



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, February 21, 2025

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

FROM: Lina DeChellis, Director of Economic Development & Strategic Initiatives

DATE: February 20, 2025

SUBJECT: Physician Recruitment Incentive – Dr. Olayinka Famro

I'm pleased to inform Council that Dr. Olayinka Famro has chosen Welland for her family practice and will be practicing at 3 Cross Street, Unit 301 and she will start seeing patients the week of March 10. If you know of anyone looking for a Family Physician, they can become a patient by calling 905-714-0001 or emailing DrFamro@gmail.com.

City staff have been working closely with the Region's Physician Recruitment Specialist and have been successful in attracting 12 new family physicians since the approval of the Physician Recruitment Incentive in June 2023.



Legal and Legislative Services

February 12, 2025

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

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Sir and Madam:

Re: Provincial Election Health Care Advocacy

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Special Council meeting of February 11, 2025 passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie submitted a letter to the Minister of Health dated August 7, 2024, advocating for the continuation of the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre as a primary care safety net in the community, which has not received a response, and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has appointed Dr. Philpott as the Chair of the New Primary Care Action Team to develop a strategy to address the shortage of primary care physicians with a mandate to attach all Ontarians to primary care in the next five years (2030), and

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie has a population of 36,000 residents, with over 8,000 who are unattached to a primary care physician, demonstrating a need for a primary care safety net locally, and

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre provides a first point of contact with our health care system for Niagara residents without a primary care physician, which will continue beyond the opening of the South Niagara Hospital in 2028, and

Whereas the Council for the Town of Fort Erie passed a resolution on October 21, 2024 requesting a continuation of funding for Douglas Memorial operations, without reduction of any funding to Niagara Health for construction and operation of the new South Niagara Hospital, and that the Premier support that resolution, and

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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

Now, therefore, be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie Mayor and Council requests a response from the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health regarding submissions by the Town of Fort Erie, including letter dated August 7, 2024, the Town of Fort Erie Rural Ontario Municipalities Association presentation to the Ministry of Health, Parliamentary Assistant, Anthony Leardi, the resolution passed by the Town Council on October 21, 2024, and the Niagara Health resolution that the Town of Fort Erie presented to the Niagara Health Board on January 28, 2025, and

That: The Town of Fort Erie Mayor and Council requests that the Province of Ontario put a moratorium on the closure of urgent care centres and the implicit removal of primary care health services from the Town of Fort Erie and all small and rural communities in Ontario until Dr. Philpott's mandate is complete to ensure that all Ontarians are attached to a primary care physician, and;

That: This resolution and the information it references be forwarded to Niagara's local MPPs and all candidates seeking election in Niagara and circulated to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and all Ontario municipalities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Ashlea Carter,
Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk
acarter@forterie.ca

AC:dlk

c.c: Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca ; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca ; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca ;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Candidates Seeking an Election in Niagara info@niagaratinting.com; dumelie.gary@gmail.com;
shafolikapur@ontarioliberal.ca; wayne.gates@ontariondp.ca; contact@ruth-ann.ca; greenteam@gpo.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities

Attachments:

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health Letter – August 7, 2024
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier and The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health Letter – October 22, 2024
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association presentation to the Ministry of Health, Parliamentary Assistant, Anthony Leardi –
January 21, 2024
NH Board Resolution – January 28, 2024



Office of the Mayor
WAYNE H. REDEKOP

August 7, 2024

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Madam:

Re: Urgent Care Centre, Fort Erie

I appreciate the challenges that you and your Ministry face as you endeavour to ensure that every resident of Ontario has timely, effective and meaningful access to primary health care. I also appreciate the interest that you have taken in the specific issues that challenge us in Fort Erie as we attempt to establish a model that will address the need of our residents to access primary care.

The Town of Fort Erie Council recently passed a resolution calling on you and Niagara Health for a commitment to continue the operation of the Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial, in Fort Erie, following the opening of the South Niagara Hospital as our primary care safety net until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place in the community. I attach a copy of that resolution. This resolution has also been supported by the City of Niagara Falls, the City of Port Colborne and the Niagara Region.

The Town administration has been working with local family physicians, other health care providers, Bridges (the local Community Health Centre), the Indigenous community, Niagara Health, the Niagara Ontario Health Team and Ontario Health West to identify the specific service needs of our residents, the resources that we can rely on to meet our residents' needs and establish the model that will ensure that the primary health care, diagnostic and associated services are in place for the long term. As the community continues to grow, the Town is taking necessary steps to ensure that all residents will be rostered with a family physician, including continued support for a local Physician Recruitment Incentive program. As you can imagine, this is a significant investment and a moving target that is elusive for municipalities across Ontario. Fort Erie estimates that over 7,000 residents are unattached to a primary care physician and all of our 34,000 residents rely on the Urgent Care for primary care health issues. Hence the absolute importance of the Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial continue its operation as our primary care safety net.

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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

In July 2023, Niagara Health reduced the hours of operation of the UCC in Fort Erie (and Port Colborne) from 24 hours to essentially 10 hours (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.). This has jeopardized the access to primary care not only of unrostered patients, but for all residents of our community after available family physician working hours. The implications seem predictable: greater pressure on the Emergency Departments in Niagara Falls and Welland, lower acuity health issues using Emergency and EMS as a first point of contact, greater demand on Emergency Medical Services and offload delay pressures, delayed medical attention by those with transportation or other logistical challenges which make it difficult to seek medical service at a distance. All of these have financial impacts that erode the ability of the hospital system to provide the services required by residents. I believe that it is unlikely that the new South Niagara hospital will eliminate these concerns.

Insofar as Niagara Health is responsible for the operation of our UCC at Douglas Memorial, we understand the need to maintain a fruitful working relationship with it. Accordingly, NH has participated in our Community Health Care Services Committee and in meetings with other health care providers as we search for the model for primary care that will meet our community's needs. Regretfully, NH has recently decided that it will no longer participate in the committee or any meetings in which the Town of Fort Erie is represented for reasons best known to it. Furthermore, it removed the invitation to Fort Erie's Chief Administrative Officer and Health Services Coordinator to attend a recent meeting (Aug 2nd) with Ministry representatives, Ontario Health West, Niagara Health, the Niagara OHT and other health service partners, without an explanation to the attendees. This was very embarrassing and concerning to us and brings into question NH's ability to gain public trust and confidence as our publicly funded hospital, but more significantly, it raises community concern about its ability to understand the dynamic between operation of the UCC and our quest to find a long-term primary care solution for our residents.

We look forward to your consideration to commit to the continuation of the Urgent Care Centre beyond 2028, as our primary care safety net or until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place.

Yours very truly,



Wayne H. Redekop
Mayor

WHR:dlk
Attach
c.c C. McQueen, Chief Administrative Officer

**Town of Fort Erie - Resolutions
Regular Council**

Agenda Number: 16.2.
Resolution No. 14
Title: Councillor McDermott
Date: Monday, May 27, 2024

Moved by: Councillor McDermott
Seconded by: Councillor Christensen

Whereas Niagara Health has received approval from the Provincial Government to build a new South Niagara Hospital in Niagara Falls that will provide a range of emergency and acute care services, and

Whereas the shortage of primary care physicians in Fort Erie results in over 7,000 residents being unattached (unrostered) to a family physician, and

Whereas the Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre at Niagara Health's Douglas Memorial site provides a primary care "safety net" for the community and serves as a first point of health care contact for both attached and unattached residents who cannot receive time-sensitive primary health care, and

Whereas the Provincial Government is attempting to reduce EMS offload delays and eliminate hallway medicine arising from low acuity patients who would be better served by primary care physicians or an Urgent Care Centre providing access to the primary care "safety net", and

Whereas the viability of the health care and hospital systems in Niagara are dependent on all residents having time-sensitive access to primary health care;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie advocate to the Minister of Health and Niagara Health for a commitment to continue the operation of Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial in Fort Erie following the opening of the South Niagara Hospital as the primary care safety net until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place in the community, and further

That: This resolution be sent to the Niagara Region and Niagara's local area municipalities for their support and endorsement.

Carried



Legal and Legislative Services

October 22, 2024

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

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Sir and Madam:

Re: Request Provincial Funding Remain Available to Support Fort Erie’s Primary Care Initiative

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Council meeting of October 21, 2024 unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Hospital was built primarily with funds left by the estate of William Douglas on his death in 1929; and

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Hospital (“the Hospital”) opened for operation in 1931; and

Whereas the Hospital operated in the black during all of its years of operation (1931- 1998) as a full-service hospital under the management and guidance of its own Board of Trustees; and

Whereas the Health Services Restructuring Commission (“HSRC”) recommended in 1998 that Douglas Memorial continue operation as a hospital within the new Niagara Health System (“NHS”), with acute and chronic care beds, emergency and ambulatory services and a range of diagnostics; and

Whereas despite the creation of a standing committee of the NHS Board for Fort Erie, pursuant to recommendation of the HSRC, to assure local input into Board decision making and that no decision to eliminate any inpatient or emergency services would be made unless approved by such standing committee, the NHS embarked on a systematic reduction or elimination of various services at the Hospital until the adoption by the NHS of its “Hospital Improvement Plan” (“HIP”) in 2008; and

Whereas pursuant to the HIP the NHS eliminated emergency and all other health care services at the Hospital in 2009, with the exception of a 24-hour Urgent Care Centre (“UCC”), chronic care beds, palliative care beds and some diagnostics, without the approval of the Hospital standing committee; and

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Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Whereas in July 2023 Niagara Health (“NH”), as it is now designated, reduced the hours of operation of the Hospital UCC to 12 hours, although the public only has access to the UCC from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily; and

Whereas NH has recently adopted a 3 hospital model for the future of hospital services in Niagara that intends to completely close the Hospital, resulting in no urgent, chronic or palliative or diagnostic services in Fort Erie once the new South Niagara Hospital is opened in or about 2028; and

Whereas the most recent population data available indicates that Fort Erie’s current population is 36,200, far greater than projected during deliberations with respect to Niagara Region’s new Official Plan, adopted in July 2022; and

Whereas the Niagara Region’s population is growing at a rate far greater than anticipated by the Province or NH, particularly when projections were being made for the hospital needs of South Niagara when planning for the new South Niagara Hospital; and

Whereas there are over 7,000 Fort Erie residents unattached to a primary care physician, necessitating a primary care “safety net”, such as a UCC or alternative to avoid first point of health care contact at local emergency departments; and

Whereas the UCC at Douglas Memorial forms that primary health care “safety net” in the absence of sufficient primary care physicians or service providers in Fort Erie; and
Whereas the removal of UCC services, chronic care beds, palliative care beds and diagnostics from the Hospital will result in an unreasonable and unnecessary hardship for current and future residents of Fort Erie and will foreclose the use of the Hospital as a safety valve for NH patients anywhere in Niagara in the event the new South Niagara Hospital is unable to meet the demands that the increasing population of Niagara will place on it; and
Whereas a prudent approach to managing the hospital and health care needs of Niagara, particularly South Niagara and Fort Erie, would recognize the value of retaining a fully-operational UCC, with diagnostics and clinics, as well as chronic care and palliative care beds at the Hospital; and

Whereas there is no indication that NH has any intention of changing course on its 3 hospital model for Niagara despite requests by the Town of Fort Erie to continue the services available at the Hospital; and

Whereas the residents of Fort Erie need and deserve equitable primary health care services, including 24-hour Urgent Care and associated services;

Now therefore be it resolved,

1. **That** the Council for the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Minister of Health commit to funding all necessary services at the new South Niagara hospital without the removal or reallocation of operational funding from the Douglas Memorial for the UCC and other current health services, and further

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2. **That** the Council for the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Minister of Health direct any and all funding from the Province of Ontario for the operation of the UCC (primary care), chronic care beds and palliative care beds, and all diagnostic and associated services at Douglas Memorial remain in Fort Erie for use by Niagara Health as part of a revised hospital model for Niagara or an alternative model operated by a qualified designated health care services entity working in collaboration with the Town of Fort Erie should NH close Douglas Memorial as a hospital site, either before or following the completion and opening of the new South Niagara Hospital, and further
3. **That:** the Mayor and Town of Fort Erie staff enter into discussions with the Minister of Health and Niagara Health and such other health care providers as deemed appropriate to ensure the continued operation of primary care and other current services at Douglas Memorial, with or without the involvement of NH, and further
4. **That:** the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford, be requested to support this initiative, and further
5. **That:** a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Ontario Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; the Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Justin Trudeau; the federal Minister of Health, Mark Holland; the four MPPs and MPs who represent Niagara; the Niagara Region and the other 11 local area municipalities in Niagara for support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

PT:dlk

cc: The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Premier of Ontario Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Mark Holland, Federal Minister of Health mark.holland@parl.gc.ca
Lynn Guerriero, President and CEO, Niagara Health, Lynn.Guerriero@niagarahealth.on.ca
Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Niagara Region MP's Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca; tony.baldinelli@parl.gc.ca; Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca;
dean.allison@parl.gc.ca
Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities

2025 ROMA PRESENTATION
TOWN OF FORT ERIE



**Presentation to:
Anthony Leardi, Parliamentary Assistant
to the Minister of Health
January 21, 2025**



Overview

- A leader in community Health Care
- Investing in our community
- Community profile
- Our Issue
- Our Challenges
- Current Impacts on access
- How the Province can help
- Progress with Niagara Health
- Indigenous Health Services



A Leader in Community Health Care

Community Collaboration

- Creation of a Community Health Care Services Committee with representation from Regional Public Health, Niagara Health System, Primary Care Physicians, Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (initially established in 2003, first of its kind in Ontario)
- Conversion of former fire hall into medical clinic (underway)

Physician Recruitment

- Promoted establishment of family group practice in clinics
- Secured 4 new physicians in past 5 years – 2 new physicians in 2022/23
- 1 new physician recruitment pending
- Recent policy changes allowing streamlining and credentialing for certified physicians is removing barriers to repatriate or relocate practices to Canada.
- Attended UK/Ireland repatriation recruitment with Niagara Region



Physician Retention

- Facilitating a local family physicians network (Community of Practice)
- For over 20 years have provided physician retention incentives to address planned retirements



Education

- Partnership funding – Rural Medicine Week, Student Assistance Programs, Clerkships

Programs

- Nurse Practitioner, Mental Health, Memory Clinic
- Mobile clinics – Cancer Screening, Dental Services, REACH Mobile Bus



■ Investing in our Community

- Community Health and Wellness has been a Council priority since 1999/2000 and took on critical importance in 2008 when Douglas Memorial Hospital was converted to an Urgent Care Centre.
- Council's 2023 – 2026 Corporate Strategic Plan was unanimously supported with an enhanced focus to secure and enhance essential health care services in Fort Erie when new South Niagara Hospital opens (2028).
- Since 2012, the Town has invested over **\$2.7 million** in health- related services, as well as contributions to the Community Health & Wellness Reserve (**since 2019 - \$885,000**).
- Council committed **\$3 million** to the South Niagara Hospital and **\$150,000** toward Hospice Niagara's 10 bed hospice residence to be built in Fort Erie.



■ A Growing, Diverse Community



- Fort Erie has a population of approximately 36,000 persons. It has the perfect mix of rural and urban settings – a lot of green space but within close proximity to international airports and larger city centres.
 - Approximately 5% of our population identifies as Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, Inuit).
 - Over 156 new businesses have opened since the start of the pandemic (March 2020)
 - Strategically situated on the Canada/USA border, from a trade standpoint, Fort Erie is important as one of North America’s busiest gateways. Presently about 14% of all Canada-US trade crosses at Fort Erie with access to a U.S. population of over 44 million within a daily trucking distance, including 9 marine ports of entry/exit.
- From an immigration standpoint, Fort Erie plays an important role in welcoming newcomers, working with many service providers and the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre in providing settlement programs and services.
- Thousands of visitors are attracted to the beautiful sandy beaches in Fort Erie. Our Bay Beach Master Plan improvements make the experience at our most popular beaches even better and accessible. More than 86,000 annual visitors come to the beach and tens of thousands of others come for the boating, fishing, bird-watching and cycling opportunities.
- Fort Erie continues to be identified as a strategic location for investment by Invest Ontario and Niagara Economic Development.



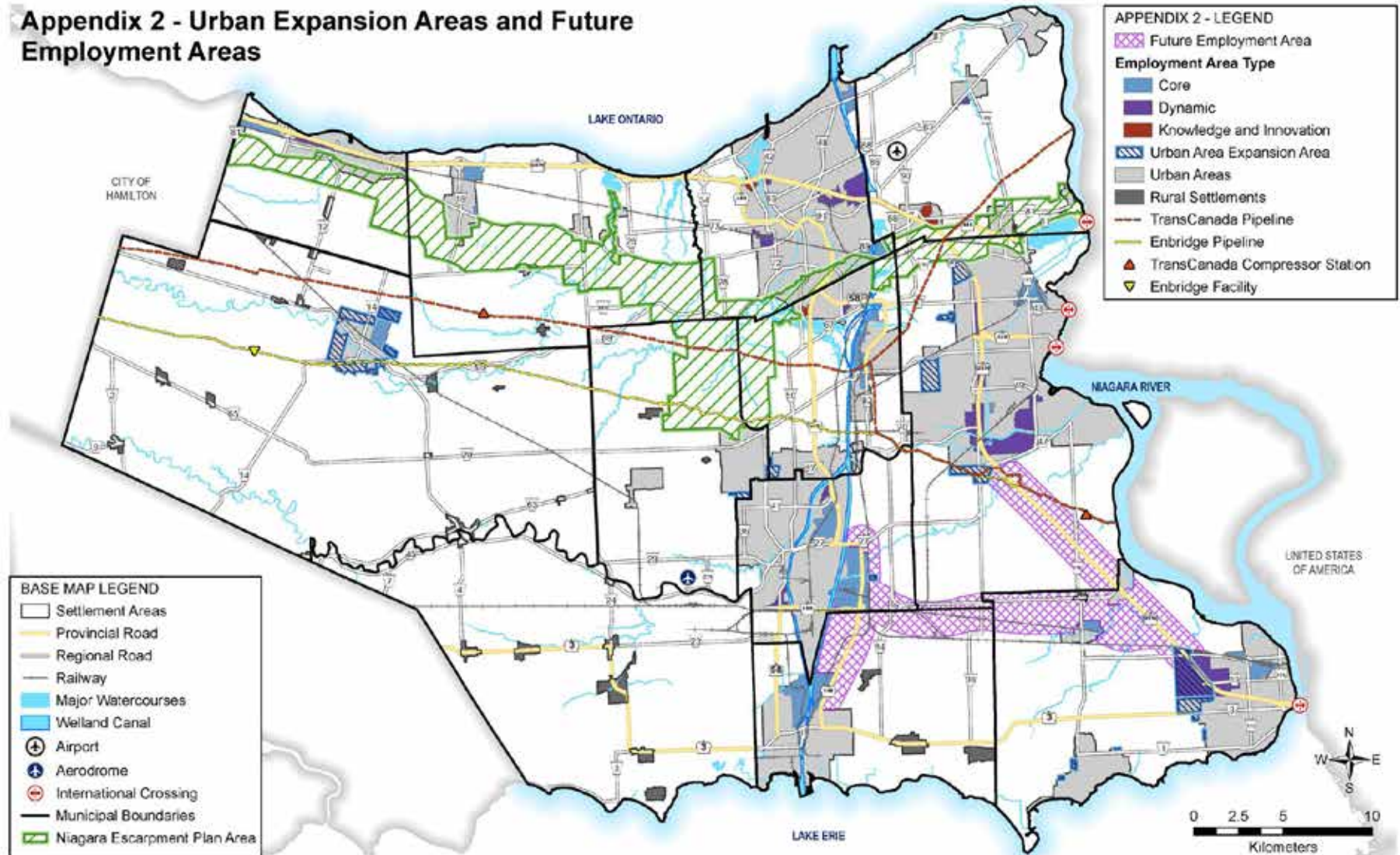
Our Issue:

- Currently, 8,000 Fort Erie residents are not rostered to a family physician in Fort Erie or not receiving care at all. *
- First point of care for unattached and many attached residents is Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre; however, service hours were reduced from 24 hour care to 10 hour care (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.), effective July 5, 2023.
- Fort Erie Urgent Care has served the community as appropriate first point of contact for lower acuity health issues (for both attached and unattached residents - 36,000) and it is considered a primary health care “**safety net**”.
- Niagara Health plans to close the Fort Erie Urgent Care in 2028, with the opening of the new South Niagara Hospital. Without a first point of contact “safety net” for low acuity health conditions, residents will go to the emergency department or call EMS.
- Primary Care was identified as a priority by the province, leading to the appointment of Dr.Philpott to address this issue.

*Ministry of Health Statistics, 2024



Appendix 2 - Urban Expansion Areas and Future Employment Areas



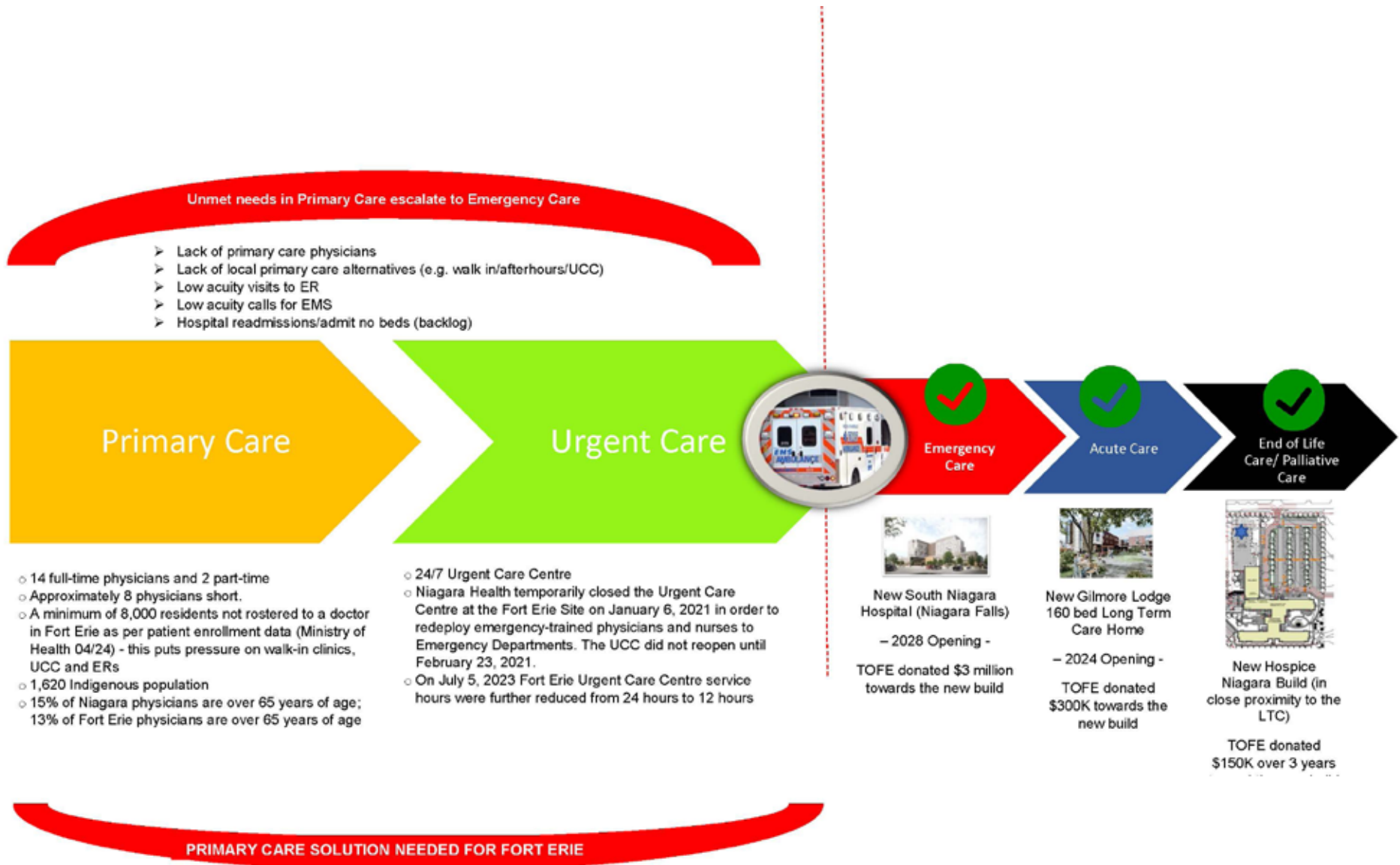
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■ Our Challenge:

- **Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre (UCC) needs to be available 24/7 post 2028 (when South Niagara Hospital opens) OR until an alternate plan to secure primary care services is in place for our growing community.**
- Town is working with local health service partners, Niagara Ontario Health Team, local family physicians and Community Health Centre (CHC) to collaborate on an EOI Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT) submission as an interim measure to address primary care physician shortages. Fort Erie UCC remains as a critical primary care “safety net” to avoid emergency room crowding.
- Fort Erie is prepared to support Niagara Health as a credible and sustainable health care provider to oversee a local health service solution after 2028. Such a solution breaks down health care silos, facilitates continuity of care, and reduces pressures on hospitals (e.g. ED overcrowding; EMC offload delays) by addressing primary care access in the community.



Current Impacts on Access



■ Statement by the Minister

- The release of the “Your Health: a Plan for Connected and Convenient Care” includes a statement by the Minister of Health, as follows:



“Our goal is to make health care more convenient for Ontarians by connecting you to care closer to home ... we will continue to prioritize making it easier for you and your family to connect to the care you need... we are focused on connecting you to the care you need, when and where you need it.”

With the recent appointment of Dr. Philpott, the Minister also added

“There’s no one I trust more than Dr. Philpott with her considerable experience to keep moving us forward and get us across the finish line of connecting everyone in the province to more convenient primary health care within the next five years. Doing so will have enormous benefits for people’s health and wellbeing, as well as the province’s health care system by reducing pressures on emergency departments.”

■ Progress with Niagara Health:

- Niagara Health publicly stated that they are not in the primary care business.
- They confirmed plans to cease operations of the Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre upon the opening of the South Niagara Hospital.
- They plan to allocate primary care spending dollars from Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre to operations at South Niagara Hospital.
- Niagara Health has excluded town staff from local health services discussions and has withdrawn their participation on the Fort Erie Health Services Committee.



■ How the Province can help:

- Request that Niagara Health restore and continue Urgent Care hours/operations in order to provide continued services to our residents and with consideration to meet the primary and incidental health care needs for the growth that our community continues to experience.
- Provide Niagara Health with the required operational funding for the new South Niagara Hospital so that current primary care funding for the UCC remains in our community to address primary care needs.
- Work with Town, Niagara Health, the Indigenous community and local physicians to develop a funded Fort Erie Health Services Model that will provide essential, sustainable and reliable first point of contact primary care health services to all residents (attached and unattached) beyond 2028.



■ How the Province can help:

- Continue to review/update the new practice agreement for family physicians to remove barriers that would discourage a collaborative primary care facility model (e.g. distance between members/clinics, funding caps) and increase incentives or create attractive conditions for family physicians to work after hours at UCCs.
- Address health care as “one envelope” of funding vs. fractured health funding envelopes (primary care, hospitals, EMS, public health, home and community care, etc.)
- Continue to advocate for additional seats on health and medical professional training programs - opportunities for post-secondary training in Fort Erie (FEIA/ Sheridan/Niagara College).



Indigenous Health Services

Challenges:

- Indigenous community and clients already experience access to care issues. The potential closure of the Douglas Memorial Hospital and access to urgent care present more barriers to access.
- Mainstream and conventional models of health services offered through Niagara Health System (NHS) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) do not meet specific needs of Indigenous community and clients.
- Lack of physicians especially those familiar with holistic medicines.
- Lack of addiction services/harm reduction services that align to Indigenous healing journey.
- Child care pressures.
- Housing pressures.
- Transportation accessing programs out of Town is a barrier for many.



Indigenous Health Services

Success with Indigenous-led Services:

- Wellbriety -12 week program based on Medicine Wheel Teachings that connects addiction and recovery services offered at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre facilitation in circles that begin the healing journey using a holistic approach with a mental health component (Niagara Health System does not provide support for this model). While main stream addiction services is well-intentioned, it can be more dangerous for Indigenous people to participate in these programs and lead to additional health crises.
- Under the Rainbow Childcare Centre is open to all Fort Erie residents and currently has a large wait list due to its popular programming.
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre has undertaken training their own ECE workers to compliment the Childcare Centre and Head Start program.
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre is represented on the Town's Community Health Care Services Committee and other municipal committees, and brings thoughts and ideas that help plan for the future of the community and Indigenous Health Services.



What the Province can do to help

- Support the Town's request to continue operation of the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) beyond 2028 as a local primary care access for the Indigenous community as part of Fort Erie's primary health care "safety net". The Town's request has also been supported by the Niagara Region, City of Niagara Falls, and City of Port Colborne.
- Encourage the inclusion of the Ministry of Health and Niagara Health System in facilitating health services specific to Indigenous Health.
- Encourage the acceptance of addiction services/harm reduction with more of an Indigenous lens that will assist with the healing journey.
- Consider support for the expansion of child care services at Under the Rainbow, provided through the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre.



Thank you for providing us with this opportunity to share with you the commitment that the Town continues to make in addressing community health care needs and discuss with you the importance of all Fort Erie residents having equitable access to comprehensive, community-based, innovative health care.

Mayor Wayne H. Redekop
Councillor Joan Christensen
Councillor George McDermott
Chris McQueen, Chief Administrative Officer





Proposed Resolution for the Niagara Health Board of Directors

Whereas, the Town of Fort Erie has clearly stated its position that the community requires a primary health care “safety net”, currently provided at the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre, that should responsibly continue operation in Fort Erie until a viable alternative is in place.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that,

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors instruct Niagara Health representatives to re-engage with the Town of Fort Erie Health Services Committee to assist with local health and community service discussions; and

That Niagara Health commit to include the Town of Fort Erie Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, Community Health Services Coordinator and/or Director of Community Services in all discussions regarding local health services that impact the Town of Fort Erie; and

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors advocate to the Minister of Health to commit to the operational funding for all necessary services at the new South Niagara hospital without the removal or reallocation of operational funding from Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre (primary care services) to allow the continuation of the UCC and other current health services beyond 2028 or until a sustainable alternative is established; and

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors advocate to the Ministry of Health to direct all existing provincial funding for the operation of the Douglas Memorial UCC (primary care), chronic care beds and palliative care beds, and all diagnostic and associated services to remain in Fort Erie for use by Niagara Health as part of a revised hospital model for Niagara or an alternative model operated by a qualified designated health care services entity working in collaboration with the Town of Fort Erie should Niagara Health close Douglas Memorial as a hospital site, either before or following the completion and opening of the new South Niagara Hospital; and

That the Niagara Health Board notify the Town of Fort Erie of its decisions with respect to the above resolutions.



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

56 Lindsay Road 5, R.R. #2, Lion's Head, ON N0H 1W0

Telephone: 1-833-793-3537 | Fax: (519)-793-3823

www.northbrucepeninsula.ca

Notice of Motion

RE: Proposed Mandate that all new cars and trucks sold in Canada be equipped with a tow hook

#06-06-2025

Moved by Rod Anderson

Seconded by Aman Sohrab

Whereas following a major snowstorm throughout the Municipality of Northern Peninsula during the week of January 27th, 2025, several abandoned vehicles were left on municipal roads causing many problems with road clearing procedures; and

Whereas these abandoned vehicles had no means of towing, due to the lack of a tow hook and area tow trucks were busy with the volume of calls and/or road closures;

And further be it resolved that the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula sees that there is merit, to having tow hooks installed on new vehicles throughout the Province of Ontario; and

Further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Automobile Manufacturing Companies in Ontario, Municipalities throughout Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, Canadian Towing Association and MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Signed


Councillor Todd Dowd



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

56 Lindsay Road 5, R.R. #2, Lion's Head, ON N0H 1W0

Telephone: 1-833-793-3537 | Fax: (519)-793-3823

www.northbrucepeninsula.ca

Notice of Motion

RE: Cell Towers and their Associated Maintenance

#06-05-2025

Moved by Aman Sohrab

Seconded by Laurie (Smokey) Golden

Whereas the Municipality of Northern Peninsula experienced several power outages in the fall of 2024;

Whereas this resulted in loss of cellular services that was caused by a faulty generator on the cell tower site and, the entire Northern Bruce Peninsula had no cellular and/or communication services; and

Whereas intermittent or complete lack of cellular services and maintenance of current cellular infrastructure in rural communities creates a significant barrier to access to emergency services, negatively affects emergency response time, and increase public safety risk;

Therefore, it is resolved that Canada and the Province of Ontario set targets to close gaps in cellular service in rural communities and mandate service providers in partnership with all levels of government to develop a 48-hour maximum maintenance period for repairing of cellular infrastructure;

Further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Federal Department of innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), Municipalities throughout Ontario, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Alex Ruff and MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Signed


Councillor Todd Dowd

Hello,

At the February 10, 2025, meeting of Tillsonburg Town Council, a resolution was passed requesting the redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding. Please see below for your review:

Resolution # 2025-059

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Beres

Seconded By: Councillor Spencer

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 Tillsonburg 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 Tillsonburg 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 the Prime Minister's Office, the Premier of Ontario's Office, 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

Regards,

Amelia Jaggard

Deputy Clerk

Town of Tillsonburg

10 Lisgar Ave

Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5A5

Phone: 519-688-3009 Ext. 4041

Ranked one of “Canada’s Top 25 Communities to Live and Work Remotely” (*Maclean’s 2021 Best Communities*)

www.Tillsonburg.ca

www.DiscoverTillsonburg.ca

www.Facebook.com/TillsonburgON



February 13, 2025

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

EMAIL: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister,

RE: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Please be advised that at its meeting of January 28, 2025, Council of the Town of Niagara on-the-Lake 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 Niagara-on-the-Lake 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 Niagara-on-the-Lake 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

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

Sincerely,



Grant Bivol
Town Clerk

c.c. Ontario Minister of Finance Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy - Minister.fin@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Hon. Paul Calandra - minister.mah@ontario.ca
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Info@fcm.ca
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario - resolutions@amo.on.ca
All local Members of Parliament (MPs)
All local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
All 444 Municipalities of Ontario



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

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR:
 _____ Louanne Caza
 _____ Elaine Fic
 _____ Annie Keft
 _____ Francine Plante
 _____ Mayor Culhane

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR:
 _____ Louanne Caza
 _____ Elaine Fic
 _____ Annie Keft
 _____ Francine Plante
 _____ Mayor Culhane

RESOLUTION # 47/2025
DATE : February ¹⁸ 2025

WHEREAS Ontario is facing a significant affordable housing crisis, with many residents struggling to secure safe and affordable living accommodations;

AND WHEREAS the crisis of homelessness in Ontario continues to affect thousands of individuals and families, necessitating urgent and effective housing solutions;

AND WHEREAS the current Ontario Building Code contains regulations that may inadvertently hinder the development of affordable housing by imposing excessive costs and barriers on individuals and developers;

AND WHEREAS current building code regulations may restrict the development of innovative housing solutions designed to address the needs of homeless individuals and families;

AND WHEREAS an increase in affordable housing units is essential to promote economic stability, community well-being, and social equity within Ontario;

AND WHEREAS providing pre-approved affordable housing plans can streamline the construction process, reduce costs, and facilitate quicker access to housing for those in need;

THAT the Council of the Township of McGarry hereby calls on the Ontario government to amend the Ontario Building Code to include provisions for pre-approved affordable housing plans specifically aimed at supporting low income and homeless individuals, including:

1. **Standardized Designs:** Creating a set of pre-approved housing designs that meet safety and quality standards while being cost-effective and quick to construct.
2. **Flexible Design Standards:** Allowing for innovative building designs and materials that meet affordability criteria while ensuring safety and livability.
3. **Community Integration:** Ensuring that these housing designs can be integrated into existing neighborhoods in a way that respects community character and promotes acceptance.
4. **Support for Diverse Models** Including options for various types of housing, such as tiny homes, modular units, and converted shipping containers, to cater to different needs and preferences.

AND FURHTER the Council of the Township of McGarry encourages the Ontario government to engage with stakeholders, including architects, housing advocates, and service providers, to develop these pre-approved plans that effectively address the needs of low income and homeless individuals;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be provided to Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Micheal Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Hon. Victor Fedeli, Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Association of Ontario, Ontario Building Officials Association, Municipalities of Ontario.

Recorded vote requested by _____

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

<i>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest *</i>

I declare this motion

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

Signature of Chair:

 _____

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

February 19, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

**Re: Tariffs
Our File 35.11.2**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

At its meeting held on February 10, 2025, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS at the Niagara borders, 9.1 million people crossed into the US from Canada, and 9.3 million people crossed from the US into Canada; and

WHEREAS a total of \$119.5 billion in goods transited the borders in Niagara: \$57.8 billion were exports to the US, and \$61.6 billion were imports to Canada; and

WHEREAS Niagara borders with the US accounted for 11.4% of total goods traded between Canada and the US; and

WHEREAS Premier Doug Ford has stated the proposed tariffs could cost Ontario 500,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS Ontario's upcoming Fortress Am-Can plan aims to bolster trade between Ontario and the U.S., highlighting key priorities such as national security, creating integrated and secure electricity grids, developing critical mineral supply chains, and advancing manufacturing supply chains and increased employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS the federal government has created the Canada-US Relations Council to assist in addressing potential U.S. tariffs, with representatives from the auto sector, unions, industry, and agriculture included; and

WHEREAS in 2023, 532 businesses in Niagara exported \$5.9 billion in goods to the US, and the US market accounts for 72% of total exports from Niagara

businesses, and in the City of St. Catharines, over 250 exporters and nearly 9,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines is a member of the Great lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, a growing coalition of more than 250 bi-national mayors, who continues to demonstrate how vital the marine economy to our city's, our region and our province; and

WHEREAS municipalities have traditionally been restricted by trade agreements from giving preference to "Buy Canadian" initiatives; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines is actively working with local businesses and the Niagara Region to assess the potential impacts of the proposed U.S. tariffs and to develop strategies aimed at strengthening the local economy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council calls on the provincial and federal governments to continue to work together on a response that protects the Canadian economy through measures such as financial aid programs for businesses impacted by tariffs, expanding export opportunities outside of the US market, push for exemptions and tariff reductions via diplomatic channels, and support domestic investment by increasing incentives for domestic automotive and EV production to preserve Ontario's competitive edge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council endorses and supports the Ontario government's Fortress Am-Can and request that all municipal organizations and mayors across the province also support this initiative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council asks the federal and provincial governments to remove any impediments to municipalities preferentially procuring from Canadian companies for capital projects and supplies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- The Honourable Nate Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Josh Morgan, Chair, Big City Mayors' Caucus and Mayor of London
- Marianne Mead Ward, Chair, Ontario Big City Mayors and Mayor of Burlington
- Robin Jones, President, AMO and Mayor of Westport

- Karen Redman, Chair, MARCO and Chair, Regional Municipality of Waterloo
- Niagara Region Municipalities
- Niagara Region MPPs
- Niagara Region MPs

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Donna Delvecchio, Acting City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
:av

cc: Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford
Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Melanie Joly
Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, the Honourable Vic Fedeli
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Nate Erskine-Smith
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Paul Calandra
Chair, Big City Mayors' Caucus and Mayor of London, Josh Morgan
Chair, Ontario Big City Mayors and Mayor of Burlington, Marianne Mead Ward
President, AMO and Mayor of Westport, Robin Jones
Chair, MARCO and Chair, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, Karen Redman
Niagara Region Municipalities
Niagara Region MPPs
Niagara Region MPs



The Corporation of the
**Township
of
Uxbridge**

In The Regional Municipality of Durham

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Town Hall
51 Toronto Street South
P.O. Box 190
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1
Telephone (905) 852-9181
Facsimile (905) 852-9674
Web www.uxbridge.ca

February 14, 2025

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

**RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF "BUY CANADIAN" POLICY
TOWNSHIP FILE: A-00 G**

Please be advised that during the regular meeting of the General Purpose and Administration Committee of February 3, 2025, the following motion was carried:

THAT the Administration and Special Projects Committee receive Report CAO-04/25 regarding the implementation of "Buy Canadian" Policy;

AND THAT the Policy remain in place until such time as there is clear indication from the Provincial and Federal Governments that trade relations have been normalized;

AND THAT the Policy be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario requesting they implement similar policies;

AND THAT the Policy be forwarded to AMO and ROMA;

AND THAT the Policy be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, MP O'Connell, all Durham MPP's and appropriate Provincial Ministers;

AND THAT the Policy be forwarded to all Township Committee Chairs for information;

AND THAT Committee support this Policy in principle;

AND THAT the final document be run through the CAO's office for final approval.

I trust you will find the above to be satisfactory.

Yours truly,


Emily Elliott
Deputy Clerk
/ljr

cc: Honourable Jennifer O'Connell, MP
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP (peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)
Minister of Finance (Minister.fin@ontario.ca)
Minister of Public and Business Service Deliver (todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)
AMO (amo@amo.on.ca)
ROMA (roma@roma.on.ca)
All Ontario Municipalities

REPORT

Office of the Mayor

TO: Finance and Emergency Services Committee

FROM: Mayor Dave Barton

DATE: February 3, 2025

REPORT: 04/25 **FILE NO.:**

SUBJECT: Implementation of “Buy Canadian” Policy

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is to seek Committee’s approval for the adoption of a “Buy Canadian” policy. This policy will prioritize Canadian suppliers and manufacturers for municipal procurement, encourage diversification of non-U.S. sources, and establish oversight mechanisms for any significant expenditures involving U.S. manufacturers. This initiative aligns with our commitment to supporting federal and provincial leaders, Canadian farmers, manufacturers, and the sovereignty of Canada. This policy shall work in tandem with the Township of Uxbridge’s procurement policy.

DISCUSSION:

1. Prioritization of Canadian Suppliers:

Staff will be directed to prioritize the purchase of goods and services from Canadian manufacturers and suppliers whenever possible. This policy aims to bolster the Canadian economy, support local businesses, and contribute to sustainable procurement practices.

2. Non-U.S. Alternatives:

In situations where Canadian products or services are unavailable, staff will seek suppliers from countries other than the United States. This approach will diversify our supply chain, reduce dependency on U.S. manufacturers, and promote broader international trade relationships.

3. Approval Requirements for U.S. Purchases:

To ensure transparency and fiscal responsibility, the following approval thresholds will apply to any purchases from U.S. manufacturers:

- **Expenses Over \$1,000:** Any purchase exceeding \$1,000 must be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), in consultation with the mayor and council as appropriate.

4. Support for Canadian Sovereignty:

This policy demonstrates our municipality’s commitment to supporting federal and provincial leaders in their efforts to strengthen the Canadian economy. By prioritizing Canadian products, we are actively supporting:

- **Canadian farmers and agricultural producers**, ensuring the continued vitality of rural communities and food security.
- **Local and national manufacturers**, promoting job creation and innovation within Canada.
- **The sovereignty of Canada**, by reducing reliance on foreign suppliers and fostering economic independence.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- **Good Governance:** Ensuring fiscal responsibility and transparency in procurement practices.
- **Economic Development:** Supporting local businesses, farmers, and manufacturers while contributing to Canada’s economic sovereignty.
- **Sustainability:** Encouraging environmentally responsible and locally sourced procurement decisions.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report CAO-04/25 of Mayor Dave Barton be received for information;
AND THAT Committee direct staff to implement the “Buy Canadian” policy as outlined in this report;
AND THAT any purchases from U.S. manufacturers exceeding \$1,000 require CAO approval.
AND THAT a copy of Report CAO-04/25 be forwarded to the Finance and Emergency Services Committee for consideration.
AND THAT this policy will be in place until such time as there is clear indication from the Province and Feds that trade relations have been normalized.
AND THAT this policy be forward to all municipalities in Ontario and request they implement similar policies.
AND THAT this policy be forwarded to AMO and ROMA.
AND THAT this policy be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, MP O’Connell, Durham MPP’s and appropriate Provincial ministers.
AND THAT we collaborate with North Durham Chamber of Commerce to implement the policy outlined above.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mayor Dave Barton



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 45

Date: February 6, 2025

MOVED BY:

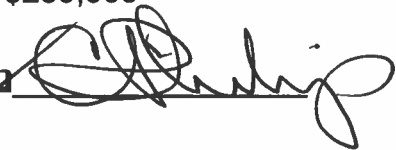
SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives Correspondence list for Information from February 6, 2025;

AND FURTHER that Council directs staff to send letters of support regarding the County of Frontenac's Resolution regarding increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit to a minimum of \$250,000

CARRIED 

DEFEATED _____

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:	For	Opposed
Beaucage, Keven	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pateman, Heather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Philip, Cheryl – Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharer, Jill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

February 20, 2025

NOTICE TO POTENTIAL RESPONDENTS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST #2025-01

**To Seek Interest from Municipalities in Ontario to Provide Residual Waste Services
for the City of Toronto**

Please review the attached document and submit your response via email by the closing deadline of **12:00 noon (Local Toronto Time) on June 30, 2025.**

Deadline for Questions (must be in writing and sent by email to the City's Contact)	June 16, 2025 at 12:00pm noon local time
City Contact: Atif Durrani, Project Director Solid Waste Management Services Division	

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REOI #2025-01

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1.0 TERMINOLOGY

1.1 References to Labeled Provisions

Each reference in this Request for Expression of Interest to a numbered or lettered “section”, “subsection”, “paragraph”, “subparagraph”, “clause” or “subclause” shall, unless otherwise expressly indicated, be taken as a reference to the correspondingly labelled provision of this Request for Expression of Interest.

1.2 Definitions

Throughout this Request for Expression of Interest, unless inconsistent with the subject matter or context,

“City” means the City of Toronto.

“City Contact” means the City employee(s) designated as City Contact on the Notice to Potential Respondents for all matters related to the REOI call process.

“Council” means City Council.

“Green Lane” means the City of Toronto owned Green Lane Landfill in the Township of Southwold

“Respondent” means a legal entity, being a person, partnership or firm that submits a Response in response to the REOI.

“Response” means a submission by a Respondent in response to the REOI.

“REOI” means this Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) package in its entirety, inclusive of all Appendices and any bulletins or Addenda that may be issued by the City.

“Residual Waste” means waste or garbage that requires management after diversion efforts have been exhausted.

“SWMS” means the City of Toronto’s Solid Waste Management Services Division.

2.0 PURPOSE

The City of Toronto is releasing this REOI to identify interest of municipalities in Ontario:

- To accept residual waste (i.e. garbage) from the City of Toronto;
- To sell an existing active landfill to the City of Toronto;
- To become a host for the City of Toronto to build a new landfill;
- To partner with the City of Toronto to build a new landfill or expand an existing landfill.

Residual waste (i.e. garbage) that the City of Toronto manages is primarily from residential customers (including single family, multi-residential and residential units above commercial), with some commercial residual waste as well.

This REOI process is governed by the terms and conditions in Appendix ‘A’. Participation in the REOI process in no way precludes any Respondent from participating in any potential future procurement processes, nor is it a prequalification process. It is not the City’s intent to pre-qualify any Respondents as part of this REOI process.

2.1 Background

The City of Toronto (City) is the capital of the Province of Ontario and Canada's largest city with a population of 2,794,356 (2021 census). The City is bordered by the Regions' of Peel, York and Durham. Geographically, the City spans an area of 630 square kilometers, approximately 21 kilometers from north to south and 43 kilometers from east to west. The City is bordered by Lake Ontario to the south, Etobicoke Creek and Highway 427 to the west, Steeles Avenue to the north and the Rouge River/Scarborough-Pickering Townline to the east. Figure 1 provides an overview of the geographic boundaries of the City of Toronto and neighbouring municipalities.

Figure 1. City of Toronto Geographic Boundaries and Neighbouring Municipalities



The City operates a sophisticated integrated waste management system that includes solid waste collection and processing, diversion programs, and waste disposal. The City also has a number of programs and initiatives focused on waste reduction and transitioning to a circular economy with the goal of keeping resources in use for longer and to reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal.

The City manages more than 700,000 tonnes of residential waste each year. In 2023, a total of 381,707 tonnes of residential waste was diverted from landfill through several programs, including Green Bin organics. The 2023 combined residential diversion rate for single family homes and multi-residential buildings was 53.6 per cent. Additional details on the City's diversion rates can be found on the City's SWMS' website: [Solid Waste Reports & Diversion Rates – City of Toronto](#).

The City diverted approximately 131,000 tonnes of organic material through its Green Bin organics program in 2023. The organic material is processed at state-of-the-art organics processing facilities that use innovative pre-processing and anaerobic digestion technology to breakdown organic material to produce high quality compost and biogas, which is upgraded into renewable natural gas. As part of the [Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement](#) issued by the province on April 30, 2018, larger municipalities must meet waste reduction and resource recovery targets and provide collection of food and organic waste. The City of Toronto is on track for meeting its targets and requirements of the Policy Statement.

Even with the ongoing waste reduction and diversion actions taken by the City to date, operational planning for the City's long term waste disposal needs is required. The urgency to secure and/or establish long-term disposal capacity is increasing as the City's only operational landfill, Green Lane Landfill (Green Lane), has limited remaining lifespan.

Green Lane, which is located approximately 200 kilometers from the City of Toronto in the Township of Southwold is the City's primary residual waste disposal site. It has been in operation since 1978 and has been owned by the City since 2007. On average, the City disposes approximately 450,000 tonnes of residual waste per year at Green Lane. At this rate, it's remaining capacity will be used up by approximately 2035. Further, based on a recent Long Term Residual Waste Disposal Study conducted by the City, it was estimated that within the 25-year planning horizon, the City would be required to manage approximately 500,000 to 525,000 tonnes of residual waste per year, taking into consideration Toronto's population growth and the City's waste diversion programs.

Green Lane is a state-of-the-art facility that provides safe, effective and environmentally responsible disposal of Toronto's residual waste. In 2017, it won a Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Bronze Excellence Award in the Landfill Management category. The City operates Green Lane in compliance with the current Environmental Compliance Approval issued by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). In order to remain compliant with the Environmental Compliance Approval for the site, Green Lane undertakes several actions, which include preparing and submitting an Annual Progress Report to the MECP.

Several residual waste disposal options to manage the City's waste beyond the current capacity of Green Lane were identified in 2023 as part of a [City Council Report](#). Some of the options identified included the partnering with another municipality to build and/or operate a landfill or accept the City's residual waste.

Partnering with the City of Toronto could provide several benefits to an interested municipality, including potential for:

- Community benefits agreement, including shared revenues from tipping fees;
- Economic generation for the local community;
- Job creation from the operation of the facility;
- Improvements in local infrastructure;
- Secured landfill capacity for the local community;
- Support in providing waste management services;
- Shared innovation to advance environmental management or financial viability of landfills;
 - E.g. Landfill gas collection and upgrade to produce Renewable Natural Gas for fuel or heating uses;
- Support in meeting any future federal or provincial landfill emission reduction targets and reporting requirements for methane requirements.

Purchasing, and/or developing a new landfill, would require the City to adhere to applicable requirements under Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act*, such as the environment screening process and an environmental assessment. These requirements under the *Environmental Assessment Act* along with the time to design, build and commission a landfill site can take up to a decade or more to complete. Given this timeframe, technical and operational planning must begin as soon as possible.

It should be noted that the City's situation is not unique and there is limited existing landfill capacity across the province, both private and municipally owned. As outlined in Waste to Resources Ontario's 2021 report ["State of Waste in Ontario: Landfill Report"](#), landfill capacity in Ontario is

expected to reach capacity by the year 2034. Ontario's remaining landfill capacity is even more vulnerable as approximately 30 per cent of Ontario's waste (mostly industrial, commercial and institutional) is exported to Michigan, New York State, and to a lesser extent, Ohio. Unforeseen border closures or increases in waste disposal fees in the United States could result in additional volumes of waste requiring disposal within the province, putting the landfill capacity under even more pressure. The report projects that if Ontario waste were to no longer be exported to the United States, the province's landfill capacity would be depleted even sooner (by 2032).

Adding to this challenge, the Government of Ontario's recent amendments to the *Environmental Assessment Act* changed the regulatory landscape for landfill approvals in Ontario. The amendments to the *Environmental Assessment Act* require proponents wishing to build a new landfill in Ontario to obtain support from both the host municipality and municipalities that have residential land within 3.5 kilometers of the proposed landfill site. This requirement effectively gives each local and adjacent municipality "veto" power over the development of the landfill.

As the City, along with other Ontario municipalities share the same challenges in securing long-term residual waste management capacity, it is anticipated that the waste landscape in Ontario will become more scarce, competitive, and costly as landfill capacity diminishes.

2.2 Specifications and General Requirements

While the City intends to provide additional specifications and requirements as part of future discussions with interested municipalities, at this stage the City is only gathering information on potential interest from municipalities with respect to this REOI in terms of accepting residual waste (i.e. garbage) from the City of Toronto; selling an existing public landfill with or without a plan to expand to meet future needs; becoming a host for the City of Toronto to build a new landfill or partnering with the City to build a new landfill or expand an existing landfill.

Discussions with those Respondents who express interest, may include potential considerations related to:

- Willingness of host and neighbouring communities to support a new landfill development;
- Relationships between neighbouring communities and operators of an existing landfill considering to accept Toronto's residual waste and/or expand its operations;
- Haulage distance and transportation networks from the City of Toronto;
- In-progress plans for a new landfill or expansion of an existing landfill;
- Technical feasibility of potential landfill site to manage residual waste, including:
 - Condition of existing landfill;
 - Condition of site for new landfill;
 - Existing remaining landfill capacity, if applicable.

These considerations could be part of future discussion meetings as described in Section 3.4, should a Respondent express interest.

2.3 Requirements

1. The Respondent may submit a Response Submission Form (Appendix B), including name, title, signature of authorized signing officer, as well as email and phone number for potential future meeting(s) or for more information related to the Respondent's submission.
2. Additionally, the Respondent may further submit a completed Questionnaire Form (Appendix C) attached to this REOI.

3. REOI PROCESS

The REOI process consists of the following steps:

1. Issuance of the REOI document and questionnaire
2. Acceptance of Responses
3. Review of Responses
4. Potential Meeting/Discussion

3.1 Issuance of the REOI document

The City is sending the REOI document along with an introductory letter via email to Chief Administrative Officers or City/Town/Town Managers of municipalities in Ontario, as well as notifying relevant municipal associations and organizations of the City's REOI document. Relevant municipal associations and organizations are those whose members are comprised of only Ontario municipalities.

3.2 Acceptance of Responses

REOI submissions from Respondents will be accepted until the Response Deadline date and time of the REOI.

3.3 Review of Responses and Invitation to Participate in a Meeting/Discussion

City staff will review the Responses received from interested Respondents. At the conclusion of the review, an invitation to participate in an individual meeting/discussion may be sent to the selected Respondents via email.

3.4 Meeting/Discussion

The City may contact the Respondents to schedule individual meetings.

The meetings will serve as a mechanism for further discussion of the information provided by the Respondent.

Where there is interest, a meeting could include discussion related to:

- Location where a prospective landfill could be hosted;
- Approved capacity of the existing landfill and how much residual waste could potentially be accepted;
- Status of environmental compliance approvals related to the landfill;
- Condition of the existing landfill;
- Relationships with neighbouring communities and First Nations communities.

3.5 Schedule of Events

Milestone:	Date:
REOI Issue Date	February 20, 2025
Deadline for Questions	June 16, 2025 (12:00 PM Noon)
REOI Response Deadline Date	June 30, 2025 (12:00 PM Noon)
Invitation to discussion meeting (if required)	TBD

This schedule is subject to change and appropriate written notice of any changes will be provided where feasible.

3.6 Clarifications

As part of the REOI process, the City may follow up with the Respondents for further information with respect to the content of any Response in order to clarify the understanding of the Respondent's response.

The City may contact the Respondents at a later date to revisit the topics discussed at the discussion meeting.

3.7 Review of Submissions

Upon conclusion of the review process, the City will make decisions on any future steps it may take and may incorporate the information received from the REOI process into its decision-making process.

By submitting a Response to this REOI, all Respondents consent to the City incorporating any submitted ideas, concepts, approaches, or strategies into any planning, design, procurement, or contractual activities related to any subsequent procurement process, whether or not they involve the Respondent who initially submitted the ideas, concepts, approaches, or strategies, without any obligation, liability, or consideration on the part of the City.

Responses shall be the property of the City and the City is subject to certain freedom of information legislation, including the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), with respect to information under the City's custody and control. Responses may be subject to public release pursuant to this legislation.

Respondents should be aware that Council and individual Councilors have the right to view the responses provided that their requests have been made in accordance with the City's policy.

4.0 RESPONSE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

4.1 Submission of Responses

1. General

1. Responses must be submitted through email to Atif Durrani, Project Director, Residual Waste Management at atif.durrani@toronto.ca. An email acknowledging receipt of submitted response will be issued by Atif Durrani.
2. It is the Respondent's sole responsibility to ensure its Response is received by the Submission Deadline in accordance with the requirements of this REOI. The receipt of Responses can be delayed due to a number of factors including "internet traffic", file transfer size and transmission speed. The Respondent should allow sufficient time to download, complete and upload, as applicable, the submission forms comprising its Response and any attachments.
3. Submitting a response to this REOI will not itself:

- i) commit the Respondent to provide any residual waste services to the City; and
- ii) create a commitment by the City to procure residual waste services from the Respondent.

2. Response Submission Form

1. Each Respondent shall download, complete, and submit Appendix B – Response Submission Form and Appendix C - Questionnaire Form included in this REOI, which must be signed by an authorized official of the Respondent.

APPENDIX A

REOI PROCESS TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. City Contacts and Questions

All contacts and questions concerning this REOI should be directed in writing to the City employee(s) designated as “City Contacts” in the Notice to Potential Respondents.

No City representative, whether an official, agent or employee, other than those identified “City Contacts” are authorized to speak for the City with respect to this REOI.

2. Addenda

1. The REOI may only be amended by Addendum in accordance with this Section (Addenda). Prior to the Submission Deadline, the City may at any time or times modify the REOI in whole or in part through the issuance of an Addenda, if deemed necessary by the City. Each Addendum shall form an integral part of this REOI.
2. All Addenda will be sent directly by email to Chief Administrative Officers and City/Town Managers of municipalities in Ontario, as well as those municipal associations and organizations that were notified of the City’s REOI document. The City is not responsible for any failure of such notice system or for notices not received by municipal officials.
3. Respondents must check their municipal email inboxes of any shared Addendum. Respondents shall be wholly responsible for checking and reviewing any shared Addenda and ensuring the completeness of the REOI (as amended) and their Responses (as impacted by such Addenda). The City is not responsible for any incomplete or incorrect Responses resulting from the issuance of an Addendum or a Respondent’s failure to update its Response in response to an Addendum.
4. The City will make reasonable efforts to issue the final Addendum (if any) in a sufficient time prior to the Submission Deadline to allow Respondents to submit their Responses. If any Addendum requires substantial amendments to the REOI, the City may, in its sole and absolute discretion, extend the Submission Deadline.
5. Other than documents issued as part of the REOI (including Addenda), the City shall not be responsible for any explanations, instructions or interpretations even if provided by its actual or purported employees, designees or agents at an Information Meeting. No oral or written explanations, instructions or interpretations shall modify any of the requirements or provisions of the REOI unless in the form of an Addendum.
6. Any reference in this REOI to any document comprising this REOI includes any amendments to such document made in accordance with this Section (Addenda).

3. Omissions, Discrepancies and Interpretations

A Respondent who finds omissions, discrepancies, ambiguities or conflicts in any of the REOI documentation or who is in doubt as to the meaning of any part of the REOI should notify the City in writing within three days before the Response Deadline. If the City considers that a correction, explanation, or interpretation is necessary or desirable, the City will issue an Addendum as described in the article above titled **Addenda**.

4. Incurred Costs

The City will not be liable for, nor reimburse, any potential Respondent or Respondent, as the case may be, for costs incurred in the preparation, submission, or presentation of any Response, for discussion meeting(s) or any other activity that may be requested as part of the review process.

5. Prohibition against Gratuities

No Respondent and no employee, agent or representative of the Respondent, may offer or give any gratuity in the form of entertainment, participation in social events, gifts or otherwise to any officer, director, agent, appointee or employee of the City in connection with or arising from this REOI, in any other manner whatsoever.

6. Intellectual Property Rights

Each Respondent warrants that the information contained in its Response does not infringe any intellectual property right of any third party and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the City, its staff and its consultants, if any, against all claims, actions, suits and proceedings, including all costs incurred by the City brought by any person in respect of the infringement or alleged infringement of any patent, copyright, trademark, or other intellectual property right in connection with their Response.

7. Confidentiality and MFIPPA

The Respondent(s) shall not at any time before, during or after the completion of the REOI related discussion meeting(s) divulge to any third parties confidential City information, which they obtain during the course of discussions.

All requirements and information obtained by a Respondent in connection with the REOI are the property of the City of Toronto, and must be treated as confidential and not used for any purpose other than for replying to this REOI.

All documentation which a Respondent delivers to the City of Toronto or its designated agent(s) for the purposes of this REOI becomes the property of the City of Toronto and is subject to the terms of freedom of information legislation, including the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Therefore, all information and documents provided to the City as part of this REOI may be subject to release in accordance with MFIPPA, notwithstanding a Respondent's request to keep the information or documents confidential. A Respondent agrees and acknowledges that where the City is obligated by freedom of information legislation to disclose or release information or documents provided to it by a Respondent, the City is not liable to the Respondent for any loss, injury or damages suffered by the Respondent as a result of said disclosure or release.

If a Respondent believes any part of its submission reveals any trade secret of the Respondent, any intellectual property right of the Respondent, scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, or any other similar secret right of information belonging to the Respondent, and if the Respondent wishes the City of Toronto to attempt to preserve the confidentiality of the trade secret, intellectual property rights or information, then these matters must be clearly identified and designated as confidential.

Requests for access to the submitted REOIs will be subject to a formal review pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and representation may be sought prior to disclosure.

APPENDIX B

RESPONSE SUBMISSION FORM

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST # 2025-01

FOR: To Seek Interest From Municipalities in Ontario to Provide Residual Waste Services for the City of Toronto

RESPONSE DEADLINE: June 30, 2025, 12:00 NOON (LOCAL TORONTO TIME)

<p>I/WE HEREBY SUBMIT MY/OUR RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST.</p> <p>I/WE HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED THE DOCUMENTS AND DECLARE THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS RESPONSE IS ACCURATE.</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF ADDENDA BY NUMBER AND ISSUE DATE: ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____ ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____</p>
--

SUBMITTED BY:

(RESPONDENT'S FULL LEGAL NAME)

ADDRESS: _____ **TELEPHONE NO.** _____

FAX NO. _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICER

PRINTED NAME OF SIGNING OFFICER

APPENDIX C

Questionnaire Form

The questions below are intended to provide the City with more details on a Respondent's interest to provide residual waste services for the City of Toronto, and/or develop a partnership with the City to manage residual waste that is beneficial to both parties.

If the space provided to answer a specific question is insufficient, Respondents, may submit additional information or supporting material with their submitted response as an attachment titled "Supporting Material to REOI # 2025-01". Please include the question at the top of the additional information or supporting material document for reference.

- 1) If your municipality owns a landfill site, is there interest in accepting City of Toronto's residual waste? (Yes or No)

- 2) If your municipality owns an open and operating landfill site, is there interest in selling the existing landfill site? (Yes or No)

- 3) Is your municipality interested in partnering with the City to build a new landfill site? (Yes or No)

- 4) Is your municipality interested in partnering with the City to expand an existing landfill site? (Yes or No)

- 5) Is your municipality interested in hosting a new landfill site for City of Toronto waste? (Yes or No)



CORPORATION DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ / OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA - HARTY

TEL: (705) 335-6146
FAX: (705) 337-6292

106 GOVERNMENT ROAD W
VAL RITA, ON, POL 2G0

WWW.VALHARTY.CA
ADMINISTRATION@VALHARTY.CA

February 18, 2025

Re: Proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian Goods

Please note at their Regular Meeting held February 18, 2025, the Township of Val Rita-Harty Council passed the following resolution: 25-008

Moved by Councillor Roger Lachance
Second by Councillor Alain Tremblay

Whereas the federal government is currently in negotiations with the U.S. government on their proposed 25% tariffs on Canadian goods exported to the U.S.; and

Whereas Premier Doug Ford has outlined several plans to combat the impact the proposed tariffs would have on Ontario including Fortress Am-Can which focus on strengthening trade between Ontario and the U.S. while bringing good jobs back home for workers on both sides of the border; and

Whereas the federal government has also outlined several ways to address the current relationship with the U.S. including establishing the Council on Canada-U.S. relations to support the federal government as it negotiates with the U.S on tariffs; and

Whereas trade between Ontario and the United States is very important to our residents and local economies and requires all levels of government to work together in the best interest of those residents; and

Whereas according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, across Ontario municipalities are expected to spend between \$250 and \$290 billion on infrastructure in the next 10 years; and.

Whereas municipalities have traditionally treated all procurements from trade partners equally and fairly; and

Whereas municipalities can assist in the Team Canada effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in our procurement for capital and infrastructure programs; and

Whereas there are trade barriers between Canadian provinces.



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VAL RITA, ON, POL 2G0

WWW.VALHARTY.CA
ADMINISTRATION@VALHARTY.CA

Therefore, be it resolved that, the Township of Val Rita-Harty supports the provincial and federal governments on the measures they have put in place in response to the proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods and ask that they take any and all measures to protect the interests of Ontario in any upcoming trade negotiations;

And that federal and provincial governments remove any impediments to municipalities preferring Canadian companies and services for capital projects and other supplies;

And that the provincial and federal governments take action to remove trade barriers between provinces as a response to US tariffs and support Canadian businesses.

Be it further resolved that copies of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Hon. Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- The Hon. Nate Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
- The Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Rebecca Bligh, President, FCM and Councillor, City of Vancouver
- Robin Jones, President, AMO and Mayor of Westport
- Bonnie Clark, Chair, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
- Jeff Leal, Chair, Eastern Ontario Leadership Council
- John Beddows, Chair, Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus
- All provincial and territorial Premiers.
- All local MPs and MPPs
- All Ontario Municipalities for their support.

CARRIED

Vickie Boudreau
Clerk/Treasurer

February 20, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Re: Ontario Deposit Return Program

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, February 10, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0025 regarding Support for the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding Ontario Deposit Return Program.

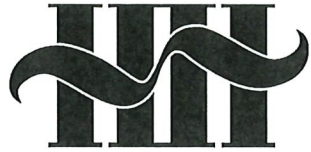
Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0025.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP Wellington – Halton Hills
Leaders of the Opposition Parties
All Municipalities in Ontario



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS

THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0025

Title: Ontario Deposit Return Program

Date: February 10, 2025

Moved by: Councillor C. Somerville

Seconded by: Councillor J. Fogal

Item No. 12.1

WHEREAS the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers;

AND WHEREAS ON September 20, 2024 the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury issued a letter endorsing the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills has always shown a leadership role in environmental matters including, passing in 2005, asking the province to create a deposit and return system for wine and liquor bottles;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Town of Halton Hills hereby supports the letter dated September 20, 2024, by the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); MPP Ted Arnott; Leaders of the Opposition Parties; and all Ontario Municipalities.

Mayor Ann Lawlor

September 20, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin:

Ontario Deposit Return Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally address the recent discussions surrounding the Ontario Deposit Return Program, particularly regarding our community residents asking us about the recycling of nonalcoholic beverage plastics.

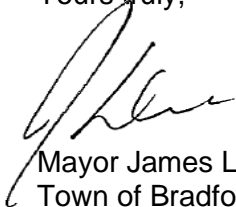
Whereas the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers, resulting in the removal of over 204,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, we recognize the potential for similar success with nonalcoholic beverages.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks highlighted in their June 2023 letter that they are considering the adoption of a deposit-and-return system for nonalcoholic beverages. This initiative presents a unique opportunity to further promote recycling, reduce litter, and encourage sustainable practices among consumers.

Therefore, I am proud to announce that our Council endorses the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers. We believe that this expansion will not only enhance environmental stewardship but also foster a culture of sustainability within our community.

We encourage all stakeholders to support this initiative and work collaboratively towards its implementation. Together, we can make a significant impact on our environment and set a positive example for future generations.

Yours truly,



Mayor James Leduc
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

CC:

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Member of Provincial Parliament for York-Simcoe
MPP Sandy Shaw, Opposition Environment, Conservation and Parks Critic
Ontario's Municipal Councils and Conservation Authorities