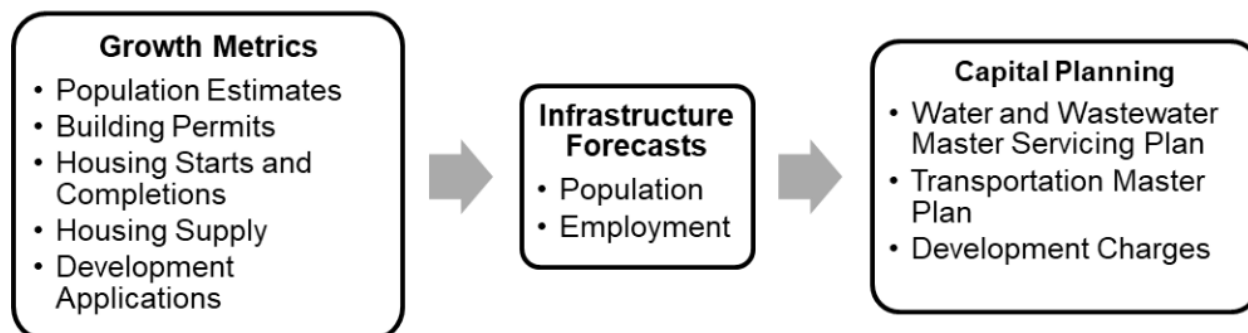
Key growth indicators - including population, employment, building permits, and the housing pipeline informed by development application activity - help show how and where the Region is growing. Development data also informs infrastructure requirements and available capacity within regional roads, water, and wastewater systems, as well as potential impending constraints and impacts to the system, attributable to growth pressures.

Currently, growth is forecasted to 2035, 2051 and 2081 horizons and is based on geographic zones (including traffic analysis zones and wastewater catchment areas). Growth forecasts are essential inputs into the Regional Master Servicing Plan and Transportation Master Plan (both currently undergoing an update), and inform infrastructure needs, capacity constraints, and the timing and funding of capital projects, including road and servicing upgrades. Regional population and employment forecasts also will support the 2027 Regional Development Charges Background Study and By-law Update, helping determine appropriate funding strategies for growth-related infrastructure.

Regional Growth Analytics

Regional staff use growth metrics and related analytical information to monitor historical trends, assess growth progress, and prepare growth forecasts that inform infrastructure and financial planning. Region-wide monitoring supports strategic decision-making across Public Works and other departments and helps ensure that growth is coordinated with the timely provision of water, wastewater, and transportation infrastructure. Growth analytics also supports wastewater treatment plant capacity tracking, capital project scheduling, and transportation project planning. Long-term growth forecasts also underpin corporate master plans and capital budgeting, helping the Region advocate for initiatives like GO Transit expansion or funding for major infrastructure projects.

Figure 1: Relationship between growth metrics, forecasts and capital planning



Throughout the year, Regional staff also respond to requests for growth data from various agencies, boards, and organizations. Providing these insights from a region-wide perspective is essential for the coordinated planning and delivery of services across the region.

10 Year Growth Forecast

To support short-term infrastructure planning and budgeting, particular emphasis is placed on the 10-year population and employment forecast. These short-term forecasts are primarily informed by development activity. The forecasts reflect the potential population and employment growth expected in that timeframe, based on an analysis of anticipated growth opportunities and the potential of the development pipeline. They generally consider but are not constrained by existing capacity and planned transportation, water and wastewater projects.

The Region's 10-year growth outlook is forecast at **634,141 people** and **251,120 jobs**.

Table 1. 10-year Growth Forecasts

Municipality	2036 Population Forecast	2036 Employment Forecast
Fort Erie	44,981	12,441
Grimsby	37,199	11,755
Lincoln	35,474	11,524
Niagara Falls	128,816	53,561
Niagara-on-the-Lake	25,544	14,905
Pelham	24,533	6,123

Municipality	2036 Population Forecast	2036 Employment Forecast
Port Colborne	24,148	7,058
St. Catharines	171,152	69,596
Thorold	37,401	10,405
Wainfleet	7,460	1,616
Welland	77,819	21,993
West Lincoln	19,614	6,228
Grand Total	634,141	251,120¹

¹ The municipal employment forecasts do not include jobs associated with employed persons who have no fixed place of work. Accordingly, the sum of the municipal employment forecasts is 227,205. When these additional jobs are included, the total employment forecast for 2036 increases to 251,120.

The timing of development and growth is dependent on multiple factors, as is the delivery of supporting infrastructure. Where possible, these factors are included in the development of the forecasts, but often they can be difficult to predict (i.e. tariffs, economic downturns, pandemics). As a result, the actual timeline on which growth numbers are realized may differ from what was projected.

Collaboration with local municipalities on current and expected growth numbers is essential to ensure the timing of new or expanded Regional infrastructure and construction or expansion of regional roads, water and wastewater services is coordinated with and complements existing local infrastructure and projects. During the development of the forecasts, Regional staff met with local area municipalities to review growth assumptions, discuss development expectations and planned infrastructure initiatives, and incorporate municipal input into the forecasting process. Local municipal growth forecasts, where available, are considered and reviewed to ensure alignment on expected future growth areas. Longer term (2051) growth outlooks may differ in locally specific areas, where both local and Regional staff acknowledge growth potential, but methodological differences and assumptions about timing of when the growth may actualize may result in different projections under long-term local and Regional servicing strategies. Regional staff have emphasized a 10-year planning approach when coordinating infrastructure planning and projects with local municipalities to ensure that growth expectations and near-term infrastructure needs are aligned.

Growth is comprehensively reassessed every five years to support capital planning; however, growth monitoring is continuous and iterative to best facilitate the ability to shift and pivot to where Niagara's growth requires Regional infrastructure projects and planning. Infrastructure planning and capital planning staff meet regularly to review growth pressures and capital projects to ensure that project timing is appropriate.

Forthcoming 2026 Census data will be used to calibrate baseline population and employment data and assess whether short-term growth forecasts have been tracking as expected. Short- and long-term population projections for different geographic ranges are published by the Provincial and Federal government through Statistics Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Finance. Projections are typically derived from assumptions of key indicators such as births, deaths, migration, current policy, etc. Niagara is projected to grow steadily to 2051, with the Ministry of Finance projecting a population of 689,016 by 2051 – 26 per cent of whom are expected to be over age 65. Staff consult these projections to guide and confirm the growth outlook across the region.

Growth forecasting also considers employment and expected job growth in the region as residential population increases. There is currently no Provincial or Federal source for employment projections. From 2006 to 2024, employment projections for Census Divisions within the Greater Golden Horseshoe were provided in A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe 2019. These projections were used as the basis of the Niagara Official Plan (2022) and the associated activity rate remains the basis for long-range employment projections. Short-term employment forecasts are established based on building permit activity, development applications, and Niagara Employment Inventory results.

Year End 2025 – Growth Metrics

Reporting annually on growth metrics and development statistics gives a holistic picture of what is happening across the entire Niagara Region. Annual data points and five-to-10-year trends help validate short term growth management and inform long-term population and employment forecasts across Niagara.

The following metrics represent some of the key sources of information used in growth management analysis which supports more effective planning and monitoring of regional infrastructure and services. These data points represent growth-related information as of the end of 2025. More detailed analysis and graphs are located in Appendix 1.

1. **General population growth** - Niagara's population as of July 1, 2025 was estimated to be 551,128.
2. **Building permits** - 2,899 new residential units were issued a building permit across the Region in 2025.
3. **Housing starts** - In 2025, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recorded 2,544 housing starts in Niagara.
4. **Housing completions** - In 2025, there were 1,818 recorded housing completions in Niagara.
5. **Development review applications** - In 2025, 858 development applications were circulated to the Region for review.
6. **Development review applications by type** – 11 types of development applications were circulated for review in 2025 (see appendix 1 for additional details of types).
7. **Housing supply inventory** - There are approximately 75,801 unbuilt units in the housing supply pipeline across the Region as of January 1, 2026.
8. **Pre-consultation meetings** – Regional staff attended 458 meetings in 2025.

Coordination

Coordination between the Region and Area Municipalities is essential to effectively plan for impending growth in Niagara. The Provincial Projection Methodology (2025, draft), notes inter-municipal coordination is required between local municipalities (responsible for population projections) and the Region (responsible for infrastructure projections), which is essential to avoid service gaps and shortfalls. Staff continue to maintain conversations with area municipalities to ensure coordination and consistency where possible on growth management exercises.

Growth management staff continue to collaborate with project managers and capital planning teams in the Water and Wastewater, Transportation and Finance divisions to effectively plan for both short- and long-term growth impacting regional infrastructure and services. Public information sessions will play a key role in updating the infrastructure master plans in 2026 and 2027.

Conclusion

Regional growth forecasting is critically important to inform decision-making, support strategic priorities, and guide infrastructure planning and delivery to enable orderly, efficient, and fiscally responsible development. Staff reports annually on year-end growth metrics and will continue to update, monitor and report on the Region's growth forecasts.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

This report provides information on growth management analytics and inputs for the implementation and planning of capital projects. This relates to Council's Strategic Priorities of Effective Region, Green and Resilient Region, Equitable Region and Prosperous Region, through ensuring orderly, efficient, and fiscally responsible development and growth.

Other Pertinent Reports

- [PDS 6-2026: 2025 Niagara Employment Inventory Results](https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=47612)
(<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=47612>)
- [PW 15-2026: 2025 Reserve Water and Wastewater Treatment Capacities](https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=48690)
(<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=48690>)

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Commissioner of Public Works
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Submitted by:

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Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Greg Bowie, Senior Planner, and reviewed by Jill Stephen, Associate Director, Infrastructure Planning, and Diana Morreale, Director of Infrastructure Planning and Development.

Appendices

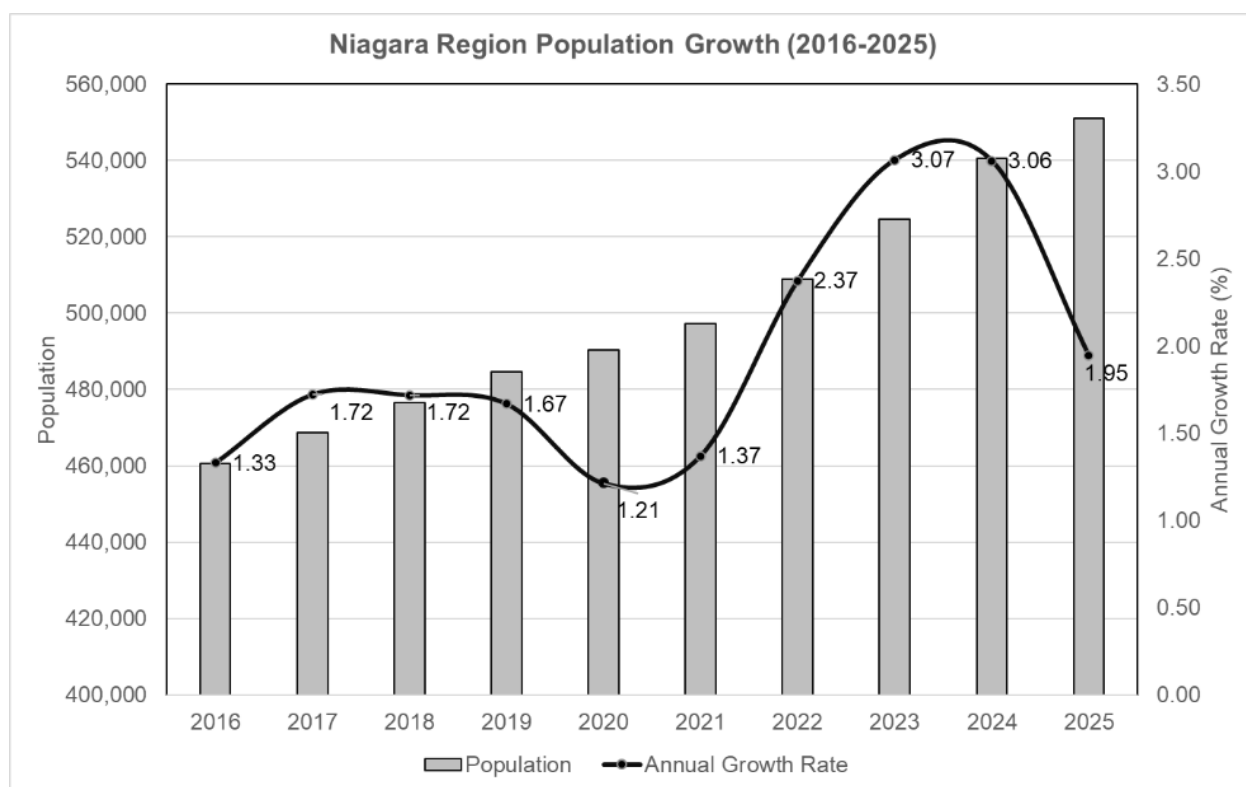
Appendix 1 Detailed Growth Management Data, End-of-year 2025

Appendix 1: Detailed Growth Management Data, End-of-year 2025

General Population Growth

Overall population in Niagara has continued to grow over the last 10 years. On average, the Region's population has increased by approximately 10,000 people per year since 2016, with growth rates peaking in 2023 and 2024. The growth rate in Niagara has slowed over 2025, consistent with a significant slowdown in the provincial growth rate and an overall decline in Canada's total population in 2025. Niagara's population as of July 1st, 2025 was estimated to be 551,128.

Figure A-1: Niagara Region Annual Population Estimates

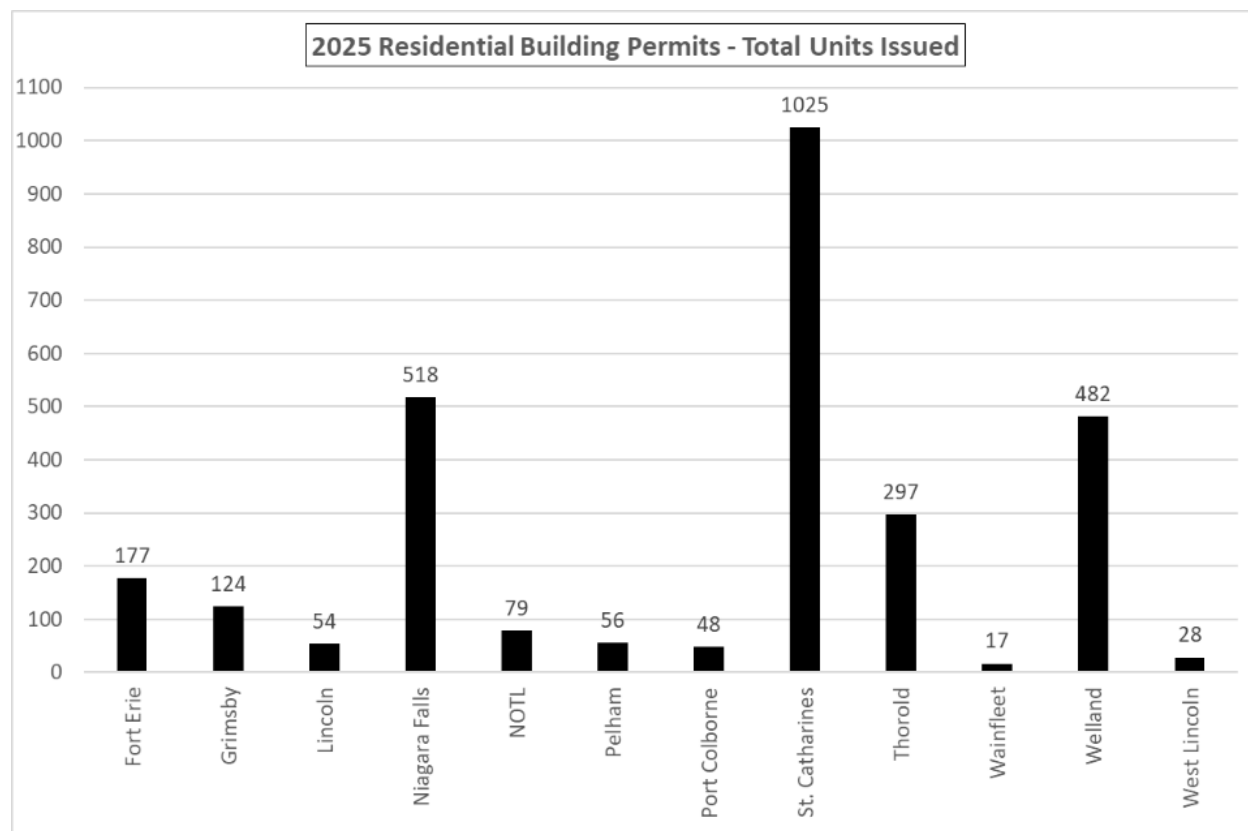


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 17-10-0152-01 Population estimates, July 1, by census division, 2021 boundaries

Building Permits

Building permit information is a useful indicator of growth and development, as it reflects where new construction, investment, and redevelopment activity are occurring within Niagara. Building permit activity is one indicator of the pace of housing development in Niagara and is used as a variable in short- and medium-term population and employment projections. In 2025, 2,905 new residential units were issued a building permit across the Region.

Figure A-2: Total residential building permits issued by each of the 12 municipalities

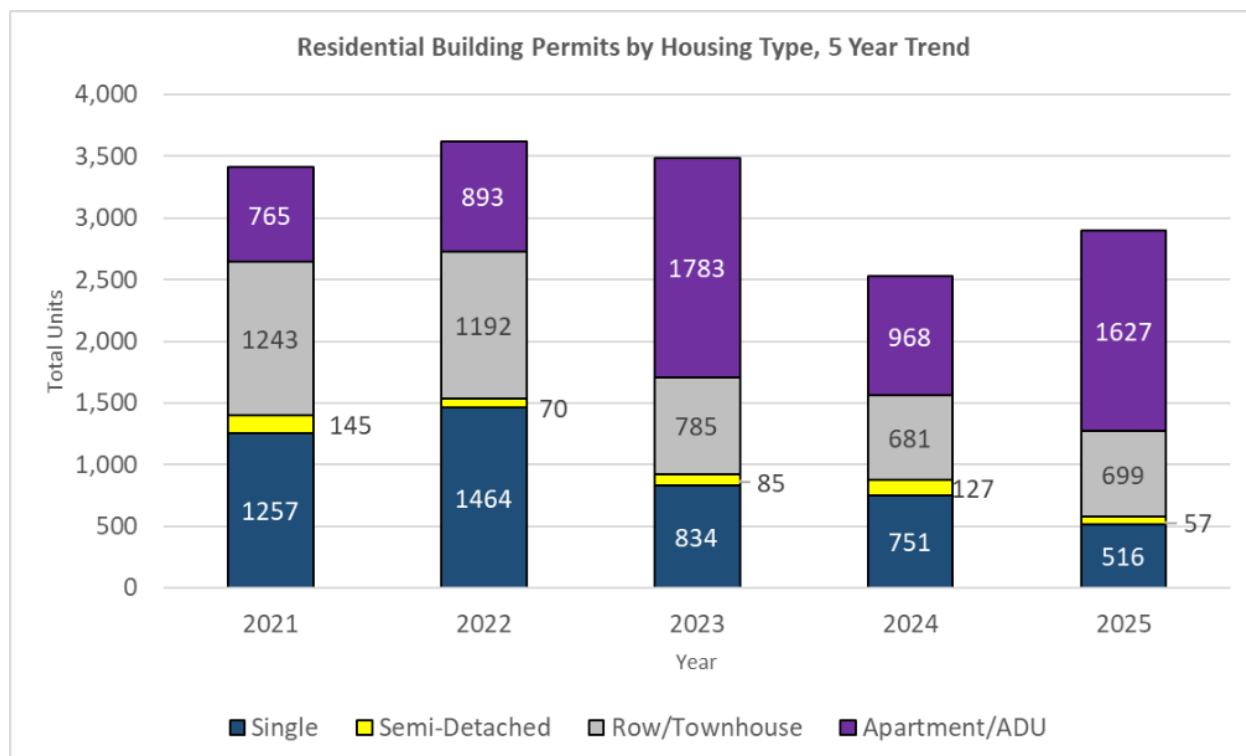


While total building permit unit totals slightly increased compared to 2024, the 2025 totals are still approximately 500 units below the 2018 to 2023 average reflecting a slower builder market.

Medium and high-density forms of housing, which include townhouse/row and apartment developments, continue to account for the majority of residential development in the Region compared with low density, which includes semi-detached and single detached housing. Medium and high-density housing forms accounted for 80% of all units issued building permits in 2025. From a growth management perspective, higher density developments create higher land productivity, resulting in a more efficient use of servicing infrastructure, while they also tend to take longer to reach completion and occupancy.

Additional dwelling units (ADUs), a self-contained, independent residential unit located on the same property as a primary dwelling (either detached or within), have become increasingly popular over the past 5 years and account for approximately 17% of all new residential building permit units in 2025. Staff consider the impacts of ADU's on residential neighbourhoods when completing growth management forecasts.

Figure A-3: Total building permits (residential) over the last 5 years by dwelling type



Housing Starts and Completions

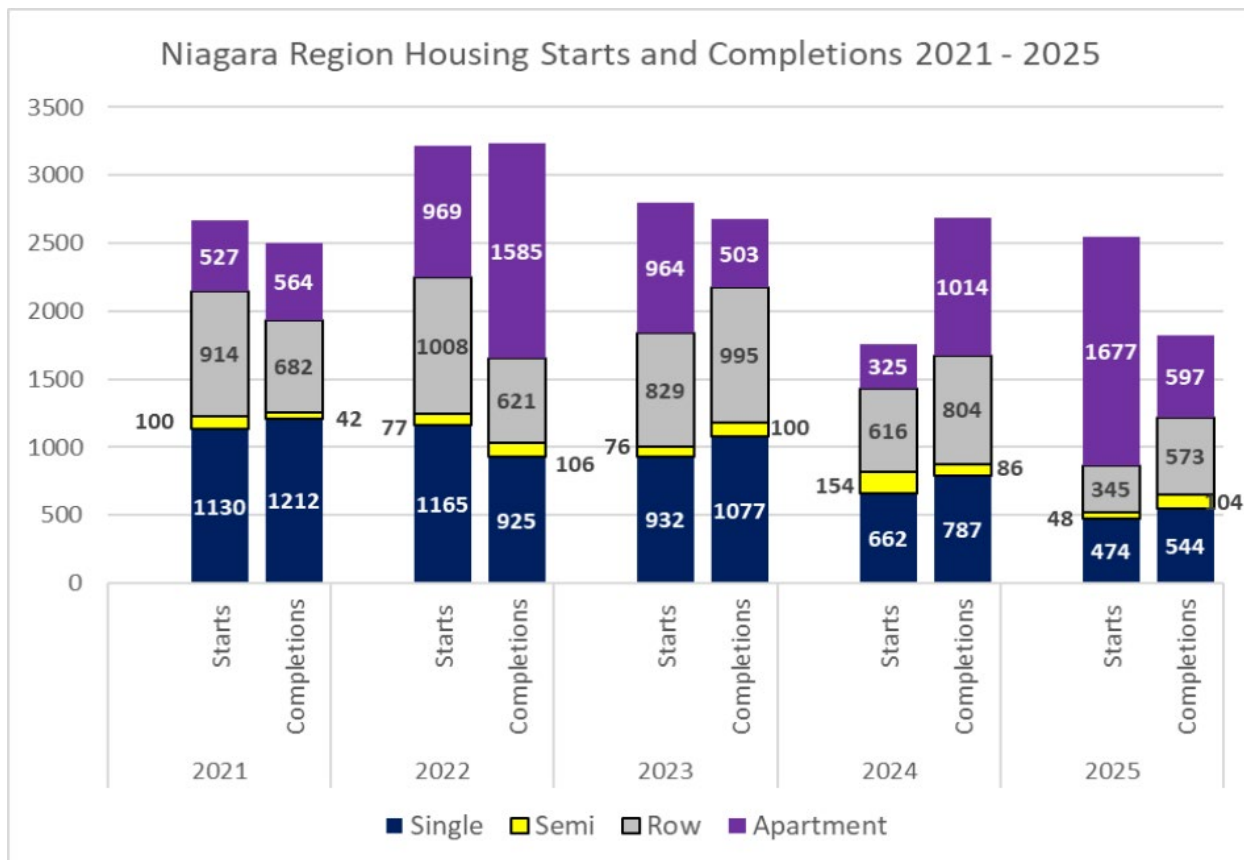
In 2025, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recorded 2,544 housing starts in Niagara, an increase from the 2024 ten-year-ow of 1,757. Of these, 21% were single-detached or semi-detached homes, 14% were row/townhouses, and 66% were apartments. The “apartment” classification includes all dwellings other than those listed, including structures commonly known as stacked townhouses, duplexes, and triplexes. Apartment projects are expected to continue to account for the majority of housing starts in 2026.

While Niagara saw a rise in starts in 2025, there continues to be an ongoing trend provincially of lower housing starts than previous years. Across Ontario, total housing starts in 2025 (62,561 starts) were down for the 4th year straight, and approximately 32% lower than 2021 total starts when 92,284 new homes were started. Market factors including rising construction costs, worker shortages, high interest rates, coupled with the impacts of tariffs all continue to be identified as contributing factors to a decline in housing starts.

Housing completions continue to trend downwards in Niagara. In 2025, there were 1,818 recorded housing completions—a third year decline from the post-COVID peak in 2022, when 3,237 completions were recorded. This mirrors the downward trend seen

in housing starts over the same period. However, should housing starts across Niagara continue to increase, completions correspondingly are expected to start to increase as well. Construction timelines are typically longer for apartment and multi-unit developments, while single and semi-detached housing can reach unit completion in less than a year based on current data.

Figure A-4: Niagara Region Housing Starts and Completions (2021 – 2025)



*Does not include West Lincoln

Source: CMHC, Housing Market Information Portal

Development Review Applications

Growth data and analytics are supported by information generated from regional review of local development applications. Regional staff comment on applications in accordance with the updated Memorandum of Understanding (2024) between the Region and area municipalities on matters related to regional infrastructure, other services and Region owned land. Additional planning services are provided through signed service level agreements with eight of the area municipalities provided on a cost-recovery basis. In 2025, 858 applications were circulated to the Region. While Regional

staff may not be required to comment on all circulations, information on development activity is still collected to ensure growth management data is properly informed and up to date.

Figure A-5: Total development review applications circulated for each of the last 10 years

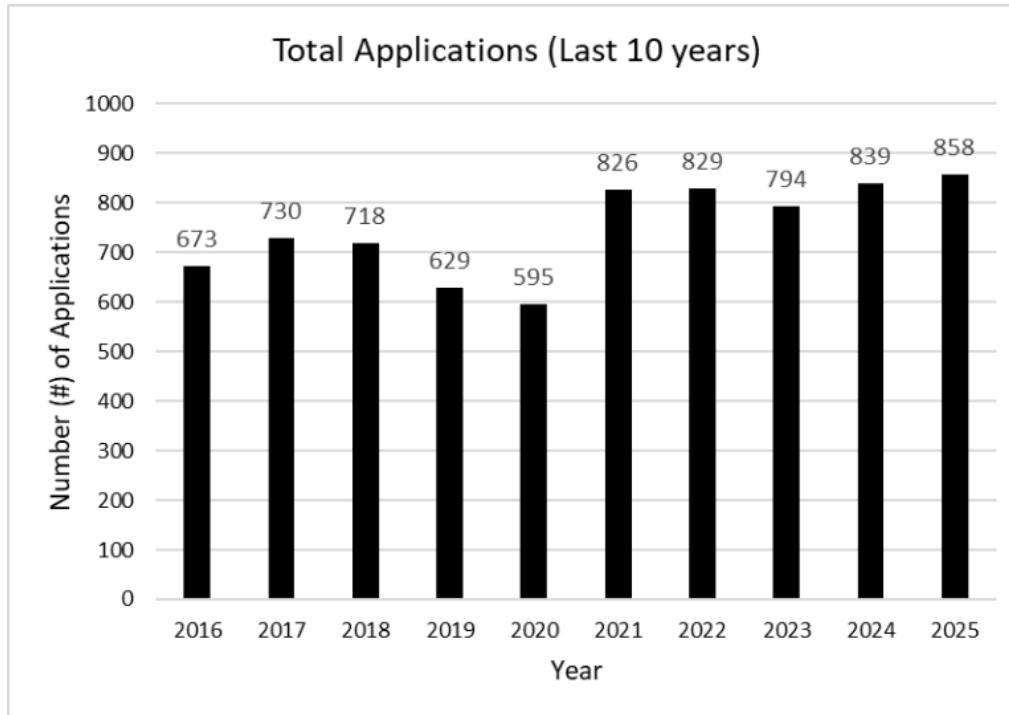
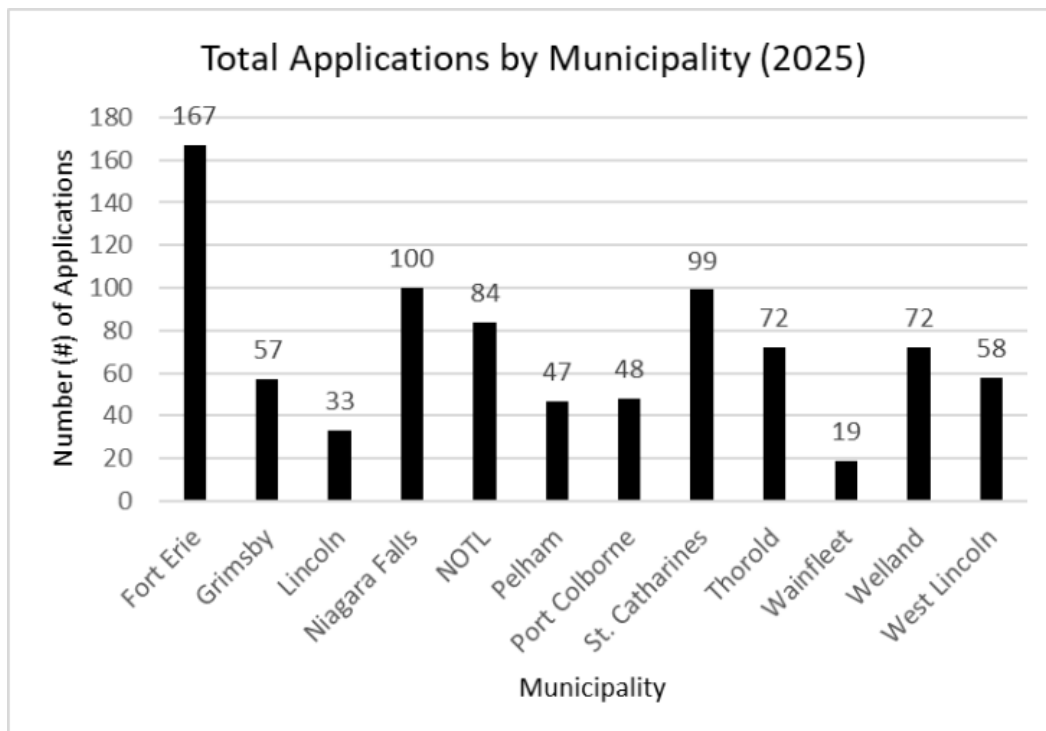
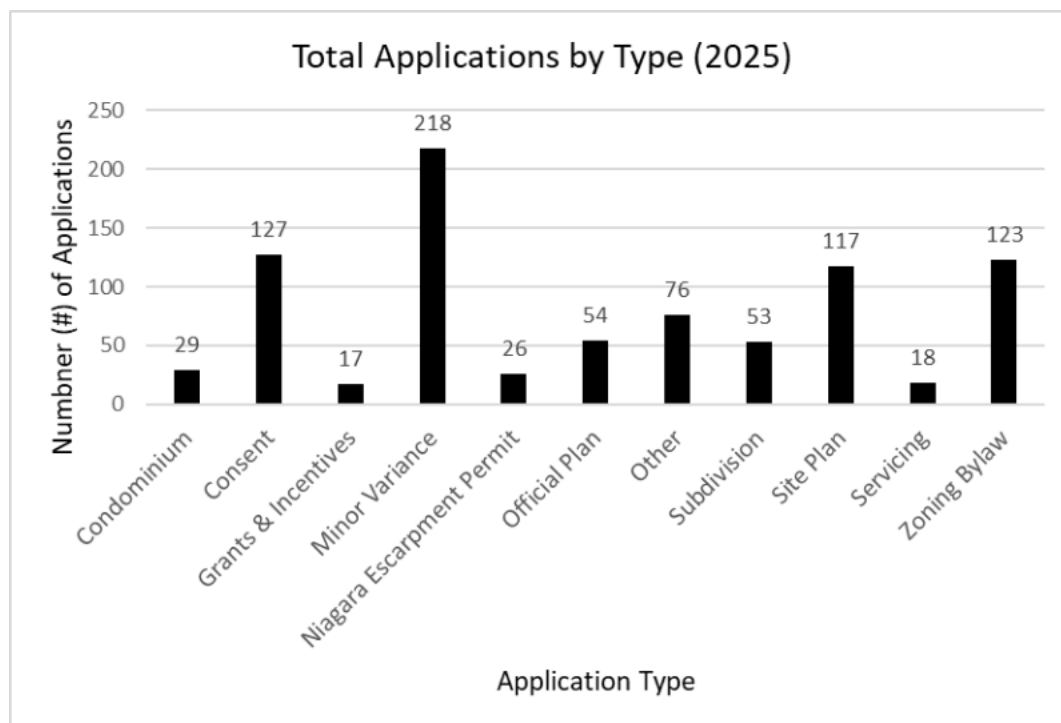


Figure A-6: Applications circulated to Niagara Region by municipality in 2025



Development applications provide insight into the types of development being considered, including residential, employment-based, or institutional development, as well as their potential scale, proposed housing densities, and the communities or corridors in which they are located. This information helps identify where growth pressure may be emerging across the Region.

Figure A-7: Circulated applications by type



Housing Supply Inventory

Growth monitoring relies on information from planning applications tracked through a permitting, approvals and application tracking system to assess active development activity and status, density, location and other growth-related information. The unbuilt housing supply inventory is a dataset maintained by Regional staff that monitors active site plans, plans of condominium, plans of subdivision and Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZO) in various stages of the development approval process based on information from the development tracking system. Staff compile this inventory through the circulation of planning applications and studies and verify information regularly with local municipal staff. In the inventory, the development approval process is grouped into four categories, including:

- Registered Unbuilt: Units that are within a Registered development but have not yet received a building permit.
- Draft Approved: Units that are within a Draft Approved development.
- Proposed/Under Application: The total number of units that are within development applications that are part of an application currently under review but do not have an approval.

- Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO): Units that have been approved for development by the Province of Ontario.

The data set is used to evaluate existing housing supply inventory and monitor impending growth in specific geographic areas. Units within the registered unbuilt and draft approved categories are considered more likely to come to market within the short-term whereas units within the proposed/under application and MZO are typically considered on a longer-term timeline. Regional staff continue to improve the data in the pipeline through municipal consultations, report review, enhanced review practices and improved structured queries in the development application tracking software.

Table 1. Housing Supply: Number of Units by Application Status (end of year 2025)

Application Status	Single-detached	Semi-detached	Townhouse	Apartment	Total of all Types
Registered Unbuilt	1,641	139	2,758	5,360	10,123
Draft Approved	3,208	521	5,336	12,240	21,800
Under Application / Proposed	2,483	198	9,710	22,259	42,178
Ministerial Zoning Order ¹	0	0	0	1,700	1,700
Total	7,332	858	17,804	41,559	75,801 ²

¹Ontario Regulation 592/22 Zoning Order does not specify housing unit types and is located in a Major Transit Station Area in Niagara Falls. Housing units associated with this MZO have been recorded in the apartment category for the purpose of this analysis.

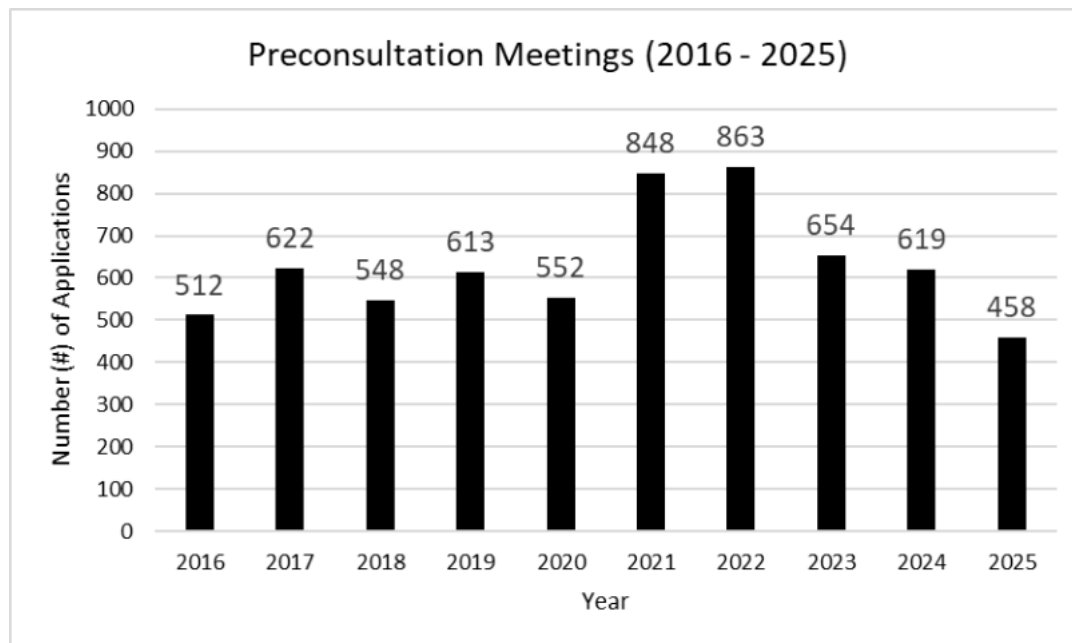
²Total units do not align to unit type totals as some applications have a "mixed block" where exact unit types are not yet known.

Overall, there are approximately 75,801 unbuilt units in the housing supply across the region as of January 1, 2026. This is an increase from last year, primarily reflecting additional units entering the approval process accompanied by a slowdown in actual housing starts. At the current pace of development, based on annual unit construction trends over the past five years, the Region has enough planned housing supply to exceed 20 years, if building rates remain unchanged. As additional units enter the development pipeline and construction activity increases, staff will continue to monitor the pipeline and growth pressures in specific areas of the Region. Growth is forecasted by using unit type-specific persons-per-unit factors for each housing type.

Pre-consultation Meetings

Pre-consultation meetings are one indicator of impending development activity, as these consultations show where landowners and developers are actively exploring projects, before a formal application is submitted. Regional staff attend regular pre-consultation meetings with each local municipality to comment on regional requirements and assist in the processing of applications. Figure A-8 illustrates the number of pre-consultation meetings attended by staff from 2016 – 2025. Regional staff attended fewer pre-consultation meetings in 2025 than in 2024.

Figure A-8: Total Pre-Consultation Meetings Attended





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July 31, 2026

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Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Rob Flack,

Re: Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

299-2026

Moved By: Ted Oke

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the June 25, 2026 correspondence and proposed resolution of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario regarding making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron

sjohnson@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, rob.flack@pc.ola.org;
Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org;
MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org and all municipalities in
Ontario.

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of Infrastructure
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

June 25, 2026

Dear Minister McCarthy,

RE: Making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request that the Government of Ontario make permanent the five-year doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200 million/year to \$400 million/year in advance of the 2027 OCIF allocation calculations.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long-term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, governments at all levels have reoriented their priorities to address the ongoing housing crisis, with heightened attention on growth-related infrastructure and increasing housing production. Application-based or incentive-based funding programs for municipalities have placed greater emphasis on growth-related or housing-enabling capital projects (e.g., Development Charge Reduction Program, Building Communities Strong Fund – Community Stream, Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, Building Faster Fund). OCIF remains one of the few federal or provincial funding programs where the focus remains primarily on the preservation and renewal of existing infrastructure to maintain or improve municipal service levels.

With support from the Government of Ontario and MFOA, municipalities have made significant improvements to their municipal asset management plans and programs. The Government of Ontario introduced O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) in late 2017, which provided a standard framework for infrastructure planning. To support the transition to O. Reg. 588/17, MFOA has partnered with the Government of Ontario on many asset management initiatives, including guides, workshops, direct consulting support and other resources. As a result of these and significant municipal efforts, most municipalities in Ontario have an asset management inventory that identifies their infrastructure assets, including conditions, replacement costs and renewal schedules of those assets.

By leveraging municipal asset management plans in 2020, the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario estimated the state-of-good-repair backlog to be \$52.1 billion for core municipal infrastructure. That is an estimated cost of restoring such infrastructure to a 'good' condition. The report notably focused primarily on core assets and thus likely understated the full extent of the backlog. Addressing this should not be a priority that falls by the wayside due to an increased focus on growth-related capital projects by other funding programs. OCIF's flexible design provides municipalities with the opportunity to fund asset management staff, which can improve data and analysis quality, and it provides a critical means by which municipalities address the infrastructure funding challenges identified in their asset management plans.

In 2021, the Government of Ontario doubled OCIF for a five-year period. Minister Surma, in announcing that initiative, commented that the Government of Ontario was "providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities as they repair, upgrade and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier and more reliable for all." And Minister Bethlenfalvy said that "by nearly doubling our investment in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, our government is supporting public safety, job creation and economic growth." In the current climate of geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and the resulting economic shocks and instability, the need to provide municipalities predictability and to preserve and enhance the economic activity and benefits provided by well-supported and well-maintained municipal infrastructure is as imperative as it was in 2021.

We have also heard from our members on this matter. Municipalities outside of high-growth regions have expressed concern about the diminishing level of grant funding opportunities for municipalities trying to preserve the economic value of their existing infrastructure. Additionally, while growing municipalities have made significant efforts to emplace new, housing-enabling infrastructure, which has been rewarded through the Building Faster Fund, many of their state-of-good-repair capital plans remain underfunded. To maximize the economic potential of federal and provincial investment in infrastructure, all orders of government must work together to preserve service levels and the public value of existing infrastructure, and permanently doubling OCIF to \$400 million/year will especially help small and rural municipalities preserve that economic foundation throughout Ontario.

By adopting a Team Ontario approach during recent and ongoing economic challenges, we have seen how significant progress can be made when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge (donna@mfoa.on.ca).

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Found, Ph.D., PLE
President and Chair

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
cc. Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

July 31, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

300-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Aaron Neeb

That South Huron Council supports the June 23, 2026 correspondence of the Township of North Stormount regarding the Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, AMO, ROMA, MPAC, WOWC, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Premier Ford, doug.fordco@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; AMO resolutions@amo.on.ca; ROMA, roma@roma.on.ca; Joyce Gravelle, joyce.gravelle@mpac.ca; info@wowc.org; MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org and all municipalities in Ontario.



The Corporation of the Township of
NORTH STORMONT
RESOLUTION

Date: June 23, 2026

Resolution No. 163-2026

MOVED BY:

Mayor F. Landry
Deputy Mayor S. Densham
Councillor A. Bugelli
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor C. Shane

eg

SECONDED BY:

Mayor F. Landry
Deputy Mayor S. Densham
Councillor A. Bugelli
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor C. Shane

AD

BE it resolved that the Council of the Township of North Stormont support the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolution 2026-03: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle, as presented.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; EOWC Members of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation; the Ontario Big City Mayors; the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus; the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and all EOWC municipalities."

☒ **CARRIED** ☐ **DEFEATED** ☐ **DEFERRED**

Landry
Chair

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: _____

☐ **Disclosed His/Her/Their Interest**

☐ **Vacated His/Her/Their Seat**

RECORDED VOTE

Councillor C. Shane	_____
Councillor A. McDonald	_____
Councillor A. Bugelli	_____
Deputy Mayor S. Densham	_____
Mayor F. Landry	_____



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

July 31, 2026

Via email: edermott-simpson@pentanguishene.ca

Town of Penetanguishene
10 Robert St W
PO Box 5009
Penetanguishene ON L9M 2G2

Re: Heads and Beds Payment-in-lieu of Taxes Program – Municipal Collaboration Opportunity

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

301-2026

Moved By: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

**That South Huron Council support the June 24, 2026 Correspondence of the Town of Penetanguishene resolution regarding Heads and Beds in-lieu of taxes; and
That staff participate in the joint discussion; and
That this supporting resolution be circulated to all Ontario Municipalities.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:
all municipalities in Ontario



June 24, 2026

To: Ontario municipalities affected by the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes Program

RE: Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes Program – Municipal Collaboration Opportunity

On behalf of the Town of Penetanguishene, I am writing to share the enclosed Council resolution regarding the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and to invite your municipality to participate in a collective discussion on this matter.

The Heads and Beds PILT program, originally established in 1970 and last updated in 1987, to \$75 per head/bed for provincially owned institutional facilities. As you may be aware, this rate has remained unchanged for nearly four decades and has not kept pace with inflation, municipal service responsibilities, or other Provincial PILT programs.

As a result, municipalities hosting these facilities continue to experience growing financial pressures, as the funding received does not reflect the true cost of providing essential municipal services.

The Town of Penetanguishene has made continuous efforts over several years to seek a fair and reasonable resolution to this matter, including multiple delegations with the Ministry of Finance. Despite these efforts, the current system remains, in our view, both outdated and inequitable.

We recognize that Penetanguishene is not alone in facing these challenges. Other municipalities across Ontario may be experiencing similar financial impacts as a result of this outdated program. As part of our ongoing advocacy efforts, we are reaching out to municipalities that receive Heads and Beds PILT funding to gauge interest in participating in a collective discussion. The intent is to determine whether there is a shared municipal interest in pursuing a collaborative advocacy approach with the Provincial Government to seek a complete review of the program and a fair and equitable solution.

If your municipality is interested in taking part in a joint discussion, or if you wish to share your experience on this issue, we welcome the opportunity to connect. Please confirm your municipalities interest by emailing our Executive Assistant, Emily Dermott-Simpson at edermott-simpson@penetanguishene.ca.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your leadership and look forward to hearing from you.



Sincerely,

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE

Doug Rawson, Mayor
Town of Penetanguishene



COUNCIL RESOLUTION FORM

Date: May 5, 2026 **Disposition:** CARRIED

Moved by: Deputy Mayor D. La Rose **Item No.:** 10 vi.

Seconded by: Councillor G. Vadeboncoeur

Description: Resolution – Heads and Beds In-Lieu of Taxes

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program was established in 1970 at a fixed rate of \$25 per full-time university student, increased to \$50 in 1973 when hospitals and provincial correctional facilities were included, and last increased in 1987 to \$75 per head/bed; and

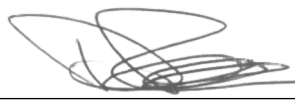
WHEREAS the fixed rate has remained unchanged for nearly four decades and has not kept pace with inflation, which would place the rate at approximately \$180 today; and

WHEREAS the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes has also not kept pace with provincially mandated municipal service responsibilities or other Provincial payment-in-lieu programs that are based on property assessment and municipal tax rates; and

WHEREAS the Town of Penetanguishene has formally requested regulatory amendments through multiple delegations with the Ministry of Finance, seeking a fair and reasonable resolution to the current situation, which the Town considers to be unfair and unreasonable; and

WHEREAS the Town is of the opinion that a complete and thorough review of the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program is necessary to ensure municipalities and

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
	Yea	Nay
S. Marchand		
B. Waters		
G. Vadeboncoeur		
D. La Rose		
B. Desroches		
D. Leroux		
D. Rawson		


MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

.....
Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated
he/her/their seat(s) abstained from
discussion and did not vote.



local taxpayers are treated fairly and equitably in relation to the costs associated with provincially owned facilities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene direct staff to circulate this resolution to affected municipalities across the Province of Ontario to gauge interest in participating in a collective lobbying initiative regarding the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of this outreach is to determine whether there is shared municipal interest in pursuing collaborative advocacy with the Provincial Government to seek a fair and equitable approach to the Heads and Beds Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes program.

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....		
	Yea	Nay
S. Marchand		
B. Waters		
G. Vadeboncoeur		
D. La Rose		
B. Desroches		
D. Leroux		
D. Rawson		


MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated
 he/her/their seat(s) abstained from
 discussion and did not vote.

Village of Merrickville Wolford

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

August 4, 2026

Re: Resolution of Support - Sustainable Provincial Fire Services Funding

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its Regular Meeting on July 27, 2026, passed the following motion regarding the Resolution of Support - Sustainable Provincial Fire Services Funding:

Resolution #: R-17-07-27-26

Moved by: Councillor Maitland

Seconded by: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the resolutions from the Township of Terrace Bay and the Town of Smiths Falls regarding the request for sustainable provincial grant funding for fire services;

AND FURTHER THAT Council does hereby endorse and support the request as presented and directs staff to circulate the resolution of support to the identified parties within the resolutions.

Carried.

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

Thank you.



Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Clerk



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 **Fax:** (807) 825-9576

June 17, 2026

Premier Doug Ford
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Ford,

At the Township of Terrace Bay's Regular Council Meeting held Monday June 15, 2026, the following resolution of support was passed:

RE: Resolution of Support – Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding For Fire Service

Resolution: CR142–2026

Moved by: Councillor Webb

Seconded by: Councillor Dube

WHEREAS Municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the province through statutes, regulations, codes and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operation requirements.

AND WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation;

AND WHEREAS current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably;

AND WHEREAS volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70-75% of firefighters in Ontario protecting the majority of communities across the province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services;

AND WHEREAS other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements;



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 **Fax:** (807) 825-9576

AND WHEREAS the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility;

AND WHEREAS reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector;

AND WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Terrace Bay respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:

- All municipalities
- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighter Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association

AND FURTHER THAT, upon endorsement, this resolution be submitted to:

- Lise Vaugeois, MPP Thunder Bay Superior North
- The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General
- The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

Sincerely,

J. Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:

MPP Thunder Bay Superior North, Lise Vaugeois – lvaugeois-co@ndp.on.ca

Minister of the Solicitor General – Michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org

Minister of Infrastructure – kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – rob.flack@pc.ola.org

AMO – resolutions@amo.on.ca

NOMA – admin@noma.on.ca

ROMA – roma@roma.on.ca

OAFC – info@oafc.on.ca

OPFFA – admin@ontariofirefighters.org

OVFFA – president@ffao.on.ca

All Northern Ontario Municipalities



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

June 17th, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford
Primer of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Smiths Falls passed the following resolution at their June 15th, 2026 Council meeting:

The Council of the Town of Smiths Falls respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to:

- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association
- Scott Reid, M.P. Lanark-Frontenac
- John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston
- Minister of the Solicitor General



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

- *Minister of Infrastructure*
- *Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing*
- *All Ontario Municipalities*

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and/or concerns.

Yours truly,

Kerry Costello
Town Clerk

cc: Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Scott Reid, M.P. Lanark-Frontenac
John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston
Minister of the Solicitor General
Minister of Infrastructure
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities



TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

August 5, 2026

RE: Support for Sustainable Funding for Public Health Units

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on August 5th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County.

Resolution No: 2026-08-05-04
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Prince Edward County's resolution regarding Sustainable Funding for Public Health Units.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

May 29, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 26, 2026 the following resolution seeking support for sustainable funding for Public Health Units was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-244

DATE: May 26, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Nleman

WHEREAS Ontario public health units and agencies provide a vital service to Ontarians that keeps people healthy, out of hospitals and out of the acute care system;

WHEREAS rural-urban equity in Ontario's public healthcare delivery is essential for a thriving provincial economy that keeps people at work and contributing;

WHEREAS Ontario's public health units & agencies sector has received a mere 1% in its annual budget increase from Queen's Park since 2018, a sum significantly below inflation and real-world cost increases;

WHEREAS public health faces steadily increasing demands, such as a 231% increase in respiratory outbreaks supported in Ontario's long-term care homes, hospitals, and retirement homes since 2018, as well as a 637% increase in Infection Prevention & Control complaints follow-ups;

WHEREAS according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), municipalities across Ontario spend close to \$4 billion on health despite receiving less than \$2 billion in provincial grants, and Canada's Constitution Act 1867 clearly asserts provincial responsibility for health;

WHEREAS Ontario consistently ranks at the bottom for provincial health spending per capita, at \$876 below the average of other provinces using 2022-2023 data;

WHEREAS 60% of Ontario's hospitals are overwhelmed and in dire operating deficits, yet the Canadian Public Health Association asserts that investment in Ontario public health's preventative and health promotion initiatives delivers a 4:1 return on investment, for example, for every dollar spent on upstream public health vaccine immunization of children, \$16 in downstream hospital and primary health care costs are saved;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to shoulder an escalating percentage of public health unit costs while also asked to solve complex social determinates of health such as rural homelessness and food Insecurity but with limited revenue tools;

WHEREAS the province and federal governments continue to collect significant revenue from local/municipal property transactions through the Land Transfer Tax and Goods & Services Tax;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward requests:

1. **THAT** the Provincial Government redistribute a portion of the Land Transfer Tax to municipalities to address public health funding gaps and the rising % share of municipal contributions to public health units;
2. **THAT** when the province announces its new Ontario Public Health Standards, It also commits to minimum annual funding increases tied to Ontario's consumer price inflation, currently holding at 2.4%;
3. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Bay of Quinte Member of Parliament, Chris Malette, and Member of Provincial Parliament, Tyler Allsop; and
4. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, CLERK

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Nieman



TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

August 5, 2026

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

RE: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on August 5th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Halton Hills.

Resolution No: 2026-08-05-06

Moved by: Councillor Banks

Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Halton Hills resolution regarding Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and MP, the County of Renfrew, AMO, ROMA, FCM, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Landscape Ontario, the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Tammy Thompson

Deputy Clerk

Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

June 5, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Re: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday June 1, 2026, adopted Resolution No. 2026-0107 regarding Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens.

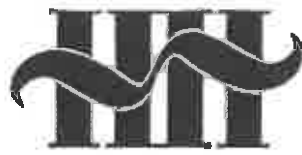
Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2026-0107.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP, Dipl.M.A.
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Ontario Minister of Natural Resources
Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Halton area MPs and MPPs
Region of Halton
HRFA
OFA
Conservation Halton
Credit Valley Conservation
Grand River Conservation Authority
AMO
ROMA
FCM
Ontario Invasive Plant Council
Landscape Ontario
Canadian Nursery Landscape Association
All Ontario municipalities



TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2026-0107

Title: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

Date: June 1, 2026

Moved by: Councillor J. Brass

Seconded by: Councillor C. Garneau

Item No. 12.3

WHEREAS invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species, seeds and nursery stock can cause significant damage to municipal infrastructure, roadsides, stormwater systems, parks, trails, natural heritage areas, agricultural lands, woodlots, shorelines, private property and local biodiversity;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipalities and conservation authorities are estimated to spend approximately \$50.8 million annually managing invasive species, and the average annual cost per Ontario municipality has been estimated at \$218,148, with approximately 80% of expenditures directed toward control and management rather than prevention; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS these costs are ultimately borne by local taxpayers, conservation authorities, property owners, farmers, volunteers and community groups who are often left to manage invasive species after they have already been introduced, sold, planted, escaped cultivation and spread;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through the Invasive Species Act, 2015, which allows species to be listed as prohibited or restricted, and which can make it illegal to import, possess, transport, propagate, buy, sell, lease or trade listed invasive species; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS the concern is not with plants that are already clearly prohibited or restricted, but with invasive species and seeds and nursery stock that may

continue to be sold or distributed before modernized provincial rules, public guidance and retail practices have fully caught up with current science and local experience;

AND WHEREAS garden centres, nurseries, landscape suppliers, seed distributors, online retailers, landscapers and residents all have an important role to play in preventing the spread of invasive plants before they become a costly municipal and environmental problem;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead program promotes native and non-invasive alternatives for healthy, diverse and wildlife-friendly gardens, and its updated Southern Ontario guide includes additional invasive plants and alternatives to help residents, gardeners and landscapers make better choices; (Ontario Invasive Plant Council)

AND WHEREAS recent local reporting in Halton Hills has highlighted the importance of choosing native alternatives to invasive garden plants, including through Grow Native Halton and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead resources;

AND WHEREAS the continued sale and distribution of invasive ornamental plants undermine the work of municipalities, conservation authorities, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, local volunteers and residents who are investing time and taxpayer dollars to remove and manage these same species;

AND WHEREAS prevention at the point of sale is more cost-effective, more practical and more respectful of taxpayers than asking municipalities and property owners to pay for removal after invasive species have spread across property lines and municipal boundaries;

AND WHEREAS invasive plants do not recognize municipal boundaries, and effective prevention requires coordinated action by the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, municipalities, conservation authorities, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, the nursery and landscape sector, retailers, landowners and residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Halton Hills respectfully request that the Province of Ontario, in consultation with municipalities, AMO, ROMA, conservation authorities, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, the nursery and landscape sector, garden centres and other relevant stakeholders, undertake a review and modernization of Ontario's invasive plant regulatory framework;

AND FURTHER THAT this review include consideration of expanding and regularly updating the list of prohibited and restricted invasive plant species, including invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species,

seeds and nursery stock that pose a risk to Ontario's natural heritage, agriculture, municipal infrastructure, parks, trails, roadsides, stormwater systems and private property;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to prohibit the sale, distribution, propagation and trade of listed invasive plant species through garden centres, nurseries, landscaping suppliers, online retailers, seed distributors and other commercial pathways;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to develop clear labelling, public education and retailer guidance requirements so that residents, gardeners, landscapers and retailers can easily identify invasive species and choose native or non-invasive alternatives;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to work with the nursery, garden centre and landscape sectors on a practical transition plan that supports compliance, protects small businesses, promotes native and non-invasive alternatives, and prevents invasive plants from continuing to enter communities through ordinary consumer purchases;

AND FURTHER THAT the Government of Canada be requested to review and strengthen, where appropriate, federal import, border, labelling and online sales rules related to invasive plants, seeds and nursery stock entering Canada, so that provincial prevention efforts are not undermined by interprovincial or international trade;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada be requested to support municipalities, conservation authorities and community partners with stronger prevention tools, updated science-based lists, public education materials and funding programs that prioritize prevention over costly long-term control and removal;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Halton-area MPs and MPPs, the Region of Halton, HRFA, OFA, Conservation Halton, Credit Valley Conservation, Grand River Conservation Authority, AMO, ROMA, FCM, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Landscape Ontario, the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.



Mayor Ann Lawlor



TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

August 5, 2026

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

RE: Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 – Schedule 7

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on August 5th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Bruce Mines.

Resolution No: 2026-08-05-05
Moved by: Councillor Keller
Seconded by: Councillor Quade

"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Bruce Mines resolution regarding Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



The Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines

Item 4b

PO Box 220
9126 Hwy. 17 East
Bruce Mines ON P0R 1C0

MAYOR: LORY PATTEN
MUNICIPAL CLERK: JUDY DAVIS

Phone: (705)785-3493
Fax: (705)785-3170
Email: info@brucemines.ca
www.brucemines.ca

May 14, 2026

Sent by email: Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

Re: Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 – Schedule 7

At its Regular Meeting held on May 4, 2026, the Council of the Town of Bruce Mines reviewed the changes introduced through Schedule 7 of Bill 97, which amends the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

At that meeting, Council adopted a resolution expressing concern regarding these amendments and their impact on transparency and public access to information.

Enclosed is a copy of the resolution supported by Bruce Mines Council.

Sincerely,

Tarra Lapensee
Deputy Clerk
info@brucemines.ca
705-785-3493

cc:

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Bill Rosenberg, Member of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Patricia Kosseim
All Ontario Municipalities

WHEREAS THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1987, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1988; AND

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (MFIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1990, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1991; AND

WHEREAS BOTH ACTS PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A LEGAL RIGHT OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT-HELD INFORMATION, REFLECTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH INFORMATION BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THERE IS A VALID REASON TO WITHHOLD IT; AND

WHEREAS THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO HAS REINFORCED THAT ACCESS TO INFORMATION IS "ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTHY FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY" AND TO TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

WHEREAS BILL 97 (2026): PLAN TO PROTECT ONTARIO ACT (BUDGET MEASURES) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT ON APRIL 24, 2026, INTRODUCING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RULES, INCLUDING NEW EXEMPTIONS FOR MINISTERS' OFFICES; AND

WHEREAS RECORDS HELD BY THE PREMIER, CABINET MINISTERS, PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS, AND THEIR OFFICES ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS AND ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERED FOI-ELIGIBLE RECORDS; AND

WHEREAS COUNCIL IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 REPRESENTS A STEP BACKWARD FROM LONG-STANDING PROVINCIAL COMMITMENTS TO OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES FORMALLY EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN WITH THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 (2026) AND FINDS THAT IT CONSTITUTES A REGRESSION FROM ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO REPEAL THIS PROVISION OF THE LEGISLATION; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO, DOUG FORD; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ONTARIO, DOUG DOWNEY; THE MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, BILL ROSENBERG; THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO); THE FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES (FONOM); AND THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO, PATRICIA KOSSEIM, AND THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO.