

Township of The Archipelago



COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE
Regular Meeting of Council
April 17, 2026

★ Township of The Archipelago has already endorsed this resolution, or action has already been taken

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

[01]

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

[02] [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)
RE: Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 (Bill 98)

ARCHIPELAGO CORRESPONDENCE - OUTBOUND

[03] [Township of the Archipelago](#)
RE: Submission to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry regarding the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project

WEST PARRY SOUND AREA MUNICIPALITIES

[04] [West Parry Sound Recreation & Cultural Centre Joint Municipal Service Board](#)
RE: 2026 Budget Contribution
RE: Open Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026
RE: Open Meeting Agenda – April 8, 2026

[05] [Belvedere Heights Board of Management](#)
RE: March 25, 2025 Meeting Agenda

★[06] [Request to Province to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities](#)
RE: Town of Parry Sound

[07] [Request to Province to clarify its intentions with respect to the land claim and resolving the issue of additional Magnetawan First Nation lands being taken for the expansion of Highway 69](#)

RE: Town of Parry Sound

- [08] Request to Province to increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs rates to reflect the costs of living and index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward
RE: Township of Carling

ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES

- *[09] Request to Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation
RE: Township of Perry
RE: Township of Greater Madawaska
RE: Township of Puslinch
- [10] Request to Province to extend the annual Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets
RE: Township of North Glengarry
RE: Township of Greater Madawaska
- [11] Request to the Ontario Veterinary College, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary college to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians
RE: Municipality of South Huron
- [12] Request to Province to review and modernize the Heritage Organization Development Crant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability
RE: Municipality of South Huron
- [13] Resolution endorsing the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Proposal to include \$10 million per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding
RE: Town of Saugeen Shores
- [14] Request to Province to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards
RE: Municipality of Bluewater
- [15] Request to Province to work with the Government of Canada to declare the expansion and modernization of Highways 11 and 17 a project of national significance
RE: Township of Black River Matheson

- [16] Request to Province to focus its upcoming 2030 Poverty Reduction Strategy around reducing measures of material deprivation, such as food security and to raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs
RE: Municipality of Chatham-Kent

- [17] Request to Province to provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act and not general increases to police budgets
RE: County of Prince Edward

- [18] Resolution expressing support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
RE: Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc

- [19] Letter of support for the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) request for support for advancing measures that will strengthen protections for municipal works and contractors
RE: Township of Oro Medonte

- [20] Letter to the Province requesting significant changes to Bill 9 the Municipal Accountability Act, 2025
RE: City of Sarnia

- [21] Request to Province to further amend the Ontario Heritage Act
RE: Town of Lincoln

- [22] Request to Province to amend Christopher's Law (Sexual Offender Registry, 2000) to make the Ontario Sex Offender Registry publicly accessible
RE: Township of Wellesley

- [23] Letter to Senator regarding concerns with the Alta High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)
RE: Rideau Lakes Township
RE: Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

FIRST NATIONS

[25]

RATEPAYER ASSOCIATIONS

[26]

RATEPAYERS/OTHERS

[27]

AGENCIES

- [28] [District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board](#)
RE: Chief Administrative Officer's Report March 2026

- [29] [Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities \(FONOM\)](#)
RE: March 21, 2026 Press Release – FONOM Board Advances Northern Priorities at Meeting in Kirkland Lake
RE: March 21, 2026 Press Release – FONOM Supports Provincial Highway 11/17 Safety Measures While Calling for Continued Progress
RE: March 26, 2026 Press Release – FONOM Welcomes Key Northern Investments in Ontario Budget and NORDS Extension
RE: March 31, 2026 Press Release – FONOM Calls for Fair Housing Funding as Development Charge Changes Risk Leaving Northern Communities Behind
RE: April 8, 2026 Press Release – FONOM Urges Ontario to Act as Manitoba Advances Compassionate Intervention Legislation
RE: May 10, 2026 Annual Report to Members

- [30] [Near North District School Board](#)
RE: 2026 Trustee Elections Process

ENVIRONMENT

- [31] [Resolution expressing concerns with TC Energy's Proposed Pumped Storage Project at Meaford](#)
RE: Township of Tiny

- [32] [Save Georgian Bay](#)
RE: Concerns Regarding TC Energy's Proposed Pumped Storage Project at Meaford

- [33] [Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation](#)
RE: Letter to Federal Government regarding the declining water levels of Georgian Bay

- [34] [Pat Maloney, Meaford Resident](#)
RE: Concerns Regarding TC Energy's Proposed Pumped Storage Project at Meaford

MISCELLANEOUS

- [35] [Bobby Orr Hall of Fame](#)
RE: Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on June 13, 2026

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

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Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

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234-2026-1123

April 1, 2026

On March 30, 2026, our government introduced the *Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026*, (Bill 98). Through this legislation and accompanying measures, we are creating the conditions for Ontario to build the housing and infrastructure it needs to grow and remain competitive. These changes will help get shovels in the ground faster for much-needed housing, and housing enabling-infrastructure projects, while improving the way people and goods move across Ontario.

A brief description of the proposals in this bill are included in this letter below. You are also invited to review the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) and [Regulatory Registry of Ontario](#) posting links provided with this letter and share any feedback you may have.

If you have any questions, please reach out to my Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Tanner Zelenko, at Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca

I look forward to our continued collaboration with our municipal partners as we build a more prosperous, resilient and competitive economy that will enhance affordability and the quality of life for Ontario residents and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Flack".

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

- c. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
- Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
- Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Laura Smith, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Brian Saunderson, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Laurie Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing

Development Charges Act, 1997 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 3 of the Bill would make amendments to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.

New section 4.5 would provide that non-profit retirement home developments are exempt from development charges.

The Schedule would also make technical amendments to address out-of-date cross-references in provisions related to front-ending agreements.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997* through the Ontario Regulatory Registry

<https://www.regulatoryregistry.gov.on.ca/proposal/52054>

Municipal Act, 2001 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The Schedule repeals and remakes section 93 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to address barriers to the development of communal water and wastewater systems and increase housing supply across Ontario.

New subsection 93 (1) of the Act provides that no person shall construct, maintain or operate a non-municipal water or sewage public utility without first applying for and obtaining the consent of the municipality. Under new subsection 93 (2) of the Act, a municipality that receives an application for one of these utilities must review that application and either provide consent subject to conditions and limits that are agreed upon, or, in the case of a regulation having been made setting out criteria or conditions that must be met, and the municipality is of the opinion that regulated requirements have been met, the municipality must provide consent to the application. Regulation-making authority would be made to establish the criteria or conditions related to applications for consent and for the proposed public utility.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([ERO 026-0302](#)) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.

Planning Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 7 of the Bill proposes the following amendments to the *Planning Act* that would help create the conditions necessary to support housing and community development. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Specify a standardized structure and a standardized set of land use designations for local official plans (i.e., lower- and single-tier municipalities and planning boards).
- Provide a two-phased implementation approach for the new official plan framework which focuses on the 29 large and fast-growing municipalities in the first phase,
- Remove redundant requirement for municipalities to include climate change policies in their official plans,
- Provide the Minister with authority to exempt lower-tier municipalities from requirement to conform with upper-tier official plan to facilitate voluntary early implementation of the proposed official plan framework,

- Provide that for an already approved Protected Major Transit Station Area (PMTSA), only official plan amendments changing the boundaries of the PMTSA or the planned population and jobs for the area would require the Minister's approval,
- Remove the legislative requirement for the Minister to provide notice on proposed amendments to or revocations of Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs),
- Provide flexibility for removing Simcoe County's planning responsibilities in up to three separate phases, based on municipal readiness, and
- Facilitate the implementation of provisions from Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, that provide for a new framework for developer-identified land, including encumbered land and privately owned public spaces (POPS) arrangements, to count toward municipal parkland dedication requirements.
- Remove references to "sustainable design" from site plan control and restrict municipalities from requiring an owner of land to provide electric vehicle supply equipment in connection with off-street vehicular parking facilities, so that municipalities may not impose 'enhanced' development standards at the lot level that are not required for health, safety, or environmental performance (e.g., stormwater).
- Provide the Minister with authority to establish a minimum lot size through regulation.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario and the Ontario Regulatory Registry from March 30, 2026, to April 29, 2026:

- [ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026).

We are also interested in receiving any comments you may have on other associated proposals:

- [ERO 026-0315](#): Consultation on upper-tier official plans, secondary plans, and site and area-specific policies
- [ERO 026-0310](#): Consultation on site plan control reform under the *Planning Act* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*
- [ERO 026-0305](#): Proposed Changes to Various Regulations Under the *Planning Act* to Facilitate the Electronic Submission of Information and Materials to Approval Authorities and Allow Notices to be Given Electronically to the Province
- [ERO 026-0314](#): Proposed Changes to Various Regulations Under the *Planning Act* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to Specify Additional "Prescribed Professions" for the Purposes of a Complete Application
- [ERO 026-0313](#): Streamlining the Information and Material that Planning Authorities can Require as Part of a Complete Application
- [ERO 026-0309](#): Proposed Regulation to Prohibit Mandatory Enhanced Development Standards as a Condition of Land Division Approvals
- [ERO 026-0311](#): Proposed Regulatory Approach to Establish a Minimum Residential Lot Size in Urban Areas
- [ERO 026-0304](#): Draft Projection Methodology Guideline to support the implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement, 2024
- [ERO 026-0312](#): Proposed Changes to Support Standardizing of Parkland Requirements Under the *Planning Act*

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

Building Code Act, 1992 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 1 amends the *Building Code Act, 1992* to clarify that standards for the protection or conservation of the environment are included in the meaning of municipal by-laws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings for the purposes of section 35 of the Act.

[ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026.

City of Toronto Act, 2006 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The proposed change would, through various amendments to section 114 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, remove references to “sustainable design” in site plan control. Changes would also be made to allow the Minister to establish a minimum lot size through regulation under the *Planning Act*.

[ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026

Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The ministry is proposing legislative amendments to the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025*. These include:

- Explicitly prohibiting private ownership in any new Water and Wastewater Public Corporation (WWPC) to align with the government’s intent to maintain 100% public sector ownership and respond to the strong feedback we have heard on the issue from the public, unions, associations and municipalities regarding privatization.
- Supporting the continuation of services and existing contracts – so that transferred contracts and agreements are not affected by a transfer to a new WWPC. This includes contracts such as employment or insurance, permits, licenses or a collective agreement, helping to support an efficient transfer and continuity of service during the transfer process.
- Supporting labour and employment continuity by clarifying that certain rights (such as successor, employment, and pay equity rights) are carried forward to a new WWPC.
- This would include regulation-making authority to help ensure continuity of services related to contracts and employees that are transferred to a new WWPC.
- Prohibiting the transfer of long-term municipal water and wastewater debt to a WWPC to provide clarity and reduce lender uncertainty, while creating new regulation-making authority to enable future regulations to address other matters related to municipal debt.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([026-0301](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301)) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301>

Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Schedule 8 of the Bill proposes a change to the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA)* to clarify that a drinking water system owned by a WWPC would be considered a municipal drinking water system under the SDWA. This change would ensure that WWPCs are subject to the same public health and safety requirements under the SDWA that apply to all municipal drinking water systems.

The Bill also proposes changes to the *Safe Drinking Water Act* that would deem municipal consent to have been provided under the *Safe Drinking Water Act* for a proposed non-municipal drinking water system if consent has been provided by a municipality under the *Municipal Act* and regulated requirements under that Act were met. This avoids duplication of the municipal consent and helps to remove a barrier to development on communal systems.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notices related to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, [026-0302](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0302), and the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025*, [026-0301](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301>
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0302>

Fare Alignment and Seamless Transit Act, 2026 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 4 of the bill enacts the *Fare Alignment and Seamless Transit Act, 2026*. The proposed legislation would authorize the Minister of Transportation to make regulations:

1. **Prescribing local transit systems** in the GTHA that are subject to the Act.
2. **Establishing One Fare 2.0**, including: setting fare prices and categories; defining eligibility and fare discount policies; establishing fare and transfer policies between prescribed transit systems (e.g., free transfers); requiring participation in a unified fare payment system approved by the Minister (e.g., PRESTO); and determining how fares shall be apportioned among prescribed transit systems in a geographic zone, which could result in the reallocation of fare revenue collected in one prescribed transit system to another prescribed transit system in a different municipality.
3. **Improving service to key regional destinations** by designating new and existing routes as “priority routes”, including routes that may cross municipal boundaries; setting service standards for priority routes; and prescribing requirements for service integration between prescribed transit systems, including requiring a prescribed transit system to provide services outside of its primary service area (i.e., in other municipalities).

4. **Improving specialized transit service**, including requiring prescribed specialized transit systems to: participate in a unified trip booking system approved by the Minister; and provide transportation a prescribed distance outside of its primary service area (i.e., in another municipality) without requiring a person with a disability to transfer to a different passenger transportation system.
5. **Creating exemptions** from the Act or regulations.

Metrolinx Act, 2006 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 5 amends *the Metrolinx Act, 2006* to create a voluntary, streamlined compliance reporting process for Metrolinx which will be more scoped than the traditional building permit process. The proposed compliance reporting process does not override the existing building permit process. Instead, it allows for more flexibility for Metrolinx by creating a streamlined process to get building science expertise from municipalities.

The proposed legislative amendments require municipalities, upon receiving a proposed construction or demolition notice from Metrolinx, to provide Metrolinx with a report that includes:

- An assessment of whether the proposal would contravene the Building Code.
 - Municipalities would not include a review of certain *Planning Act* requirements such as municipal zoning bylaw and site plan approvals.
- An assessment of the applicability of the Architects Act or the Professional Engineers Act.
- An assessment of whether every person who prepared the relevant building documents had the correct qualifications under the Building Code.
- Any other prescribed information.

The proposed legislation also enables the Minister of Transportation, through regulation, to prescribe additional exemptions to applicable law and specific timelines for municipal inspections and conveyance of occupancy reports, among other items.



WHO WE ARE

The Township of The Archipelago is a longstanding steward of the islands, inland lakes, and coastal environments within the Georgian Bay watershed, located in the UNESCO-designated Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere. The Township is committed to preserving the ecological integrity, natural heritage, and environmental sustainability of this globally significant region, recognizing that the well-being of its communities is inseparable from the health of the broader Georgian Bay ecosystem.

Our geographically dispersed community spans the 30,000 Islands, inland lakes, and the settlement area of Pointe au Baril, requiring a governance approach that reflects both local needs and regional realities. The Township works collaboratively with surrounding municipalities and partners, sharing in the delivery and cost of services that extend beyond municipal boundaries. This reflects the interconnected nature of environmental systems, economic activity, and community well-being across Georgian Bay.

Central to the Township's mandate is environmental stewardship, consistent with its role within the UNESCO Biosphere, alongside effective governance that supports sustainable communities and regional partnerships. Through this submission, the Township seeks to ensure its environmental, community, and governance interests are fully considered within the federal impact assessment process, and to support a comprehensive, evidence-based evaluation of the project and its potential regional implications.

THE TOWNSHIP'S POSITION

The Township of the Archipelago opposes the project, and to date has not been satisfied that the potential for significant environmental damage can be or has been sufficiently described nor mitigated.

The Township submits that the physical activities proposed by TC Energy both in the construction phase and in the operational phase of the project are of such a scale and have the potential for such wide-ranging environmental impacts that the IAAC must require a federal Impact Assessment be completed.

BACKGROUND

Council for The Township has addressed the project:

- November 2023: Council passed a resolution **opposing the project**;
- July 2024: Council directed staff to contact the Federal and Provincial governments and Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to obtain information on the environmental assessment process for the project;
- September 2025: Council supported the Town of Blue Mountain's resolution (dated July 14, 2025) requesting that the Grey County Council and the Municipality of Meaford request that the project not be designated a Special Economic Zone in the regulations under Bill 5, and also resolved that the project should be required to complete necessary environment assessments.

None of these resolutions has been rescinded.

In March 2024, Council received a deputation from Mr. John Mikkelsen of TC Energy and Chief Greg Nadjiwon of the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, in which they provided an update on the project and sought to clarify their positions. During that deputation, in response to concerns raised by Council regarding environmental protection, Mr. Mikkelsen stated: *"If it gives you any comfort, the gentleman to my left [Chief Nadjiwon] is not going to let me build a project that does not protect the environment."*

Section 8-Public Engagement where TC Energy Submission, states: *"The protection, sustainability and long-term health of Georgian Bay are threshold issues before TC Energy is granted permission to build the project."*

The Township accepted these statements and expects the IAAC to rigorously hold TC Energy accountable to its commitments to this high threshold for environmental protection and sustainability for the long-term health of Georgian Bay.

WHY IT MATTERS to The Archipelago

Concerns affecting the broader region include the potential deterioration of water quality due to historic contamination at the 4th Canadian Division Training Centre site and bore hole and tunnel construction, as well as the risk of fish mortality and bioaccumulation of contaminants that could adversely impact tourism, recreation, and commercial activities throughout Georgian Bay. A clean and stable environment is not only essential to ecosystem health but is foundational to the region's economy. This is reflected in the Township's Official Plan (OP), which identifies as a primary objective: *"respecting,*

maintaining and improving the natural environment of the region, and of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, of which the Township is a part” (Section 4.1 of OP), and as a secondary objective: “protect and preserve the water quality of the area” (Section 4.2 of OP).

Our concerns also extend to broader ecological systems, including fish habitat and species such as whitefish, as well as issues related to water levels and the spread of invasive species, factors that inherently extend beyond municipal boundaries. The Township’s Official Plan clearly recognizes that *“the local economy of the Township of The Archipelago results primarily from the natural resources of the area and the recreational base of the Municipality”* (Section 5.1 of OP). As such, the Township’s economic viability is directly tied to the health, quality, and perception of its natural environment. Any adverse environmental effects, particularly those affecting water quality, fisheries, and the overall ecological integrity of Georgian Bay, have the potential to significantly impact property values, tourism activity, recreational use, and the broader economic sustainability of the community.

These risks are particularly significant for communities such as ours, where many residents rely directly on Georgian Bay water for drinking and domestic use, making them especially vulnerable to any degradation in water quality or disturbance of contaminated sediments. Any decline in water quality would not only pose a direct risk to public health, but also undermine the environmental conditions that sustain Georgian Bay’s economy.

The Township is also committed to addressing *“the complex, multi-jurisdictional issues of the Coast that relate to water use, water quality, water quantity, navigation and boating”* (Section 5.15.6 of OP), and acknowledges that *“water quality is important for maintaining functioning ecosystems and for protecting human health; water quality will be maintained at a high level and improved where possible”* (Section 5.15.12 of OP). Importantly, the Official Plan recognizes the cross-jurisdictional nature of the watershed, stating that this must be reflected in both water quality programs and in *“evaluating development or works for potential adverse impacts to water quality”* (Section 5.15.12 of OP).

Consistent with these policies, and in recognition of our strong partnerships with organizations such as the Georgian Bay Biosphere (GBB), Georgian Bay Forever (GBF), and the Georgian Bay Association (GBA), we emphasize that water quality in Georgian Bay is a shared, multi-jurisdictional responsibility. Any potential impacts must therefore be assessed within this broader regional and policy context, including a full consideration of the direct and indirect consequences to communities whose livelihoods and sustainability depend on a healthy and protected natural environment.

We have identified key focus areas including water, land, and associated corridor or transmission infrastructure, with particular emphasis on water and land due to the heightened potential for adverse environmental effects. Particular concern is directed toward potential impacts to Georgian Bay and the Department of National Defence (DND) lands, including proposed tunnelling beneath the Bay. Elements of the project described in Section 3.1.4 (Lower Inlet and Outlet Structure) and Section 3.1.6.2 (Potential Marine Access and species protection) introduce additional uncertainty regarding in-water works, habitat disruption, and sediment disturbance.

Section 3.14 of the IPD indicates that the Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure is still in the envisioning stage. This structure is the main component of the Project and the component most likely to have adverse effects on water quality, the disturbance of lakebed and sediments, fish habitat and fish species, among other potential adverse effects, including potential emergencies. Without an Impact Assessment (IA), future planning may proceed without adequate environmental oversight. In Section 3.1.6.2 of the IPD adds further rationale for the need for an IA. TC Energy indicates that they are still evaluating potential disturbance of lakebed sediments, alterations to local hydrologic conditions, and entrainment and impingement of aquatic species. An IA will ensure that such evaluations are conducted in a comprehensive and transparent manner.

At present, the Township does not believe there is sufficient information available to adequately assess impacts in these areas. Further detailed study is required, including a rigorous evaluation of potential effects on aquatic and terrestrial systems and clear consideration of applicable federal legislation such as the *Fisheries Act* and the *Species at Risk Act*. While Section 8.3 indicates that protection and sustainability will be attained, the current level of detail does not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate how these outcomes will be achieved, particularly in relation to sensitive marine environments and cross-jurisdictional ecological systems.

The absence of comprehensive, independent baseline data limits the ability to understand existing environmental conditions or predict impacts on ecosystems and public health. Critical technical details, such as tunneling methods, blasting activities, sediment mobilization, and potential impacts to the bay floor, remain unclear, introducing significant uncertainty regarding the scale and distribution of environmental effects.

We are also concerned by the lack of clearly defined emergency response plans, including protocols for reservoir failure, contamination events, and system malfunctions. This runs counter to the intent of the IAAC evaluation process, which is to ensure projects safeguard environmental integrity, protect public health and safety, and clearly establish accountability. As presented, the proposal does not meet IAAC criteria related to mitigation, risk management, or the assessment of adverse effects. Municipal roles and responsibilities remain undefined, exposing municipalities to significant potential liabilities, including emergency response, remediation, public health protection, and long-term monitoring.

Given these gaps, the risks to both the environment and municipalities cannot be adequately understood or managed. These concerns are particularly acute given our community's reliance on Georgian Bay for drinking water, recreation, tourism, and ecological and economic sustainability. The potential impacts are regional in nature, affecting the broader Georgian Bay ecosystem. A comprehensive federal impact assessment is therefore necessary to ensure a rigorous, transparent, and evidence-based evaluation consistent with the public interest.

Requested Action

We respectfully request that the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada advance this project to a full Federal Impact Assessment in order to:

- Establish baseline environmental conditions, including water quality, aquatic ecosystems, and geological stability;
- The inflow and outflow design remains at a conceptual (envisioning) stage and must be supported by detailed technical studies to clearly demonstrate operational feasibility and impacts beyond concepts;
- Evaluate potential adverse effects associated with in-water works, tunneling, and land disturbance, and undertake studies to ensure that no contaminants from the brownfield site are released;
- Assess compliance with applicable legislation, including the *Fisheries Act*, *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*, *Environmental Protection Act*, *Ontario Water Resources Act*, *Canadian Navigable Waters Act (CNWA)*, *Conservation Authorities Act*, and other relevant federal requirements;
- Develop a Tailored Impact Statement Guideline to ensure that all necessary studies, mitigation measures, and monitoring frameworks are clearly defined;
- Ensure that all local Indigenous rights, knowledge, and environmental threshold, particularly the protection of Georgian Bay waters, are meaningfully incorporated and upheld, recognizing and appreciating the involvement of the Chief from Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation in the project, and ensuring that all First Nations within the Georgian Bay region are fully engaged and included in consultation, decision-making, and ongoing stewardship; and
- Provide a transparent, evidence-based process that integrates federal and provincial considerations under a “one project, one review” framework.

CONCLUSION

The Township of The Archipelago remains opposed to the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project as proposed.

The Township and other interested parties (including commenters in the IAAC’s process to date) have identified significant uncertainties and potential risks in the proposal, and there are not enough baseline environmental data, technical detail nor clearly defined mitigation and emergency response measures to address them. The project’s potential impacts on water quality, aquatic ecosystems, and public

health cannot be known or predicted based on the information available. A federal Impact Assessment must be completed before the Township can determine whether this project is appropriate development for Georgian Bay.

We respectfully request and unequivocally urge that the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada ensure this project is subject to a comprehensive, science-based, and transparent review process that fully evaluates potential impacts, incorporates Indigenous knowledge and rights, and prioritizes the long-term protection of Georgian Bay and the communities that depend on it.

West Parry Sound Recreation & Cultural Centre Joint Municipal Service Board

c/o Town of Parry Sound, 52 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1B4
Tel: (705) 746-2101 ■ Fax: (705) 746-7461 ■ www.parrysound.ca

March 23, 2026

Dear West Parry Sound Recreation & Cultural Centre Municipal Partners

ATTN: CAO/Treasurer

Re: 2026 Budget Contribution Request

At the February 11, 2026 board meeting, the 2026 Operating Budget was approved.

In the Partnership Agreement, which was executed in 2021, the total annual municipal contribution is \$350,000 and indexed each following year. For 2026, the indexed amount of the municipal contribution is \$407,818, refer to the calculations below.

Operating Contribution Adjusted for CPI per Establishing Agreement

	CPI Ontario - Not seasonally adjusted -Oct to Oct	Operating Contribution
	2021 Agreement Contribution	\$350,000
2022	0.065	372,750
2023	0.033	385,051
2024	0.020	392,752
2025	0.018	399,821
2026	0.020	407,818

The municipal partner contributions being requested are listed below:

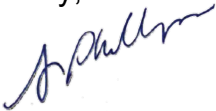
Municipal Partner	Percentage	2026 Contribution
Seguin	23.9%	\$97,468
McDougall	17.6%	71,776
Parry Sound	26.7%	108,887
Carling	10.5%	42,821
McKellar	8.5%	34,665
The Archipelago	<u>12.8%</u>	<u>52,201</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$407,818</u>

The funds are required to make payments, including to the YMCA and avoid line of credit interest costs. Accordingly, we respectfully request that the funds be made payable to the West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre and paid by electronic fund transfer no later than **Friday, April 20, 2026**. An invoice has been attached for your convenience.

Please be advised that the board will charge interest at Scotiabank prime plus 2.5% on any outstanding amounts past due per item 9 of the partnership agreement.

If you have any questions or you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Phillips, Board Treasurer
West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre

c.c. Dale Robinson, West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board Chair
c.c. Jamie McGarvey, West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board Vice Chair
c.c. Rebecca Johnson, West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board Clerk

Encl.

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026**

Date: March 11, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Town of Parry Sound Council Chambers, 52 Seguin Street.

Members Present:
Archipelago Reeve Bert Liverance
Carling Councillor Al Doubrough
Chair McDougall Mayor Dale Robinson
Parry Sound Mayor Jamie McGarvey
Seguin Councillor Terry Fellner

Steering Committee Members Present
Archipelago CAO John MacKinnon
Carling CAO Kevin McIlwain
McDougall CAO Tim Hunt
Parry Sound CAO Clayton Harris

Alternate Members Present:
Carling Councillor Bruce Kelly
McDougall Councillor JJ Blower
Parry Sound Councillor George Ashford
Seguin Mayor Ann MacDiarmid

Staff Present:
Recording Clerk Rebecca Johnson
Board Treasurer Stephanie Phillips

Guests Present:
Ball Construction Project Manager Vlad Melut
YMCA Fiona Cascagnette, Miranda Ketcheson
Hard Hat Party Chair Libby Walker
sagecomm Co-CEO Lindsay Sage

1. Agenda:

- 1.1 Additions to Open Agenda**
- 1.2 Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Fellner Seconded by Councillor Doubrough

That the Agenda for the March 11, 2026 West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board is hereby approved as amended.

Carried

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026**

1.3 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - N/A

1.4 Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mayor McGarvey Seconded by Councillor Fellner

That Minutes of the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting of the West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board are hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

2. Delegations/Correspondence – N/A

3. Business

3.1 Steering Committee Update – N/A

3.2 Monthly Financial Reports

Submitted by: Stephanie Phillips, Board Treasurer

Resolution 2026 - 07

Moved by Mayor McGarvey Seconded by Councillor Doubrough

That the February 28, 2026 financial reports be received for information.

Carried

3.3 Project & Budget Update

Submitted by: Steering Committee

From a prepared Power Point presentation circulated with the agenda, Project Manager Vlad Melut gave a summary of the short-term construction schedule, overall project schedule, budget update and contingency update.

Resolution 2026 - 08

Moved by Reeve Liverance Seconded by Councillor Fellner

That the Board receive the March 11, 2026 Project & Budget Update for information purposes.

Carried

3.4 Marketing/Branding/Communications Presentation

Lindsay Sage, Co-CEO of sagecomm

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026**

From a prepared Power Point presentation, Lindsay Sage highlighted elements of the marketing and community engagement plan for the Tamarack North Centre, including project scope & partners, community engagement insights, plan positioning and key messages, campaign creative sneak peek and what to expect next. The collaborative team composed of sagecomm, Tamarack North Centre and YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka have a phased implementation plan of discovery & awareness building from mid Jan to early Apr 2026; education & engagement from mid-Apr to late May 2026; action (pre-sales, opening) from Jun to Aug 2026; and post opening momentum from Sep 2026 onwards.

3.5 Fundraising/Sponsorship Update

Verbal Update: Fundraising Committee Chair Mayor Ann MacDiarmid

Mayor Ann MacDiarmid reported that the fundraising efforts are close to \$4M with hopes of hitting \$5M before opening, and that sponsorships are coming from all 7 municipalities.

Hard Hat Sneak Peek Party Chair Libby Walker reported that the event scheduled for Saturday, May 23 from 6 to 9 PM will include a live auction, live music, door prizes and food with Trestle Brewing Company and Legend Spirits sponsoring and other sponsorship opportunities available. Tickets at \$200 each will go on sale in early April, with \$100 of the ticket price issued as a tax receipt.

Ball Construction is donating hard hats and the YMCA is donating prizes.

Mayor MacDiarmid requested that the public works departments of municipalities help support the event by delivering and/or returning tables, chairs and other equipment for the event.

Resolution 2026 - 09

Moved by Mayor McGarvey Seconded by Reeve Liverance

That the Board received the March 11, 2026 Fundraising/Sponsorship Verbal Update for information purposes.

Carried

3.6 2025 Audited Financial Statements

Submitted by: Stephanie Phillips, Board Treasurer

Resolution 2026 - 10

Moved by Councillor Fellner Seconded by Councillor Doubrough

That the fee of \$12,000 plus 7% for a technology fee (plus hst) for 2025 audit services be approved; and

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026**

That BDO Canada LLP be engaged as the auditor for the 2025 fiscal year end.

Carried

4. Adjournment

Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:49 PM

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Agenda – April 8, 2026**

Date: April 8, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Town of Parry Sound Council Chambers, 52 Seguin Street.

1. Agenda:

1.1 Move to Closed Meeting

1.1a Additions to Closed Agenda

Resolution 2026

THAT pursuant to Section 239(2) and (3) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, the West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board moves to a meeting closed to the public in order to address matters pertaining to:

- e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board, **(breach of contract)**;
- f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose, **(breach of contract)**
- k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by, or on behalf of the municipality or local board, **(breach of contract)**

1.2 Additions to Open Agenda

1.3 Approval of Agenda

That the Agenda for the April 8, 2026 West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board is hereby approved as circulated.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.5 Approval of Minutes

That Minutes of the March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting of the West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board are hereby approved as circulated

2. Delegations/Correspondence – N/A

3. Business

3.1 Steering Committee Update

**West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board
Open Meeting Agenda – April 8, 2026**

3.2 Project & Budget Update

Submitted by: Steering Committee

Resolution 2026 -

That the Board receive the April 8, 2026 Project & Budget Update for information purposes.

3.3 Fundraising/Sponsorship Update

Verbal Update: Fundraising Committee Chair Mayor Ann MacDiarmid

Resolution 2026 -

That the Board received the April 8, 2026 Fundraising/Sponsorship Verbal Update for information purposes.

4. Adjournment



TAMARACK NORTH CENTRE

PROJECT UPDATE APRIL 8, 2026



CONTENTS

- SHORT TERM CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE (ongoing/new activities)
- OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE
- BUDGET UPDATE
- CONTINGENCY UPDATE

SHORT TERM SCHEDULE (ongoing/new activities)

- Mechanical Systems
 - Completion of testing and inspections
 - Flushing and cleaning of piping
- HVAC
 - O/H & Natatorium U/G Ductwork
 - Finish fixtures
- Electrical – Commissioning & Fixtures
- Interior Ceiling – Tiles & Drywall
- Finished Painting
- Finished Flooring
- Interior Glazing
- Pool Stainless Steel Walls Installation



OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Electrical & Mechanical
- Commissioning
- Interior Glazing
- Building Finishes
- Pool – Stainless Steel Structure
- Exterior Site Work
- Project substantial target is end of July, 2026





GYM PROJECT BUDGET

- No changes in the construction budget since the Dec. 11th, 2024 project update
- Overall project budget currently at approx. \$39,500,000
- All hard tenders have been finalized

CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY

- Class C Budget Construction Contingency (prior to construction start): \$1,519,676.00 [Carry Over Information]
- Due to positive tender results, the contingency (and construction budget) was reduced by \$497,357. This resulted in the contingency being \$1,022,319 at the start of construction [Carry Over Information]
- To date, we have \$771,671.00 in subsequent tender contracts, approved and pending changes. The construction contingency is currently at \$371,781.88















 **THANK YOU**

**District of Parry Sound West
(Belvedere Heights)
Notice of Meeting
Board of Management
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting – link provided in email**

AGENDA

Board of Management (voting): Joe Beleskey (representing the Town of Parry Sound)
Paul Borneman, Vice Chair (representing the Town of Parry Sound)
Don Carmichael, Secretary/Treasurer (Order in Council Appointment)
Gail Finnon (representing Seguin Township)
Pamela Wing, Chair (representing McDougall, The Archipelago, Carling Townships)
Cheryl Ward (Order in Council Appointment)
Debbie Zulak (representing Whitestone, McKellar, McMurrich/Montieth

Townships)

Board of Management (regrets)

Quorum – for a meeting of the Board shall be a simple majority of the Directors. By-law 8.9

Staff Attending (non-voting): Deborah Randall-Wood, Administrator
John Vanderhorst, Assistant Administrator
Linda Taylor, Program Director, CSS

Staff Regrets (non-voting):

As a result of the COVID 19 pandemic and Provincial requirements for physical distancing, this Committee/Board meeting will be held electronically in accordance with section 238 of the Municipal Act 2001.

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Confirmation of Quorum
- 3.0 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
- 4.0 Land Acknowledgement –

We will begin this Board Meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting on aboriginal land of the Ojibiwa/Chippewa peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place. We also recognize the contributions of Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made to the stewardship of these lands.

- 5.0 Approval of Agenda:

MOTION:

That the Board of Management accepts the agenda, as presented.

6.0 Approval of Minutes:

MOTION:

That the minutes of the Belvedere Heights Board of Management meetings held Wednesday, February 25, 2026, be received.

7.0 Financial Reports: Note: Year End Financial Statements to be presented at the May 2026 Board Meeting (after completion of the audit for 2025).

- 7.1 February 2026 (*attached*)
- 7.2 CSS Reports – L.Taylor (*attached*)
- 7.3 Life Lease Report - J. Vanderhorst (*verbal*)

MOTION:

That the Board of Directors receives the Financial Reports as submitted.

8.0 Standing Items:

- 8.1 Build Update – J. Vanderhorst (*verbal*)
- 8.2 OHT Update – C. Ward, D. Randall-Wood

9.0 New Business:

- 9.1 Flooring – Carpet replacement update - J. Vanderhorst (*verbal*)

10.0 Other Reports:

- 10.01 Board Chair Report – P. Wind (*verbal*)
- 10.02 Administrator's Report – D.Randall-Wood (*verbal*)

11.0 Correspondence:

- 11.1 None

12.0 In-Camera:

- 12.1 Human Resources Update
- 12.2 Ministry of Long Term Care visits to Belvedere

13.0 Adjournment:

MOTION:

That there being no further business to conduct, the meeting terminated at _____ a.m.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 - 026

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: March 17, 2026

- Councillor **G. ASHFORD**
- Councillor **J. BELESKEY**
- Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**
- Councillor **B. KEITH**
- Councillor **D. McCANN**
- Councillor **C. McDONALD**
- Mayor **J. McGARVEY**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

MOVED BY:

 _____

SECONDED BY:

 GA _____

CARRIED: DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

The Council of the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports the Township of The Archipelago's Resolution 26-026 which formally requests that the Province of Ontario maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities; and

That Council does not support the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and area municipalities for information and support.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey



The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.4.
Resolution Number 26-026
Title: Request to Province to maintain local, independent, municipality governed watershed-based conservation authorities
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026

Moved by: Councillor MacLeod
Seconded by: Councillor Cade Fraser

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has long demonstrated a strong and unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, watershed protection, and the preservation of its globally significant Georgian Bay shoreline, wetlands, forests, and inland waters for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities play a critical role in watershed-based resource management, natural hazard prevention, and environmental protection through local, independent, and municipally governed organizations; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed changes to Conservation Authority boundaries and governance, including the creation of an “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority,” as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has received a number of resolutions from municipalities expressing concerns with, and not supporting, the proposed changes to Conservation Authority structures and boundaries;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago formally requests that the Province of Ontario maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council does not support the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment,

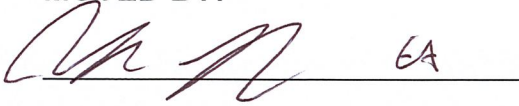
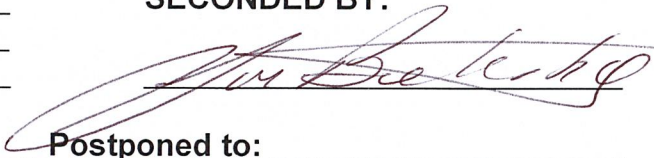
Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and area municipalities for information and support.

Carried



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL


NO. 2026 – 030

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO	DATE: March 17, 2026
Councillor G. ASHFORD	_____	_____	MOVED BY: 
Councillor J. BELESKEY	_____	_____	
Councillor P. BORNEMAN	_____	_____	SECONDED BY: 
Councillor B. KEITH	_____	_____	
Councillor D. McCANN	_____	_____	
Councillor C. McDONALD	_____	_____	
Mayor J. McGARVEY	_____	_____	
CARRIED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED: <input type="checkbox"/>	Postponed to: _____	

Whereas Magnetawan First Nation (MFN) has expressed concerns with the Highway 69 Expansion running directly through Magnetawan Reserve #1, with no confirmation yet by the Ontario Government to negotiate an existing land claim;

Now therefore the Town of Parry Sound requests that the Provincial Government clarify its intentions with respect to the land claim and resolving the issue of additional MFN lands being taken for the expansion of Highway 69; and

That this resolution be sent to Premier Ford, Minister of Transportation, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, West Parry Sound Area Municipalities, the municipalities of Killarney, French River and the City of Greater Sudbury, and the First Nations of Magnetawan, Henvey Inlet and Shawanaga.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey



March 11, 2026

RE: 2025 Food and Housing Affordability Data

At the Township of Carling's Regular Meeting of Council held on March 10, 2026 Council passed the following resolution:

26-020.7

**Moved by Councillor Wing
Seconded by Councillor Doubrough**

WHEREAS improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute and invest in their local economies and communities;

AND WHEREAS poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income;

AND WHEREAS income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts on physical and mental health;

AND WHEREAS the 2025 North Bay Parry Sound food affordability results show that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling supports efforts to raise awareness about and work to reduce poverty, homelessness and food insecurity;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling endorse the recommendations from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs rates to reflect the costs of living and index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Graydon Smith MPP, Parry Sound –Muskoka, Scott Aitchison MP, Parry Sound –Muskoka, District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), Associations of

Municipalities of Ontario, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

Carried

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely



Mackenzie Taylor
Deputy Clerk

CC: North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
Municipalities in North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit District
Graydon Smith, Minister of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound –Muskoka
Scott Aitchison, Minister of Parliament for Parry Sound –Muskoka
District of Social Services Administration Board
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;



Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.58-26
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.
 Seconded By: Councillor Tripp
 Item No: 13.1

Description: Canada Post Rate Reductions for Libraries - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

RESOLUTION:

That Council support Resolution #2026-078 carried by the Council of the Township of Perry on February 18, 2026, calling upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials, and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Perry, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Services and Procurement Joel Lightbound, MP Cheryl Gallant, MPP Billy Denault, and all Ontario Municipalities for support.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	_____	_____
T. Popkie	_____	_____
L. Thomson	_____	_____
R. Tripp	_____	_____
R. Weir	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:
NA.....
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),
 abstained from discussion and did not vote



Jordan Fraser, Planning and
Development Coordinator
Intern
VIA EMAIL:
planning@townshipofperry.ca

Scott Aitchison, MPP Parry
Sound-Muskoka
VIA EMAIL:
Scott.Aitchison@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Joel
Lightbound, Minister of
Government
Transformation, Public
Works and Procurement
VIA EMAIL:
joel.lightbound@parl.gc.ca

Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP
Parry Sound-Muskoka
VIA EMAIL:
graydon.smith@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

March 17th, 2026

RE: Township of Puslinch Support Resolution No.2026-059 Regarding Consent item 6.7
Township of Perry Support Resolution Regarding Reduced Rate Distribution of Library
Resources

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on March 4th, 2026
considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2026-059:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That the Consent Agenda item 6.7 listed for March 4, 2026 Council meeting be received
for information; and**

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED



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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: All Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution # 7

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

Moved by: Michael Madden

Seconded by: Carma Williams

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—including roads, bridges, and water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality, and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities; and

WHEREAS in 2022, the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026; and

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials, and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt; and

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance, and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs, and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing; and

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability, and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Township of North Glengarry calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics, and rural equity considerations.

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution #

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs, or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments, and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of North Glengarry supports the September 29, 2025 resolution of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the October 20, 2025 resolution of the Municipality of South Huron, and the November 19, 2025 resolution of the Township of Pulsinch regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

FURTHER THAT this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED



MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR

	YEA	NEA
Deputy Mayor: Carma Williams	—	—
Councillor: Jacques Massie	—	—
Councillor: Brian Caddell	—	—
Councillor: Jeff Manley	—	—
Councillor: Michael Madden	—	—
Councillor: Gary Martin	—	—
Mayor: Jamie MacDonald	—	—



Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.59-26
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.
 Seconded By: Councillor Popkie
 Item No: 13.2

Description: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Extension - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

RESOLUTION:

That Council support Resolution #7 carried by the Council of the Township of North Glengarry on February 23, 2026, calling for an extension and review of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of North Glengarry, the Premiere of Ontario Doug Ford, the Minister of Infrastructure Kinga Surma, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:
.....NA.....
Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

NOM 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

March 24, 2026

Via email: trevor.jones@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
11th Floor
77 Grenville Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1B3

Dear Hon. Trevor Jones,

Re: Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

126-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

That South Huron Council supports the February 26, 2026 correspondence of the Township of Papineau-Cameron regarding Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, Trevor Jones, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, Lisa Thompson, MPP, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

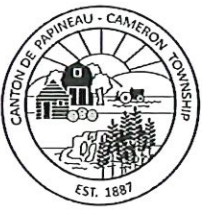
Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org; the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, nolan.quinn@pc.ola.org; MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, admin@cvma-acmv.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; and all municipalities in Ontario.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
E-mail: admin@papineaucameron.ca Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

February 26, 2026

The Ontario Veterinary College
50 Stone Road East
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

RE: Ontario Veterinary College expansion of enrollment capacity

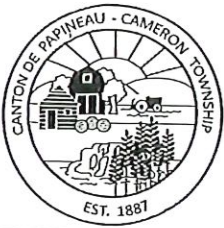
The Council of The Corporation of The Township of Papineau-Cameron met at their Regular Council Meeting on February 24, 2026 and passed the attached resolution 2026-50 that relates to the Ontario Veterinary College's enrollment capacity.

Yours truly,

Venessa Wilson
Administrative Assistant

Encl: Resolution 2026-50, Township of Papineau-Cameron

Cc: The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
The Honorable Victor Fedeli, MPP, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
The Honorable Trevor Jones, MPP, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Honorable Nolan Quinn, MPP, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2026-50

MOVED BY:

Shelley Belanger

SECONDED BY:

M Chenier

WHEREAS large animal livestock owners in Northern Ontario have extremely limited access to large animal veterinary services;

AND WHEREAS the cost of large animal veterinary services in Northern Ontario is significantly higher due to long travel distances and the limited number of large animal veterinarians available to service the region;

AND WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township that three qualified individuals within our community have applied to the Ontario Veterinary College for large animal veterinary, but were denied admission due to limited enrollment capacity;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township formally requests that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, the Hon. Trevor Jones MPP Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Hon. Nolan Quinn MPP Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Ontario Municipalities for their consideration and support.

CARRIED:

Robert Corriveau
(Mayor)

NOT CARRIED:

(Mayor)

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			

COPY



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

March 24, 2026

Via email: stan.cho@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

6th Floor

438 University Ave.

Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

Dear Hon. Stan Cho,

Re: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting:

125-2026

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Ted Oke

That South Huron Council supports the February 17, 2026 correspondence of the Township of McNab/Braeside regarding Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, Stan Cho, Lisa Thompson, MPP, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca ; and all municipalities in Ontario.



Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 17, 2026 No: RESOLUTION - 56-2026
 Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott Brum Item No: 14.2

Description: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

WHEREAS The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

WHEREAS The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

WHEREAS Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

WHEREAS Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____	Yea	Nay
Mayor Lori Hoddinott	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Scott Brum	_____	_____
Councillor Kevin Rosien	_____	_____
Councillor Robert Campbell	_____	_____
Councillor Jill Campbell	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: _____
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),
 abstained from discussion and did not vote

March 23, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL

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

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance
minister.fin@ontario.ca

The Honourable Graham McGregor, MPP
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org

RE: Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding

At the March 23, 2026, Regular Council meeting for the Town of Saugeen Shores, the attached motion was passed endorsing the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hailey Leigh-Mossley".

Hailey Leigh-Mossley
Deputy Clerk
Encl.

cc. MPP Lisa Thompson
All Ontario Municipalities

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES

MOVED BY: C. Grace

RESOLUTION NO: 096-2026

SECONDED BY: M. Myatt

DATE: March 23, 2026

Whereas older buildings have inherent sustainability and provide economic, environmental and social benefits for Ontario communities; and,

Whereas re-use of existing buildings reduces the need for increased infrastructure that accompanies new builds such as sewer and water services, new roads and sidewalks; and,

Whereas re-use of existing building can reduce construction waste and extend the life expectancy of landfills; and,

Whereas keeping older buildings helps a community remain visually richer and enhances identity while building its tourism brand and appeal; and,

Whereas creating a new, application-based, matching grant program of \$10M/year, modelled on an existing Alberta program would incentivize owners and smaller developers to keep, fix and reuse heritage buildings to create new housing; and,

Whereas such a grant program would provide an alternative to the Ontario heritage property tax relief program, which has limited impact on developers and reduces municipal revenues; and,

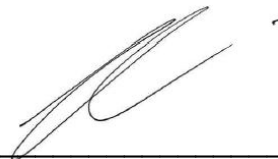
Whereas such a grant program would provide a simpler and more direct way for heritage building owners to fund renovations or conservation; and,

Whereas Ontario developers surveyed by the National Trust for Canada in 2014 ranked a heritage-revolving fund as their top incentive to encourage heritage development if:

- the grants are simple to apply for and to administer; and,
- the fund is large enough to meet at least 33% of the demand so that applicants have a reasonable chance of recovering the cost and effort of applying.

Therefore, be it Resolved That the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores endorse the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding, and that this resolution be sent to the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and MPP Lisa Thompson, and be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario.

- Carried
- Carried, as amended
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Referred
- Tabled
- Withdrawn



Mayor

March 17, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education
5th Floor
438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

via email: premier@ontario.ca
minister.edu@ontario.ca

RE: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance

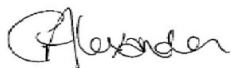
Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra,

At their regular scheduled meeting of March 16, 2026, Council of the Municipality of Bluewater received correspondence from Michael Bannerman, Board of Trustees Chair for the Avon Maitland District School Board regarding the potential changes to the English Public School Board Governance and passed the following resolution:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Walden
THAT Council of the Municipality of Bluewater supports the Avon Maitland District School Board in their request to the Government of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education, MPP Lisa Thompson all Ontario municipalities. **CARRIED.**

Sincerely,



Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO/Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

Encl: Letter from Avon Maitland District School Board Trustee Chair

cc: Michael Bannerman, Chair, Board of Trustees
MPP Lisa Thompson
All Ontario Municipalities

March 2, 2026

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

And

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Education, Ministry of Education
315 Front Street West, 14th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 0B8

Re: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance

Dear Premier Doug Ford and Minister Paul Calandra,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board, I am writing to respectfully request that the Government of Ontario undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards.

Recent public statements indicating that the Ministry is considering eliminating the role of democratically elected English public school trustees have generated significant concern among school boards, families, and communities across the province. Trustees serve as an essential democratic link between local communities and the public education system. Any proposal to fundamentally alter or remove this role would represent a major shift in the governance of education in Ontario and warrants careful study, thoughtful analysis, and open dialogue.

Given the magnitude of this potential change, we respectfully ask the government to clearly demonstrate how it has arrived at its current thinking. Specifically, we request that the Ministry make public the research, evidence, data analysis, policy reviews, stakeholder input, and performance evaluations that have informed its consideration of altering or eliminating the role of elected trustees. Transparency regarding the rationale, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of this proposal is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring informed dialogue.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board believe that decisions of this significance must be supported by transparent research and meaningful engagement with stakeholders. We respectfully request that the government initiate a formal consultation process that includes school boards, parents, educators, students, First Nations representatives, and the broader public. Such a process would help ensure that any future governance model is grounded in evidence and reflects the needs and priorities of Ontario's diverse communities.

As a board serving a large and predominantly rural geographic area, we also wish to emphasize the critical importance of the democratically elected trustee role in ensuring that rural perspectives are represented in education decision-making. Trustees provide an essential local voice for communities whose priorities and challenges may differ significantly from those experienced in larger urban centres. Issues such as student transportation, long travel distances, rural school viability, access to programming, and community connectivity are often best understood by locally elected representatives who live and work in those communities. Preserving avenues for rural representation helps ensure that provincial education policies reflect the realities of students and families across all regions of Ontario.

We are also concerned that removing English public school trustees could have unintended consequences for representation and accountability within the system. In many boards, legislated First Nations representation and student trustees play an important role in ensuring diverse voices are heard in decision-making. The loss of elected trustees could impact these mechanisms that currently provide important perspectives at the governance table.

We are aware that the Waterloo District School Board has written to the Ombudsman's Office to request an investigation into the fairness, transparency, and accountability of the process used to implement changes to the school board governance model, and we are in full support of this request.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board remain committed to working collaboratively with the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Government of Ontario to support a strong, transparent, and responsive public education system. We believe that transparency, evidence-based decision-making, and meaningful consultation will best serve students, families, and communities across the province.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in any consultation process or discussion regarding the future governance of Ontario's public education system.

Sincerely,



Michael Bannerman
Chair, Board of Trustees
Avon Maitland District School Board

cc: AMDSB Trustees
MPP Lisa Thompson
MPP Matthew Rae
Local Municipalities
Local Media Outlets
Ontario Public School Boards' Association and Member Boards
AMDSB Parent Involvement Committee
AMDSB Special Education Advisory Committee
AMDSB Parent Councils Chairs



Corporation of the Township of Black River - Matheson

421 Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box 601
Matheson, Ontario
P0K 1N0

**ITEM # 2026-10.d)
RESOLUTION**

DATE: March 10, 2026

2026-81

Moved by Councillor Bree Allen
Seconded by Councillor Scott McCutcheon

WHEREAS safe, reliable transportation corridors are essential to the economic prosperity, public safety, and supply chain resilience of Northern Ontario communities;

AND WHEREAS Highways 11 and 17 form the primary east–west transportation corridor across Northern Ontario and serve as a critical link for trade, resource development, emergency services, and community connectivity;

AND WHEREAS the expansion and modernization of these highways would strengthen national supply chains, support mining and resource development projects including those associated with the Ring of Fire, and improve safety for residents, commercial transport, and travelers;

AND WHEREAS Member of Provincial Parliament John Vanthof has introduced a motion in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario calling upon the Government of Ontario to work with the Government of Canada to declare the expansion and modernization of Highways 11 and 17 a project of national significance;

AND WHEREAS Member of Parliament Gaétan Malette has introduced a motion in the House of Commons advocating for federal recognition and support of strategic national infrastructure priorities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson formally express its support for the motion introduced by MPP John Vanthof requesting that the Government of Ontario work with the Government of Canada to declare the expansion and modernization of Highways 11 and 17 a project of national significance;

AND FURTHER THAT Council express its support for the motion introduced by MP Gaétan Malette currently before the House of Commons;

AND FURTHER THAT Council call upon both the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to prioritize investments that strengthen transportation infrastructure, supply chain reliability, and economic development opportunities across Northern Ontario;

AND FINALLY THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Gaétan Malette, Member of Parliament
- John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming–Cochrane
- All Members of Parliament
- All Members of Provincial Parliament

- The Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Northern Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

CARRIED DEFEATED



CHAIR SIGNATURE

Original Amendment Refer Defer Reconsider Withdrawn

Recorded Vote-TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERK ONLY

	YEAS	NAYS
Mayor Dave Dymont		
Councillor Allen		
Councillor Morrish		
Councillor Campsall		
Councillor McCutcheon		
Councillor Gadoury		
Councillor Bouchard		



Hong Ji Lei
Clerk

March 20, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Via email: Pm@pm.gc.ca

The Honourable Marjorie Michel
Minister of Health
Via email: Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Via email: Premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
Via email: Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Carney, Minister Michel, Premier Ford and Minister Jones:

Re: Food Insecurity Emergency Declaration

The following motion was passed by Council declaring food insecurity an emergency in our community. This declaration reflects our growing concern about the impact of food insecurity on the health and well-being of residents across Chatham-Kent.

In passing this motion, we have joined other cities in Ontario who have declared food insecurity an emergency and hope it will initiate collaborative action and policy development at the provincial and federal levels of government.

“Whereas food insecurity is defined as, the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, a marker of material deprivation (poverty), and a serious public health problem because it increases the risk of non-communicable and infectious diseases, and premature death.

Whereas chronic stressors like disability, precarious work, and acute shocks like COVID-19, illness or eviction, make it more difficult to afford life’s basic needs and live free from poverty. Whereas income-based policies are necessary to effectively reduce household food insecurity, which Chatham-Kent Public Health reports is experienced by at least 1 in 5 households in Chatham-Kent. Whereas the income provided through provincial and federal programs has not kept up with rising costs of food, housing and other basic needs.

Cont’d...

Whereas Ontario Works rates have been frozen since 2018: the maximum single person monthly benefit for basic needs is \$343 and \$390 for shelter, totalling \$733 per month.

Whereas Chatham -Kent Public Health reports a single person on Ontario Works spends ~134% of their income on food and rent. Whereas the Municipality of Chatham -Kent provides programs and services that decrease the impacts of poverty and income inequality and provides participants with a better quality of life which can positively improve health and well-being.

Whereas the number of individuals using Chatham- Kent Outreach for Hunger has increased by ~38% from 2022 to 2024, from 2781 unique individuals in 2022, to 3752 unique individuals in 2024, with a ~51% increase in families with children.

Whereas the number of households using the food assistance program within the Village Pantry has increased by ~124%, from 76 unique households in 2022, to 170 unique households in 2024.

Whereas the number of meals served to under -housed people by Reach Out Chatham- Kent has increased by ~17% from 2022 to 2024, from 43,594 meals in 2022, to 51,313 meals 2024.

Whereas Hope Haven has already had 4000 more visits in 2025 compared to 2024.

Whereas poverty costs Ontario around \$27.1 – 33 billion dollars per year: justice system \$1.1 billion; health care \$3.9 billion; lost income \$19.4 – 25 billion; lost tax revenue \$2.7 – 3 billion.

Whereas the provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy's (Building a Strong Foundation for Success: Reducing Poverty in Ontario (2020 -2025)) primary measure of success is that more social assistance recipients move into employment, despite people with employment income being one of the fastest growing groups at food banks.

Whereas the Chatham -Kent Food Policy Council's mission is to lead in the development of relevant policies and to advocate for our local food system, and values that all people should have physical and economic access to healthy, culturally diverse, local food.

Whereas the Chatham -Kent Food Policy Council's Strategic Plan for 2025 -2027 highlights the need to advocate for government- level policies that impact food systems, and specifically, to advocate for income- based solutions to food insecurity to provide families with more agency in food choices.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council support the advocacy of the Chatham - Kent Food Policy Council by declaring food insecurity an emergency in the Municipality of Chatham -Kent.

Cont'd...

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government focus its upcoming 2026 - 2030 Poverty Reduction Strategy around reducing measures of material deprivation, such as food insecurity.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government immediately raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income for those living in poverty.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to increase the rates of income support programs to ensure they are adequate to address the basic needs of individuals and families.

And that Mayor and Council request that the Provincial and Federal Governments include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies. And that a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM), Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), all Ontario Municipalities, all Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, all federal party leaders, the Honourable M.P.P. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the Federal Minister of Health Marjorie Michel. ”

Sincerely,

Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO
Municipality of Chatham -Kent

C: All Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM) Association of
Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)
Ontario Municipalities

March 13, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026 the following resolution regarding OPP - Sustainable Police Services Funding was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-111

DATE: January 29, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are required to maintain a police service or detachment board; and

WHEREAS policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of rising costs to implement provincial mandates;

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has asserted that the fiscal framework enabling municipalities provided critical policing and public safety services is broken, and AMO requests an urgent update of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship;

WHEREAS double digit increases in municipal annual Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) budgets are unsustainable, especially as Ontario municipal police services tackle provincial responsibilities such as mental health, addictions, and homelessness challenges that place police resources under enormous financial strain;

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (the Act);

WHEREAS the costs of other measures such as providing provincial court security are increasing and are not part of providing core, adequate and effective municipal policing; and

WHEREAS rural municipalities are especially negatively impacted by these developments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward (Council) requests that the Province provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act and not general increases to police budgets; and

THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to expeditiously review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities, so that communities with changing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and

THAT this resolution of Council be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch





Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Council Resolution
Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Willsie
Seconded by: Councillor Derbyshire

WHEREAS the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc is a community deeply rooted in agriculture, with a significant portion of our local economy and heritage dependent on the sustainability of farming and food production;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is losing an estimated 319 acres of farmland daily to non-agricultural development, posing a significant threat to the province's long-term food security and the viability of the agri-food sector;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21, the *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*, currently before the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, seeks to preserve productive agricultural land by requiring Agricultural Impact Assessments before zoning changes can occur and by establishing a Foodbelt Protection Plan;

AND WHEREAS the protection of prime agricultural land is not only a matter of food sovereignty but also of fiscal responsibility, as low-density residential sprawl on farmland frequently incurs higher long term infrastructure and service costs for municipalities compared to agricultural land use;

AND WHEREAS providing certainty regarding the agricultural land base encourages long-term investment by farmers in their operations, soil health, and local businesses, thereby strengthening the rural economy of Strathroy-Caradoc;

AND WHEREAS low-density urban sprawl increases the per-capita cost of municipal infrastructure and service delivery—including roads, water, wastewater, and emergency services—creating a long-term financial burden on the Municipality that often exceeds the tax revenue generated by such development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc hereby expresses its support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*,

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca



to ensure that Ontario's prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to send a letter of support for Bill 21 to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the leaders of the Opposition parties;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all municipalities within the County of Middlesex to encourage broader municipal support.

Carried.

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca

March 13, 2026

Hon. David Piccini
Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
14th Floor, 400 University Ave
Toronto ON M7A 1T7

Re: Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns

Dear Minister Piccini,

At its meeting of Council on March 11, 2026, the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte received correspondence from Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) regarding the above-mentioned request for support.

The Township of Oro-Medonte fully supports AORS in their request, as our staff have, on numerous occasions, been subjected to abusive and aggressive behaviour from members of the public. We respectfully request your support in advancing measures that will strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors. With provincial partnership, municipalities can better safeguard the individuals who work tirelessly to maintain critical services and keep our communities functioning safely.

Sincerely,



Mayor Randy Greenlaw

Cc: Premier Doug Ford
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation
Hon. Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure
Doug Downey, MPP Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS)
Ontario Municipalities
Members of Oro-Medonte Council



Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini
14th Floor, 400 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise an urgent health and safety concern that is increasingly placing municipal workers and subcontractors at risk while they maintain the critical infrastructure our communities rely on every day.

While the Occupational Health and Safety Act establishes important protections against workplace hazards, it does not adequately address a growing and very real threat: unsafe working conditions created by interference, harassment, and dangerous actions from members of the public.

Through consultations with AORS members across the province, we are hearing consistent and deeply troubling examples of escalating behaviour directed at municipal workers - particularly winter maintenance operators. These are not isolated incidents, but a pattern that is becoming increasingly normalized during significant weather events. Examples reported to AORS include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snow plow and refusing to get off until the operator agreed to plow his road next.
- Two municipal staff members being confronted, accosted, and aggressively yelled at in public - one at a gas station and another while simply standing in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions that were not even under that municipality's jurisdiction, as well as a mailbox that had been struck.
- A voicemail left by a resident threatening to shoot a municipal plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident angry about snow at the end of their driveway jumping in front of an active plow and refusing to move. The plow was delayed for over an hour during a major snow event, placing service levels and the municipality's overall emergency response at risk. The situation was only resolved once supervisors and by-law officers arrived on scene.

These incidents represent only a small sample of what municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are experiencing across Ontario. What was once limited to disgruntled complaints has escalated into direct threats, physical interference, and dangerous confrontations that place workers, subcontractors, and the public at risk. This issue is becoming a systematic threat to municipal service delivery and is only amplified during significant weather events.

Municipal workers and their contracted partners are responsible for maintaining roads, bridges, sidewalks, and other essential services - often in extreme weather and high-risk environments. When these workers are threatened or obstructed, it becomes not only a workplace safety issue, but a broader public safety concern. In some cases, conditions have become so unsafe that

municipal staff and subcontractors have walked off job sites, jeopardizing timely service delivery during critical events.

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

- Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, when a municipality declares a Significant Weather Event, municipal winter maintenance vehicles and operators - including subcontractors working on behalf of municipalities - should be afforded enhanced protection, with interference or obstruction treated with the same severity as interference with police, fire, or paramedic services.
- Establish clear public-safety interference provisions, similar in intent to Ontario's Slow Down, Move Over legislation, that recognize the essential role of municipal roadside workers.
- Consider adopting provisions similar to Manitoba's recently passed Bill 38, an amendment to their Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2026, which requires motorists to maintain a minimum distance of 30 metres behind snowplows where speed limits are 80 km/h or lower, and 100 metres where speed limits exceed 80 km/h.

These changes would provide clarity, deterrence, and enforceability—sending a strong message that interference with municipal workers performing essential services will not be tolerated. Just as Ontario protects first responders from obstruction during emergencies, we must extend similar protections to the public works professionals who keep our communities safe, connected, and functioning.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns further and to collaborate on legislative solutions that better protect municipal workers and subcontractors while strengthening public safety across the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

Walid Abou-Hamde, Ontario Road Builders' Association Chief Executive Officer



Solicitor General of Ontario Michael Kerzner
George Drew Building, 25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise serious concerns regarding the safety of municipal workers and subcontractors who are increasingly facing harassment, threats, and dangerous interference from members of the public while delivering essential municipal services - particularly during winter maintenance and emergency operations.

Across Ontario, municipal public works teams are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure that residents depend on every day, including roads, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage systems. During significant weather events, these workers are frontline responders, ensuring emergency vehicles can travel safely and that communities remain connected and accessible. However, the behaviour directed at them has escalated well beyond routine complaints and has become a direct threat to both worker safety and public safety.

Through consultations with AORS members province-wide, we continue to receive troubling reports that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. These include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snowplow and refusing to get off until the driver agreed to plow his road next.
- Two staff members confronted and aggressively accosted in public - one at a gas station and another while simply waiting in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions and a mailbox strike that were not even related to that municipality.
- A voicemail threatening to shoot a plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident jumping in front of an active plow during a major snow event and refusing to move, delaying operations for over an hour and jeopardizing service levels and overall emergency response.

These examples represent only a small sample of the experiences municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are facing across the province. What was once occasional frustration has escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, and direct interference with equipment and operations.

Equally concerning is that municipalities do not always receive consistent enforcement support when these incidents occur. We have heard directly from members who contacted the Ontario Provincial Police for assistance and were advised that, unless a physical assault had already taken place, the situation was "not a police matter." Waiting until a worker has been physically harmed before intervention is neither preventative nor acceptable.

This gap leaves municipalities and workers vulnerable and sends an unintended message that threatening or obstructive behaviour toward municipal staff carries little consequence. It also places supervisors and by-law officers in situations that may exceed their authority or capacity to manage safely.

We believe a proactive and coordinated response is needed. Municipal workers and their subcontractors should not have to choose between their personal safety and providing critical services during storms and emergencies.

We respectfully ask that the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police take a clear and strong stance that interference, threats, and harassment directed at municipal public works staff will not be tolerated. Specifically, we would welcome:

- Clear direction and guidance to police services, including the OPP, that threats, intimidation, and obstruction of municipal workers performing essential duties warrant timely enforcement and support.
- Recognition that interference with winter maintenance and emergency public works operations presents a broader public safety risk, not merely a municipal operational issue.
- Enhanced coordination between municipalities and local police services during significant weather events and emergency responses to ensure worker safety and continuity of service.
- Consideration of legislative or policy tools that provide stronger deterrence and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal staff and contractors.

Municipal public works professionals are essential workers. They keep roads open for ambulances, fire trucks, school buses, and the travelling public. Their safety should be treated with the same seriousness as that of other frontline responders.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns and explore practical steps to ensure consistent enforcement support and stronger protections for municipal workers across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued leadership in public safety.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)
Premier Doug Ford

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

March 25, 2026

Re: Time-Sensitive: Strengthening Municipal Accountability and Public Trust (Bill 9)

Dear Premier Ford,

When we met in Sarnia last August, we discussed Bill 9 and its intent to strengthen municipal accountability. At that time, I affirmed my support for the province's effort to move this legislation forward. The fundamental principles of Bill 9 are sound and provide an important foundation; however, the Bill requires a significant change before it becomes law.

The introduction of a standardized code of conduct and the proposed integrity commissioner reforms are positive and necessary steps forward. However, based on more than four decades of experience in municipal politics, I believe the Bill's greatest flaw lies in its mechanism for removing councillors in **serious cases of misconduct**. Requiring local councils to participate in the removal of a peer, particularly through unanimous agreement, places councils in an inappropriate and untenable position. On matters of serious contention, unanimity is rarely achievable, rendering the mechanism effectively futile. This approach undermines both fairness and public confidence and fails to provide municipalities with a meaningful ability to act in extreme cases.

In circumstances of this magnitude, decisions should not rest with a council. Instead, such matters should be heard and ruled upon by an independent, non-partisan authority, removed from local political dynamics and capable of making impartial determinations in the public's interest.

If the provincial government intends to maintain municipal councils' responsibility for adjudicating such decisions, the threshold for action must be revised. A two-thirds majority, or a simple majority of council excluding the subject member, would provide a more reasonable, fair, and workable standard.

This is a time-sensitive issue, and the need for action is becoming more urgent as municipalities continue to encounter situations they are powerless to address. Without meaningful change, the current conditions and lack of adequate protection will have a chilling effect on those considering public office at the municipal level. Capable, community-minded individuals may be discouraged from seeking election if there is no effective independent mechanism to address extreme misconduct, protect the integrity of council and the well-being of the community.

I am copying this letter to mayors and councils across Ontario in the hope that they will also raise their voices on this matter before the legislation is finalized, to ensure this serious flaw is addressed in what is otherwise an important and necessary piece of legislation for the Province of Ontario and its municipalities for the 2026-2030 council term of office.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns and possible paths forward at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mike Bradley
Mayor, City of Sarnia



Cc: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
John Fraser, MPP, Interim Leader, Ontario Liberal Party
Marit Stiles, MPP, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ontario NDP Party
Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Mayor and Council for municipalities across Ontario
Sarnia City Council
Lambton County Council
City of Sarnia Senior Management



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD.,
BEAMSVILLE, ON L3J 1L3

905-563-2799

March 25, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL: graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org

Hon. Graham McGregor
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
10215 Kennedy Rd. N
Brampton, ON L6Z 0C5

RE: Town of Lincoln Resolution – Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Committee of the Whole Meeting held on March 23, 2026, passed the following resolution:

Resolution Number: PED-2026-22
Moved by: Councillor Lynn Timmers

WHEREAS amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

WHEREAS municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS many municipalities, including the Town of Lincoln, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Heritage Advisory Committee, at its meeting of March 12, 2026, recommended that Council advocate to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of the Town of Lincoln endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Advisory Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and
2. The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and
3. This resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

- c.c. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Niagara West Member of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Community Heritage Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities
Manager of Planning and Development
Chair of the Heritage Advisory Committee



TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY
Resolution of Council
Council Meeting

Resolution Number

Title: For Info. 2/2026 - Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan Township re: Call for Reform and Publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry – Councillor Sebben

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Moved by: Lori Sebben
Seconded by: Shelley Wagner

Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Wellesley supports the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan's resolution regarding the call for reform and publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry and further,
That the resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Kitchener-Conestoga MPP and MP, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario for their information and consideration.

CARRIED

Municipal Clerk, Amy Harron



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

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

February 4, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

RE: Call for Reform and Publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry

Dear Prime Minister,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 4th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the City of Brantford.

Resolution No: 2026-02-04-06
Moved by: Councillor Banks
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the City of Brantford's resolution regarding a Call for Reform and Publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and MP, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, AMO and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



December 19, 2025

Honorable Mark Carney

Sent via email: mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honorable Mark Carney:

Please be advised that Brantford City Council, at its meeting held December 16, 2025 adopted the following:

12.2.7 Call for Reform and Publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry - Councillor Samwell

WHEREAS the community of Welland and the surrounding communities were deeply impacted by a recent heinous crime that highlighted critical gaps in Canada's criminal justice and offender-management systems; and

WHEREAS on September 4, 2025, Mayor Frank Campion of the City of Welland wrote to the Premier of Ontario urging comprehensive reform to strengthen sentencing, parole, and bail provisions for violent sexual offenders, and to enhance public safety protections; and

WHEREAS on September 12, 2025, Mayor Mat Siscoe of the City of St. Catharines wrote to the Prime Minister of Canada expressing strong support for these reforms and calling for immediate federal action to strengthen sentencing, parole, and accountability measures for violent sexual offenders; and

WHEREAS the City of Thorold, at its meeting of September 9, 2025, adopted Resolution 14.2 requesting the Province of Ontario to amend Christopher's Law (Sexual Offenders Registry), 2000 to make Ontario Sex Offender Registry publicly accessible; and

WHEREAS several Niagara municipalities; including Grimsby, Fort Erie, Port Colborne, and St. Catharines have subsequently endorsed this call for greater transparency and reform; and

WHEREAS municipal councils, though not responsible for criminal law or parole, play a vital role in advocating for the safety and well-being of their residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. THAT the Council of the City of Brantford hereby supports the City of Thorold's Resolution calling for the Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry and the City of Welland's correspondence dated September 4, 2025, calling for reform to sentencing, parole, and registry provisions concerning violent sexual offenders; and
- B. THAT the Province of Ontario be urged to amend Christopher's Law (Sexual Offender Registry), 2000 to make the Ontario Sex Offender

Registry publicly accessible, subject to appropriate privacy and safety safeguards; and

C. THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- i. The Right Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada;
- ii. The Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada;
- iii. The Hon. Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Safety;
- iv. The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;
- v. The Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario;
- vi. The Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario;
- vii. Member of Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Larry Brock;
- viii. Member of Provincial Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Will Bouma;
- ix. The Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- x. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM); and
- xi. All Ontario Municipalities for their information and support.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier City Clerk,
cgauthier@brantford.ca

CC - The Honorable Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; - Sean.Fraser@parl.gc.ca

The Honorable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Safety
Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca

The Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; - premier@ontario.ca

The Honorable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; -
Doug.Downey@ontario.ca

The Honorable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org

Member of Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Larry Brock; -
larry.brock@parl.gc.ca

Member of Provincial Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Will Bouma; -
will.bouma@pc.ola.org

The Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) FCMInfo@fcm.ca

All Ontario Municipalities for their information and support



Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097
rideaulakes.ca

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township
mayor@rideaulakes.ca
613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
All Members of Parliament
All Provincial Cabinet Ministers
MPP Steve Clark
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

March 23, 2026

Via Email: mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca

Rideau Lakes
1439 County Road 8
Delta, Ontario K0E 1G0

Dear Mayor Arie Hoogenboom:

Re: Resolution - Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan at its meeting on March 16th, 2026, passed the following resolution:

R67-2026

Moved by Councillor Terry Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Mark Allen

That Council hereby supports the letter to Senator from Rideau Lakes regarding concerns with the Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget), as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to all parties listed on the original correspondence.

CARRIED.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

Liz Ross
Deputy Clerk

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
MP Emma Harrison
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

Email: deputy-clerk@osmtownship.ca Telephone: 705.295.6852 Facsimile 705.295.6405
P.O. Box 70 20 Third St Keene, ON K0L 2G0
Visit our website at www.osmtownship.ca or follow us on Twitter @OSMTownship

District of Parry Sound



Chief Administrative Officer's Report

March 2026

Mission Statement

To foster healthier communities by economically providing caring human services that empower and enable the people we serve to improve their quality of life.

CAO UPDATE

As we move into March, I want to begin by recognizing the significant work taking place across the DSSAB and the dedication of the staff who continue to advance our mandate to support the well-being and stability of communities across the District of Parry Sound.

This continues to be an important period of progress for our organization. We are actively moving forward on key priorities, particularly within our housing portfolio where we are exploring new opportunities to increase supply and strengthen partnerships that will support the development of additional affordable housing in our district. At the same time, we continue to expand and stabilize our child care system as we implement the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care framework, working closely with operators and partners to ensure families in our communities have access to quality, affordable spaces.

These initiatives reflect the core of the DSSAB's role in this region, bringing together programs, partnerships, and resources to respond to community needs and create lasting impact.

March is also a meaningful time of year as we recognize **International Women's Day**. As a female leader, this day holds particular significance for me. I am continually reminded of the responsibility and privilege that comes with leadership, and of the many women who have paved the way for others to lead in public service.

I am especially proud to work alongside the many strong, capable, and compassionate women who serve across our organization. From frontline staff to supervisors and directors, women make up a significant part of the DSSAB workforce. Every day they bring professionalism, expertise, and deep commitment to improving the lives of the people in our communities.

Their work which is often complex and sometimes unseen, is foundational to the progress we continue to make as an organization. The impact of their dedication can be seen across our housing programs, early years services, income supports, and women's services. They are not only delivering programs; they are strengthening communities.

As we continue our work in the months ahead, I want to acknowledge and thank all staff for the care and commitment they bring to this organization and the people we serve. The progress we are making is the direct result of that collective effort.

Tammy MacKenzie
Chief Administrative Officer

'Everyday Impact' – Helena Johnson

Outreach is a critical function that extends our organization's presence in the community beyond our immediate setting and ensures services are accessible to those who may otherwise remain unserved. Effective outreach fosters trust builds meaningful relationships within the community and increases awareness of available supports.

Recently, Helena Johnson, Integrated System Navigator with our Income Support and Stability Team, demonstrated the impact of effective outreach by attending our local YMCA to support a new member to our community.



The following is the feedback received from the YMCA:

"I just want to share an experience I had with a client and Helena. This client is new to Parry Sound, a young man from Nunavut. He is looking for employment but also some stabilization needs as he has no income and is hoping to get into stable housing. It was really great having Helena here and available to speak with the client. He gained all of the information he needed to apply for assistance and Helena made a great connection with him. He left the offices feeling confident that things were looking better for him."

Helena has consistently demonstrated a high level of creativity in her approach to client engagement and reporting. She exhibits a strong understanding of the critical role that thoughtful and accurate data collection plays in effectively articulating a client's journey and outcomes. By combining innovative thinking with a disciplined focus on evidence-based documentation, she ensures that client stories are not only compelling, but also grounded in meaningful, measurable impact. Her work strengthens our ability to communicate results with clarity, credibility, and strategic insight.

She is the one of the leading ISN's in building the Homemakers Program which is a new initiative that partners Income Support and Stability with Community Support Services in Parry Sound. Her insight and forward thinking with processes and logistics will help us reach members of our community with another resource tool.

Helena, congratulations on being nominated for the Everyday Impact Award!

Licensed Child Care Programs

Total Children Utilizing Directly Operated Child Care in the District January 2026						
Age Group	Fairview ELCC	First Steps ELCC	Highlands ELCC	Waubeek ELCC	HCCP	Total
Infant (0-18m)	3	2	2	3	14	24
Toddler (18-30m)	8	7	11	17	27	70
Preschool (30M-4y)	16	15	17	35	51	134
# of Active Children	27	24	30	55	92	228

School Age Programs– Jan 2026

School Age Programs January 2026	
Location	Enrollment
Mapleridge After School	25
Mapleridge Before School	11
Home Child Care	14
# of Active Children	50



Inclusion Support Services – January 2026

Age Group	Early ON	Licensed ELCC	Monthly Total	Discharges	Referrals	Waitlist
Infant (0-18m)						
Toddler (18-30m)	3	18	21		2 (LELCC)	
Preschool (30-47m)	6	37	43		2(LELCC)	
JK/SK (48m-6yr)	2	5	7			
School age (6 yr+)		1	1	5		
Monthly Total	11	61	72	5	4	
Year to Date	11	61	72	5	4	0

Approximately 57% of cases are referred for speech and language, 20% for social emotional or self-regulation while the rest are for ASD and other delays. Usually there are multiple reasons for referrals.

EarlyON Child and Family Programs— Jan 2026

EarlyON Child and Family Centre Reporting Month: January 2026		
Activity	Monthly Total	Year to Date
Number of Child Visits	796	796
Number of Unique Children served this month	252	
Number of Adult Visits	592	592
Number of Unique Adults served this month	200	
Number of Professionals (New stat of July 1, 2025)	17	17
Number of Virtual Programming Events	2	2
Number of engagements Through social media	491	491
Number of views Through social media	26,994	26,994

The District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal was launched on July 24, 2024. Since implementation, operators and child care service management staff have been working to "clean" the Application Portal by removing duplicates, training staff and assisting families with updating their profiles.

Data for January 2026

Number of Unique Children on the Application Portal

797

Children who Identify as Indigenous

85

Children Identifying Francophone Relatives

51

Prenatal Children

138

Unique Children - includes children waiting for care and those who are placed in care but have applied to other child care centres/programs. (ie: currently in an infant space and have also applied for JK/SK after school program) - Or - includes all children who have completed an application for child care

Unique Children Waiting for Care

450

Waiting for Care - This number represents the unique children who are currently applied for care. This includes children who may already be placed in a program and have applied to another. This also includes the number of children pre-registered for future care.

Year, Month

Multiple selections

Month

January

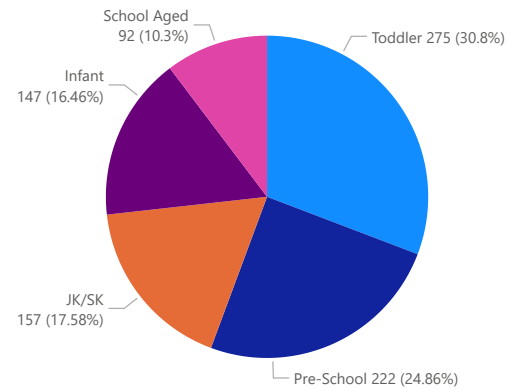
Additions to Application Portal

66

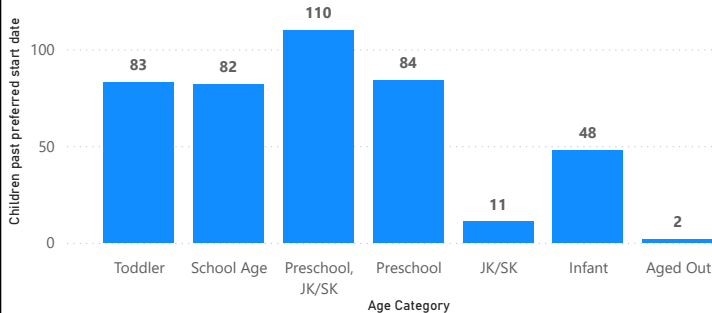
Total Number of Children past preferred start date (Unique)

427

Waitlist by Age Category

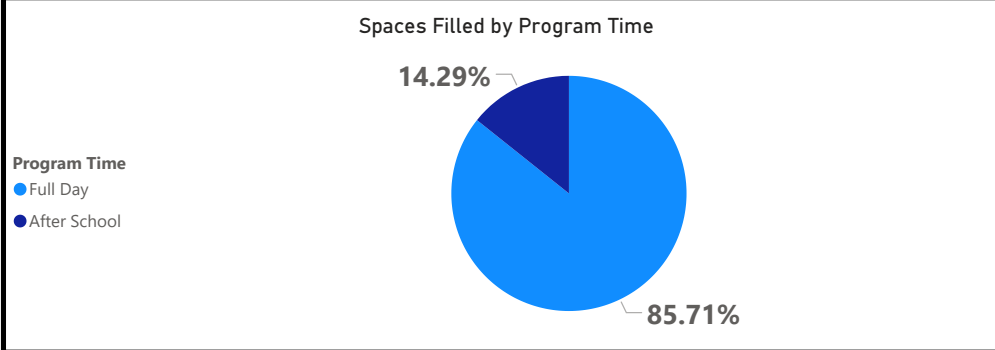
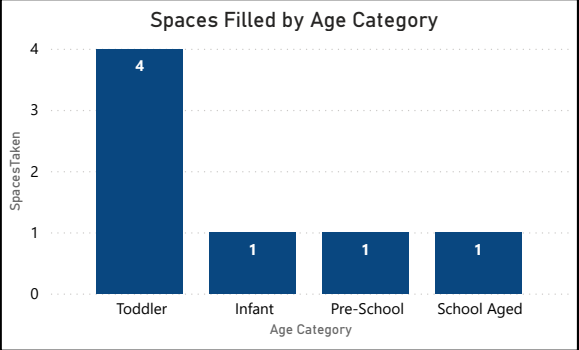


Number of Children past their preferred start date by age



Year
2026

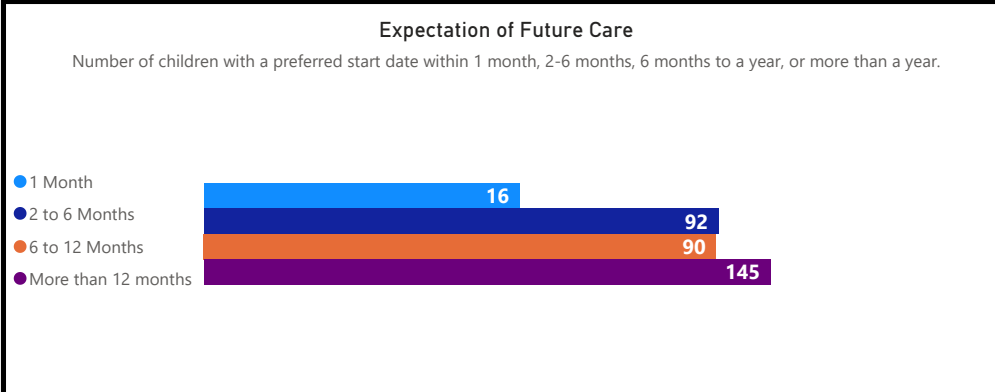
Month
January



Children Placed	Spaces Filled
7	7

Children Placed - The number of unique children placed in a program.

Spaces Filled - The number of spaces filled by a child. A child may be placed in more than one space, ie: before school space and after school space.



Funding Sources for District Wide Childcare Spaces – Jan 2026

Child Care Service Management

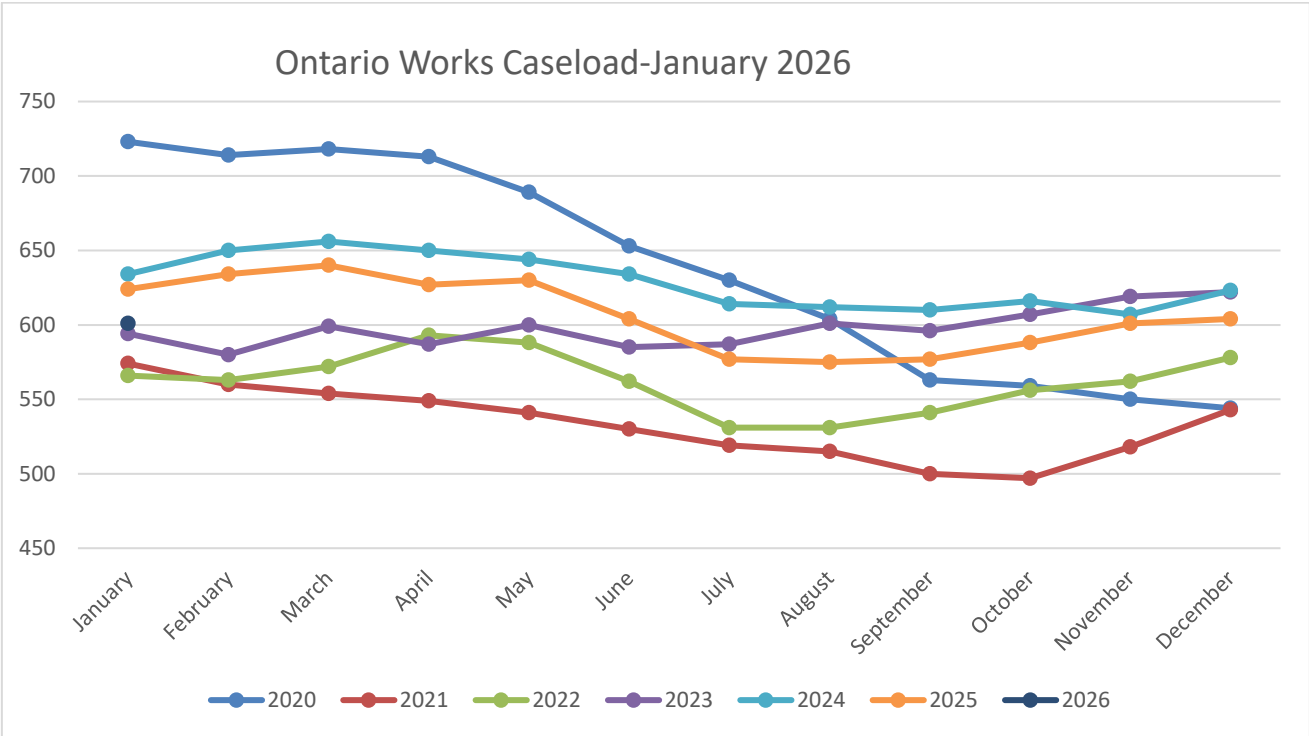
Total Children by Funding Source

January 2026

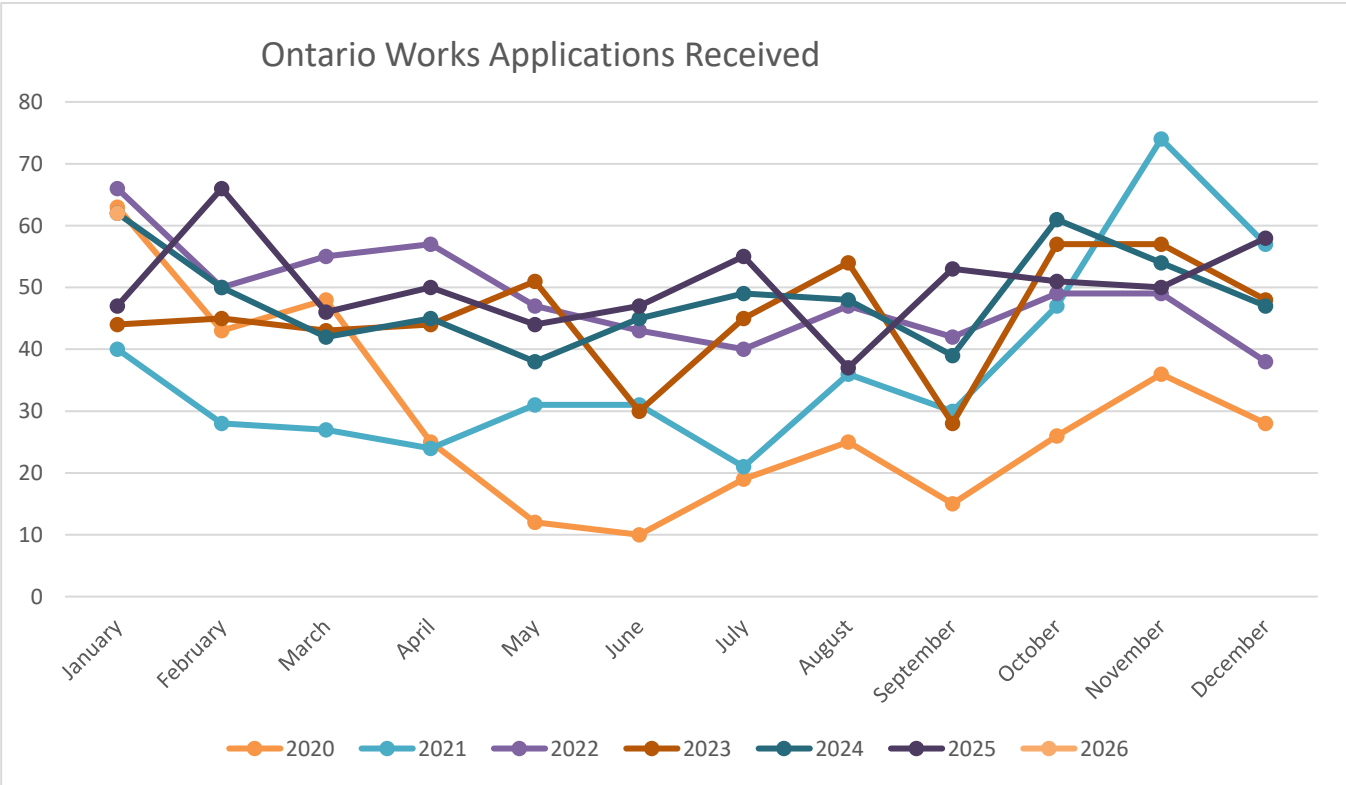
ACTIVE		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	36	35
CWELCC Full Fee	228	224
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	1	1
Fee Subsidy	17	15
Full Fee	19	18
Ontario Works	4	4
Total Active:	305	297

NEW		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	4	4
CWELCC Full Fee	6	6
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	0	0
Fee Subsidy	1	1
Full Fee	0	0
Ontario Works	2	2
Total New:	13	13

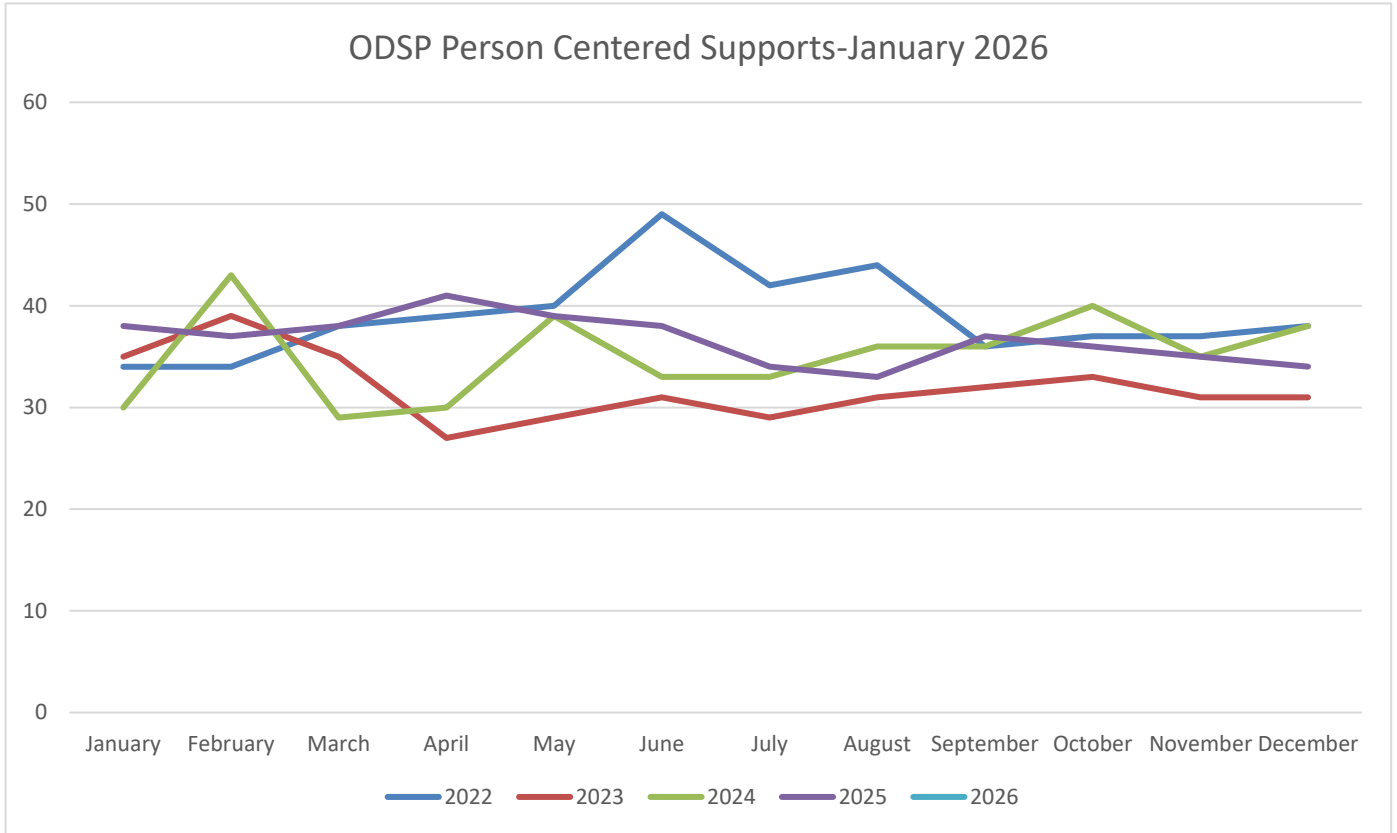
EXITS		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	0	0
CWELCC Full Fee	0	0
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	0	0
Fee Subsidy	0	0
Full Fee	0	0
Ontario Works	0	0
Total Exits:	0	0



Ontario Works Intake - Social Assistance Digital Application (SADA) & Local Office Ontario Works Applications Received



ODSP Participants in Ontario Works Employment Assistance



The OW Caseload continues to hold steady at **601** cases. We are providing **34** ODSP participants Person-Centred Supports. We also have **58** Temporary Care Assistance cases. **62** applications were received through the province’s Ontario Works Intake Unit (OWIU).

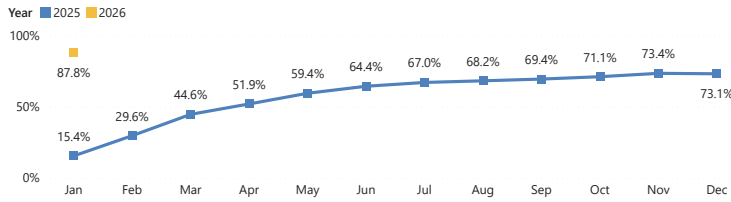
Ontario Works (OW) Performance Measures

On March 1st, 2025, as part of the province's Employment Services Transformation, we officially entered Integrated Employment Services model (IES) along with our Northeast DSSAB partners with our new Service System Manager College Boreal. This means that employment assistance for Social Assistance recipients now moves under the Employment Ontario umbrella. We are responsible for providing Person Centered Supports to SA Recipients in 4 Support Pillars.

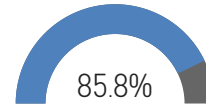
- Crisis & Safety-homelessness, personal safety
- Health-medical, mental health counselling, addiction treatment
- Life Skills-Literacy and Basic Skills such as budgeting, time management
- Community Supports-Housing, transportation and legal support

*NDA-Non-Disabled Adult

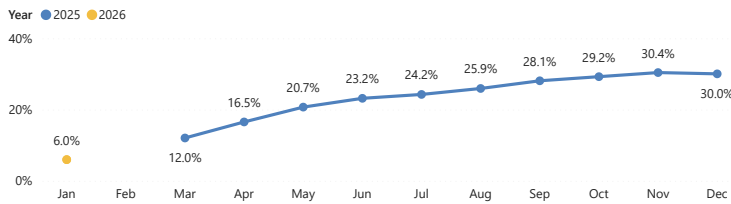
Percentage of OW + NDA Members with mandatory participation requirements that have created a Social Assistance Action Plan (Cumulative Year-to-Date)*



Provincial Value for Latest Month in Selected Range



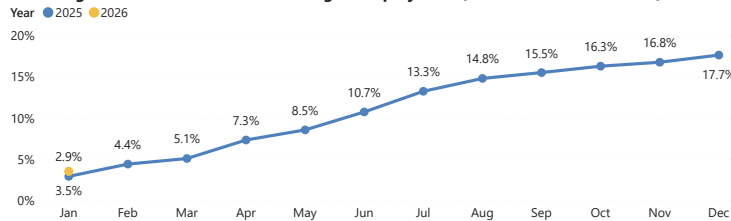
Percentage of OW + NDA Members with mandatory participation requirements that are referred to EO (Cumulative Year-to-Date)



Provincial Value for Latest Month in Selected Range



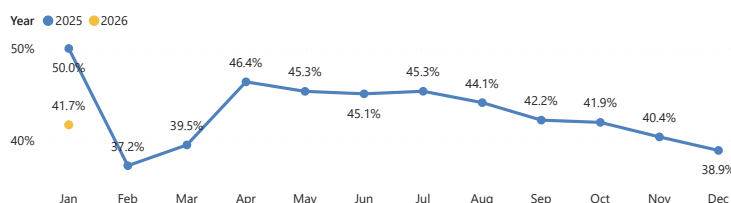
Percentage of Ontario Works cases exiting to employment (Cumulative Year-to-Date)



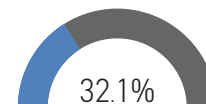
Provincial Value for Latest Month in Selected Range



Percentage of Ontario Works cases who exit the program and return within one year (Cumulative Year-to-Date)

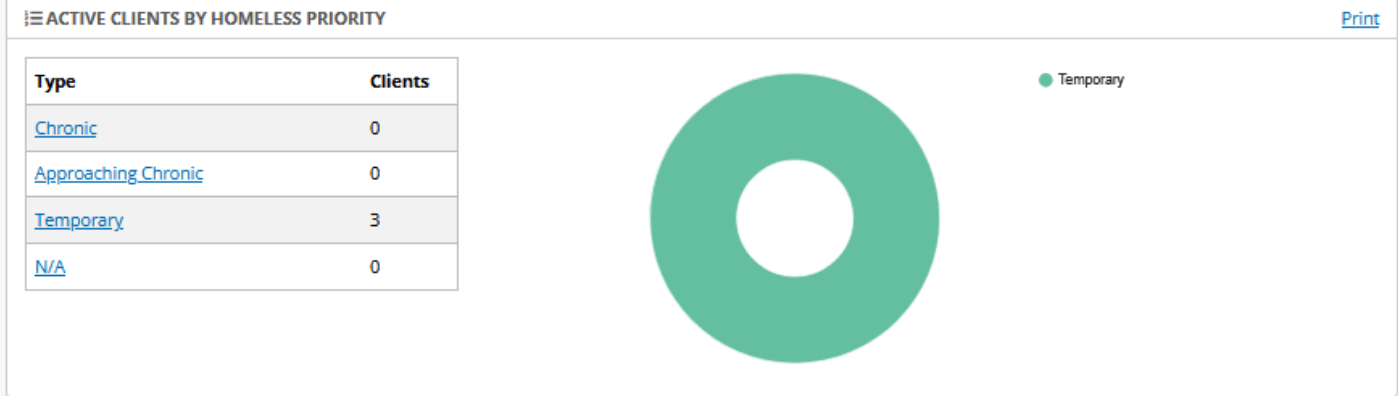
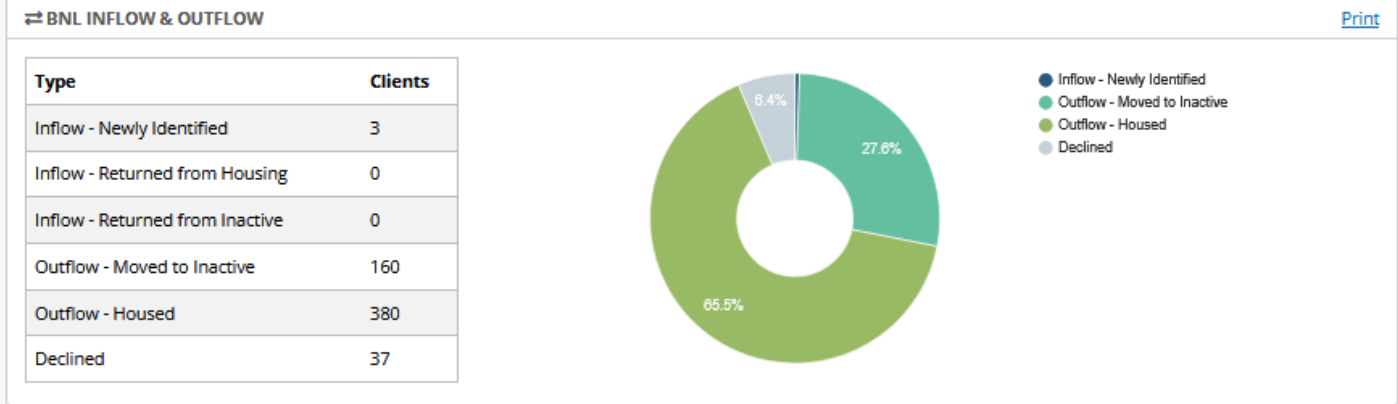
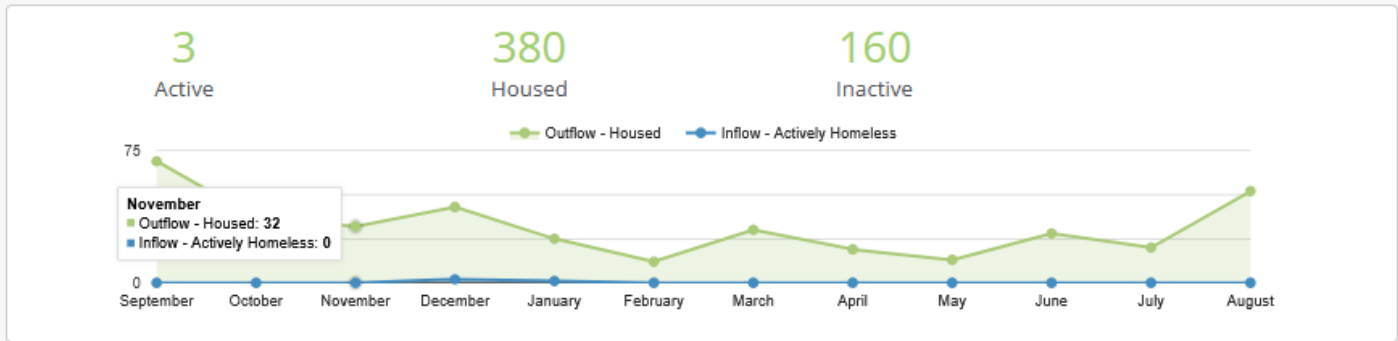


Provincial Value for Latest Month in Selected Range



By Name List

The By Name List is real-time list of all known people who are experiencing homelessness in our community that are willing to participate in being on the list and connecting with our agency for ongoing support to obtain affordable and sustainable housing. The individuals who are connected to this program are provided Intense Case Management supports with the foundations from Coordinated Access towards housing focused solutions.

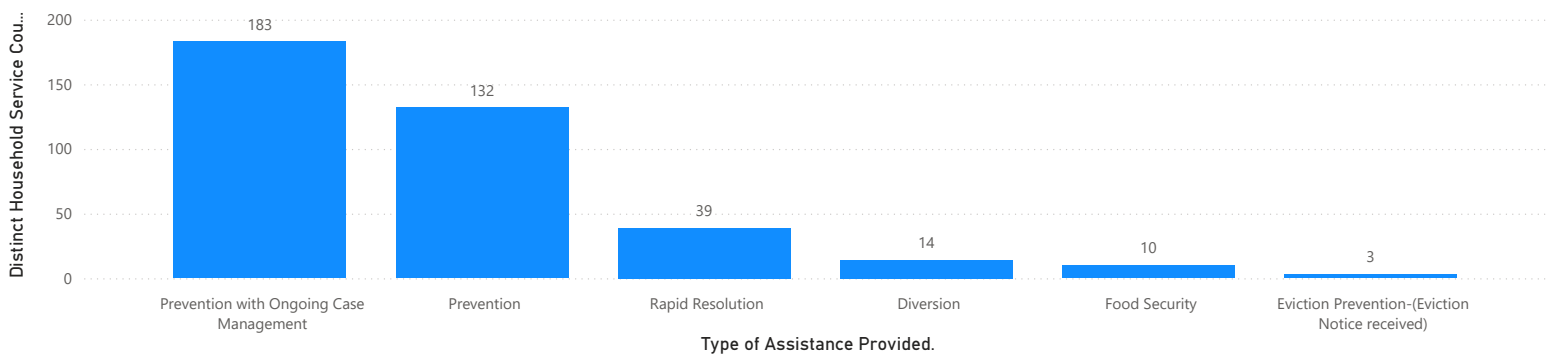


Month, Year

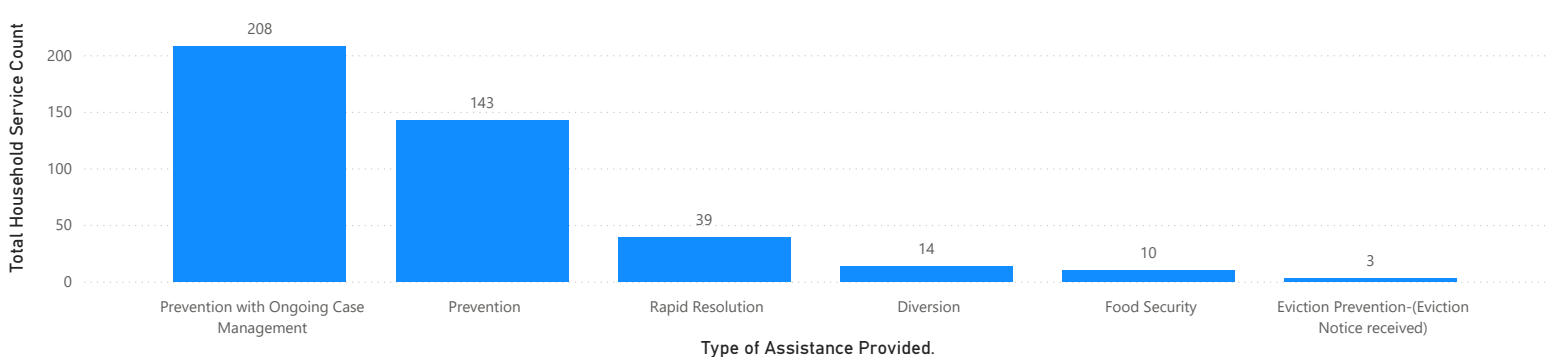
Multiple selections



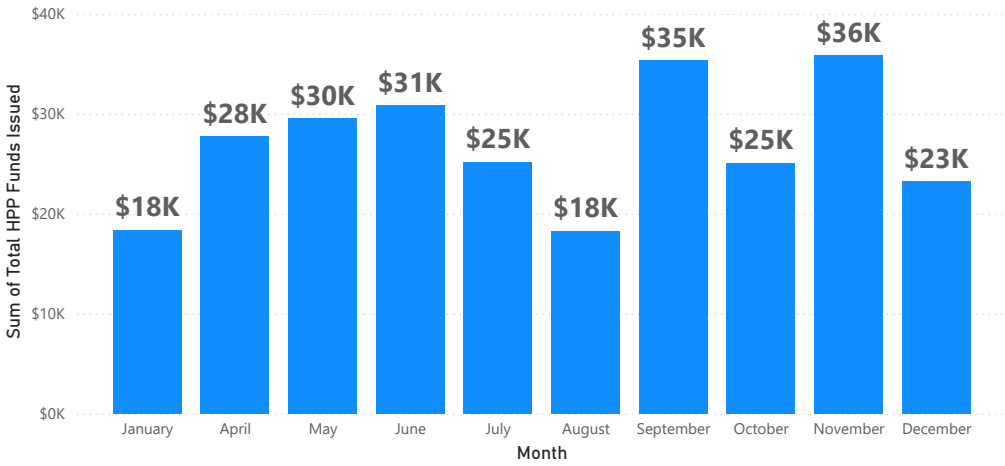
Distinct Household Service Count by Type of Assistance Provided.



Total Household Service Count by Type of Assistance Provided.



Total HPP Funds Issued by Month



Type of Assistance-HPP

All

Month, Year

Multiple selections

\$269,660.19

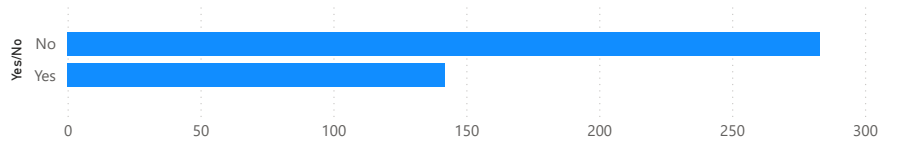
Sum of Total HPP Funds Issued

Provincial Priority Groups	Unique Households Served
Chronic Homelessness	20
Indigenous	10
Transitioning from Provincial Institution	2
Youth aged 16-25	20
Total	52

Income Source	Unique Households Served	Sum of Total HPP Funds Issued
OW	133	\$120,928.38
ODSP	108	\$94,182.79
Low Income Senior	51	\$33,802.76
Low Income	70	\$20,746.26
Total	347	\$269,660.19

Housing Status	Unique Households Served
At Risk of Homelessness	293
Experiencing Homelessness (and not currently on BNL)	43
On BNL	22
Total	347

Has the client been issued HPP in the past?



Type of Assistance Provided.	Low Income	Low Income Senior	ODSP	OW	Total
Prevention with Ongoing Case Management	16	14	52	121	201
Prevention	44	39	59	14	152
Rapid Resolution	13	5	7	17	42
Diversion	5	1	4	5	15
Food Security	1		1	8	10
Eviction Prevention-(Eviction Notice received)	1	1	1		3
Total	80	60	124	164	422

Month, Year

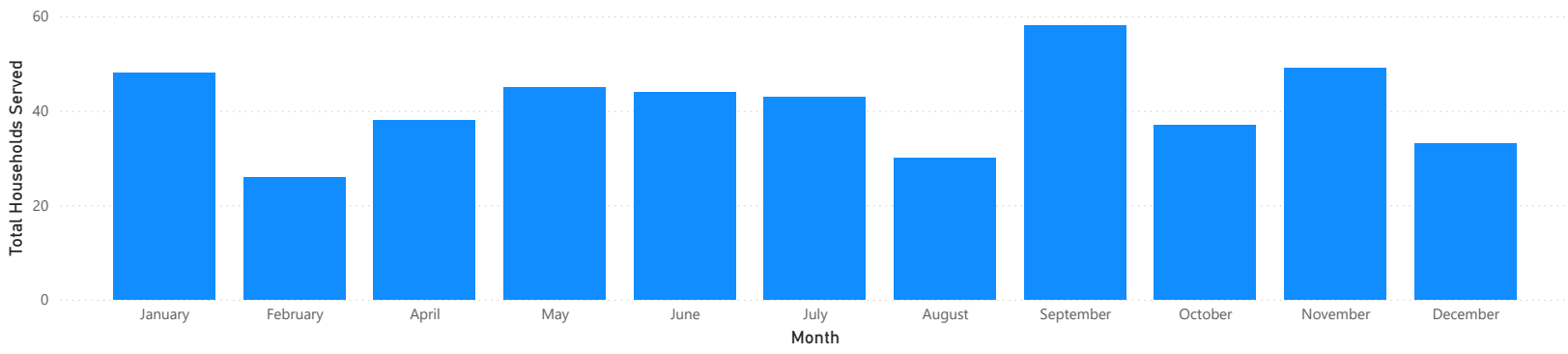
347

Unique Households Served

425

Total Households Served

Total Households Supported through HPP by Month-All



Housing Programs Update—January 2026

Social Housing Centralized Wait List Report			
	East	West	TOTAL
January 2026	Parry Sound	Parry Sound	
Seniors	53	136	189
Families	181	510	691
Individuals	570	175	745
TOTAL	804	821	1625
Total Wait List Unduplicated			445

Social Housing Centralized Wait List (CWL) 2025-2026 Comparison Applications and Households Housed from the CWL												
Month 2025	New APP	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housed	Month 2026	New App	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housed	
Jan	9			2		Jan	6	0	9			
Feb	8		2	3		Feb						
Mar	9	1	4	1		Mar						
Apr	6	1	10			Apr						
May	11		1	2		May						
June	12	2	1	2		June						
Jul	14			2	1	Jul						
Aug	9	1	1	2	1	Aug						
Sept	7	4	1	2	2	Sept						
Oct	8		1	1		Oct						
Nov	1	1	1			Nov						
Dec	7		5	2	1	Dec						
Total	101	10	27	19	5	Total	6	0	9	0	0	
						SPP = Special Priority Placement						

- Housing Programs approved 6 new applications to the Centralized Waitlist in the month of January.
- There were 9 cancelled applications; 4 applicants requested, one applicant deceased, 3 were approved for the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit, and one applicant had assets in excess.

HOUSING OPERATIONS AND SERVICE MANAGEMENT

January 2026 Statistical Information

Activity for Tenant Services

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Move-Outs	1	1
Move In (Centralized Waitlist along with Internal transfers)	1	1
L1/L2 Hearings	3	3
N4 Delivered to tenant or filed with the LTB– Notice of eviction for non-payment of rent	0	0
N5 Filed with the LTB– notice of eviction disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the other occupants	2	2
N6 Filed with the LTB –notice of eviction for illegal acts or misrepresenting income for RGI housing	0	0
N7 Filed with the LTB – notice of eviction for willful damage to unit	0	0
Repayment Agreements (new) (Formal & informal)	0	0
No Trespass Order	0	0
Mediation/Negotiation/Referrals	34	34
Tenant Home Visits/Wellness checks	39	39
Tenant Engagements/Education	0	0

Activity for Property Maintenance

Pest Control		Monthly pest control inspections were completed at 8 buildings. 32 units were inspected. Of the 32 units, 2 units required treatment.
Vacant units	6	5 one-bedroom, 1- multiple bedrooms (asbestos abatement, and significant repair contributes to longer vacancy times)
Vacant units: TMV	0	NO VACANCY
After Hours Calls	12	monitoring station offline, lock out, frozen exterior door lock, heater not turning on, EMS requiring access (did not have access code with them)
Work Orders	126	Work orders are created for our staff to complete routine maintenance repairs for all DSSAB/LHC Buildings
Purchase Orders	176	Purchase Orders are for services, and materials required outside of the Housing Operations Department scope of work for the LHC/DSSAB properties
Fire Inspections	3	3 Fire inspections completed on properties in January with Huronia Alarms/FPO's. Monthly inspections continue at every building.
Annual Inspections	0	Annual inspections will be planned for early spring.
Inspections (Other)	0	Housing keeping, Fire Prevention Officer follow up, and preconstruction/postconstruction
Incident Reports	1	Slip and fall. No reported injuries.

Capital Projects Monthly Report—January 2026

This monthly report provides an overview of capital project activities undertaken during January 2026. January was a busy month focused on receiving approved budgets, organizing the capital work plan for the year, and beginning the first stages of tendering and procurement for the 2026 construction season.

Hazardous Material Remediation and Water Damage Repairs

Remediations continued as normal throughout January, with several remediation projects underway or completed during the month. Work progressed through clearance, reinstatement, and closeout sequencing as required, with completed scopes continuing to follow required inspection and environmental clearance protocols.

Plumbing, HVAC, and Duct Maintenance

Winter HVAC maintenance and inspections continued as normal during January. Duct insulation installation is underway at an office building, and mechanical systems continue to be monitored closely to support reliable winter operations.

Doors, Siding, Painting, and Cosmetic Upgrades

No new door work, siding projects, painting, or cosmetic upgrades occurred during January. These scopes remain subject to prioritization within the broader 2026 capital work plan as seasonal conditions and procurement timelines advance.

Generator and Electrical Work

No major new generator-related activity occurred during January. Investigation and planning for electrical panel replacements in townhomes has begun, with scope development and sequencing underway to support future procurement and delivery.

Roofing and Eavestrough Projects

No major new changes occurred under active roof or eavestrough projects during January. However, ice damming events resulted in localized interior damage requiring response and repairs. Identifying and implementing measures to reduce recurring ice damming risk will be a key focus within the 2026 work program.

Structural Repairs, Infrastructure and Foundation Assessments

Structural repairs in Callander remain underway under active management. Inspections are scheduled for an office building to inform next steps, and a damaged roof canopy serving a residential building was inspected with repairs now underway.

Security Enhancements

No new security enhancements were undertaken during January. Existing measures remain in place and operational, with ongoing monitoring to support building safety and access control.

Consulting and Engineering Contracts

Consultant and engineering activity remained active in support of the 2026 capital program. One tender mandatory site visit occurred in January, with tender close scheduled for February. Two additional projects, siding replacement and septic replacements, are currently in the investigation phase to support scope definition, cost planning, and future sequencing.

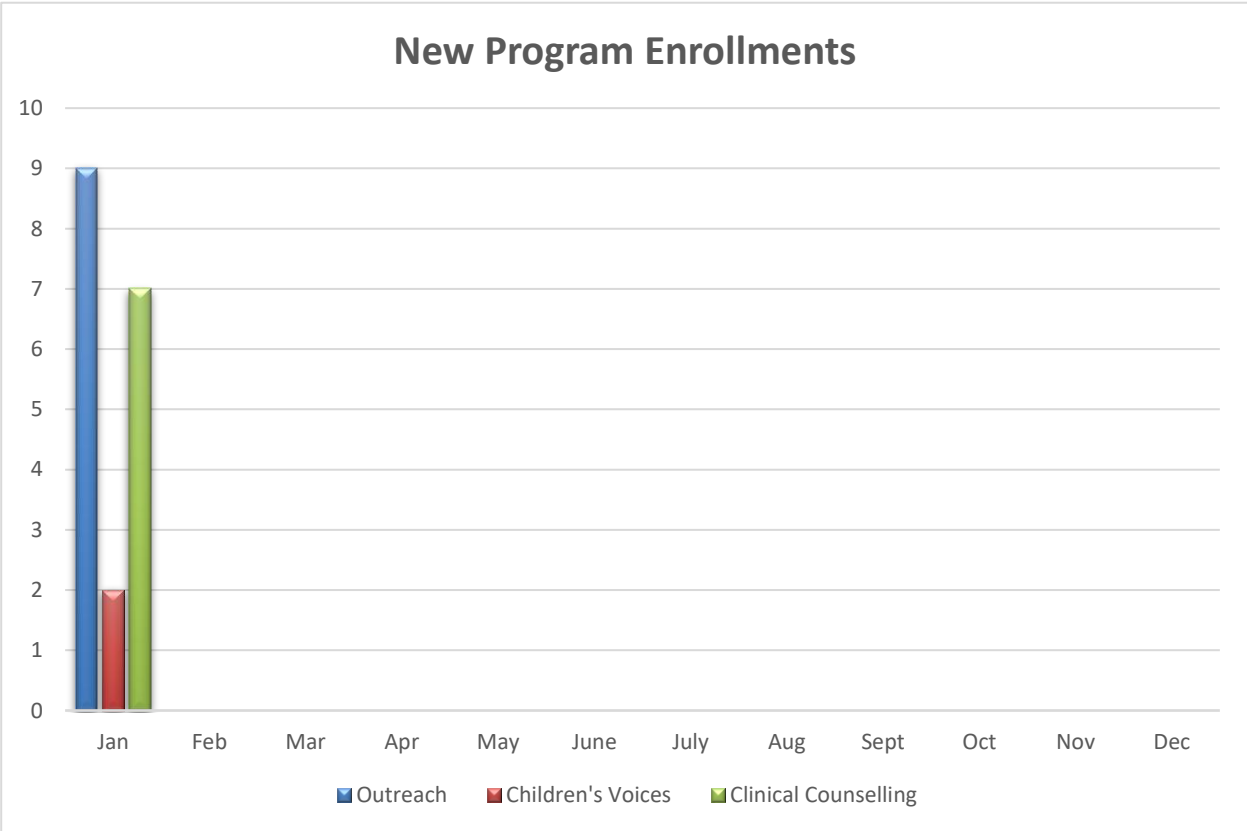
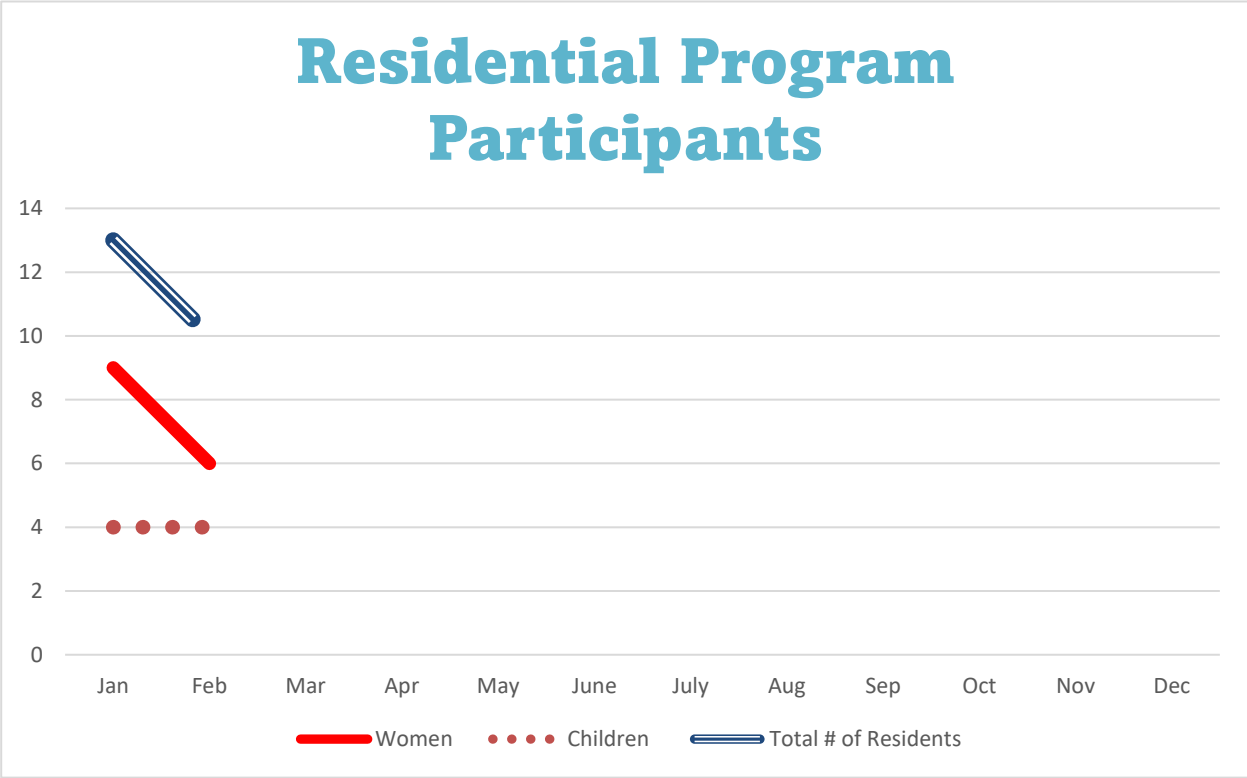
Childcare Capital Acceleration

No childcare capital acceleration work occurred during January. Childcare-related capital activity will continue to be reviewed alongside the broader 2026 program as priorities and funding opportunities arise.

Completion Highlights (January 2026)

January marked the transition from budget approval into active implementation of the 2026 capital work program. The month focused on organizing approved budgets into deliverable work plans, maintaining active winter operations/projects, advancing investigations, and initiating early tendering and procurement activities. The next reporting period will focus on tender closings, project mobilization, and continued progression of 2026 capital priorities as scopes move from planning into execution.

Esprit Place Family Resource Centre Update – January 2026



Social Media Stats

Facebook –District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration	SEPT 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026
Total Page Followers	780	786	791	797	819	837
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	33,114	18,590	23,572	5332	26,803	56,115
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	211	138	178	132	913	1,760

Facebook -Esprit Place Family Resource Centre	SEPT 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026
Total Page Followers	229	229	248	249	250	251
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	424	313	17,684	2136	884	308
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	2	3	189	34	10	3

DSSAB LinkedIN Stats https://bit.ly/2YyFHIE	SEPT 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026
Total Followers	561	561	579	585	594	598
Search Appearances (in last 7 days)	122	113	170	147	154	80
Total Page Views	26	27	77	23	44	50
Post Impressions	235	1092	2,953	1124	1521	1735
Total Unique Visitors	14	15	29	16	21	20

Instagram - Esprit Place Family Resource Centre https://www.instagram.com/espritplace/	SEPT 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026
Total Followers	109	112	115	115	117	120
# of accumulated posts	67	69	81	81	81	81

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2026

FONOM Board Advances Northern Priorities at Meeting in Kirkland Lake

KIRKLAND LAKE, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) Board of Directors convened in Kirkland Lake on March 20, 2026, to address key priorities impacting Northern Ontario communities, including highway safety, housing, health care, and municipal sustainability.

The Board was welcomed by **Mayor Stacy Wight**, along with **CAO Alan Smith** and **Clerk Jennifer Montreuil**, who met with FONOM members on Thursday evening to share local best practices, current challenges, and preparations for the upcoming municipal election cycle. The discussion provided valuable, on-the-ground insight into municipal governance in Northern Ontario.

“FONOM greatly appreciates the opportunity to meet directly with local leadership in Kirkland Lake,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “These conversations ensure that our advocacy is grounded in the real experiences of Northern municipalities and reflects the diverse challenges communities are facing.”

Key Discussions and Advocacy Priorities

During the Board meeting, members continued to advance several key advocacy files:

- **Northern Highway Safety and Capacity:** FONOM reaffirmed its strong commitment to the multi-laning of Highways 11 and 17, including twinning and 2+1 models. The Board discussed ongoing efforts to secure provincial and federal commitments and emphasized the importance of maintaining momentum on this nation-building corridor.
- **FONOM Conference 2026 – Timmins:** Preparations are well underway for the upcoming annual conference, taking place May 11–13, 2026, hosted by the City of Timmins. The event will bring together municipal leaders and partners from across the North to discuss shared priorities and opportunities.
- **Continued Advocacy Efforts:** The Board reviewed progress on Queen’s Park advocacy, federal engagement, and strategic communications efforts aimed at elevating Northern Ontario priorities on a provincial and national stage.

Presentations Inform Board Discussions

FONOM welcomed three guest presenters who provided valuable insights on critical issues:

- **Patrick Chouinard, Element5**, presented on the use of **mass timber and panelized construction** as an innovative solution to address housing shortages in Northern Ontario, including opportunities tied to the forestry sector and mining development.

- **David McNeil, President and CEO of Health Sciences North**, shared regional health care data, highlighted current and future system pressures, and emphasized the importance of collaboration across Northern hospitals. He also expressed a willingness to work closely with FONOM to support improved health outcomes across the region.
- **MP Gaétan Malette (Kapusksing–Timmins–Mushkegowuk)** discussed federal perspectives on infrastructure and introduced his resolution supporting improvements to Northern highways, reinforcing the need for coordinated federal and provincial action.

Resolutions Reflect Municipal Priorities

The Board considered and supported a wide range of resolutions brought forward by member municipalities, addressing issues such as:

- Sustainable and equitable **policing funding**
- **Highway safety** and reclassification of Highways 11 and 17
- **Health care access**, including concerns related to laboratory services
- **Housing affordability** and homelessness
- **Municipal infrastructure pressures**, including water systems and public health levies
- **Telecommunications and connectivity**
- **Environmental and recycling policies**

“These resolutions reflect the priorities and pressures being felt across Northern Ontario,” added Plourde. “FONOM will continue to amplify these voices and work collaboratively with all levels of government to deliver meaningful solutions.”

Looking Ahead

FONOM will continue its advocacy efforts in the lead-up to the 2026 Annual Conference in Timmins and remains committed to advancing policies that support strong, resilient, and connected Northern communities.

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2026

FONOM Supports Provincial Highway 11/17 Safety Measures While Calling for Continued Progress

Latchford, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) welcomes the Province of Ontario’s recent announcement outlining new safety and enforcement measures along the Highway 11/17 corridor—an essential transportation link for Northern communities, industries, and Canada’s national supply chains.

The Province’s plan includes increased enforcement, expanded inspection capacity, improved signage, and continued design work for future highway improvements.

FONOM recognizes these actions as important steps that respond to long-standing concerns raised by municipalities across Northern Ontario.

“FONOM is pleased to see continued investments aimed at improving safety and reliability on Highways 11 and 17,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “These are important and necessary steps for northern communities that rely on this corridor every day.”

A Shared Northern Priority

Municipal leaders across Northern Ontario have consistently identified Highway 11, Highway 17, and the shared corridor as critical infrastructure requiring sustained attention, modern design standards, and ongoing investment.

FONOM continues to work alongside municipal partners and stakeholders to advance practical improvements that enhance safety while supporting economic activity and supply chain reliability.

Progress Made—More Work Ahead

While encouraged by the Province’s actions, FONOM notes that recent incidents on Northern highways underscore the importance of maintaining momentum.

“We continue to see serious collisions and highway closures across the North,” added Plourde. “While the measures announced will help, they also reinforce that more work remains to be done to ensure these highways meet the expectations of the people who use them.”

FONOM continues to advocate for:

- **Enhanced safety measures and enforcement**

- **Expanded passing opportunities**, including 2+1 and four-laning where appropriate
- **Improved rest areas and winter reliability**
- **A coordinated provincial and federal commitment** to long-term corridor improvements

A Corridor of National Importance

Highways 11 and 17 are vital parts of Canada’s Trans-Canada Highway system, supporting economic development, resource industries, and the movement of essential goods across the country.

“As conversations continue, we will remain focused on supporting long-term enhancements that reflect the significance of these highways—not just to Northern Ontario, but to Canada as a whole,” said Plourde.

Looking Ahead

FONOM remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province of Ontario, the federal government, and municipal partners to advance meaningful improvements that improve safety, reliability, and economic connectivity across Northern Ontario.

“We appreciate the Province’s engagement and look forward to continuing this work together,” said Plourde. “Northern municipalities are ready to be part of the solution.”

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

For Immediate Release

March 26, 2026

FONOM Welcomes Key Northern Investments in Ontario Budget and NORDS Extension

NORTHERN ONTARIO – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) acknowledges the Province of Ontario’s 2026 Budget and welcomes several measures that will support communities, economic growth, and quality of life across Northern Ontario.

FONOM is encouraged to see the continued commitment to the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program, which has been extended for an additional three years at \$15 million annually.

FONOM has consistently advocated for the continuation of NORDS, recognizing its importance in supporting municipalities experiencing growth and pressures related to resource development.

“FONOM appreciates the Province’s decision to extend the NORDS program for an additional three years,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “This program provides important support to Northern municipalities, helping to address infrastructure pressures and enabling communities to plan for growth and respond to development opportunities.”

“The ability to stack funding over multiple years remains a key strength of the program,” added Plourde. “It allows municipalities to move forward with larger infrastructure projects and provides greater certainty for municipal financial planning.”

FONOM will continue to advocate for the program to be made permanent and to expand eligibility to include agriculture alongside mining and forestry as recognized sectors within NORDS.

Supporting Northern Communities and Economic Growth

FONOM also highlighted several additional budget measures that will have positive impacts across Northern Ontario:

- A historic reduction in the small business corporate income tax rate from 3.2 per cent to 2.2 per cent, supporting local businesses and economic activity
- An additional \$300 million over six years through the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund, supporting youth development and community infrastructure
- Continued investment through the \$20 million Fire Protection Grant for 2026–2027, supporting forest fire preparedness and response in Northern Ontario
- \$1.1 billion in additional funding for home and community care services, helping seniors remain in their communities
- \$284 million over four years to support small, rural, and Northern post-secondary institutions, addressing higher costs and French-language service needs

“These investments reflect an understanding of the unique needs of Northern Ontario communities,” said **Maggie Horsfield, First Vice-President of FONOM**. “From supporting local businesses and youth development to strengthening health care and education, these measures will help build stronger and more resilient communities across the North.”

Supporting Growth and Housing Affordability

FONOM also welcomes the Province’s continued efforts to improve housing affordability, including measures to remove the provincial portion of the HST on eligible new homes. These changes are expected to reduce costs for families and help stimulate new housing development across Ontario.

“These housing measures are positive and will help make new home construction more attainable,” added **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “This is particularly important in Northern Ontario, where communities are working to attract and retain residents and support workforce growth.”

Continued Advocacy on Northern Highways

FONOM reiterated that improving the safety and capacity of Highways 11 and 17 remains a top priority.

“Highways 11 and 17 are critical to our communities, our economy, and Canada’s supply chains,” said Plourde. “We will continue to work with both the Province and the federal government to advance long-term solutions that improve safety, reliability, and capacity along this corridor.”

FONOM noted that continued progress will require coordinated action between both levels of government and reaffirmed its commitment to advancing this issue as a national priority.

Looking Ahead

FONOM remains committed to working collaboratively with all levels of government to support economic development, improve infrastructure, and strengthen Northern communities.

“Today’s budget includes several positive steps for Northern Ontario,” said Plourde. “We look forward to continuing to work with the Province and federal partners to build on this momentum and ensure our communities have the tools they need to grow and succeed.”

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

For Immediate Release

March 31, 2026

FONOM Calls for Fair Housing Funding as Development Charge Changes Risk Leaving Northern Communities Behind

Matachewan, Ontario – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) acknowledges the recent Canada–Ontario partnership to support housing development and infrastructure investment, including funding tied to the reduction of municipal development charges.

FONOM supports efforts to increase housing supply and improve affordability across Ontario. However, the organization is raising concerns that the current program design may unintentionally place many Northern municipalities at a disadvantage.

While the program provides funding to municipalities that reduce and maintain low development charges, many Northern communities do not levy development charges and therefore may not be positioned to benefit from this program in the same way.

“We appreciate the commitment from both levels of government to address housing affordability,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “However, many Northern municipalities simply do not have development charges to reduce, and at the same time face some of the highest costs in the province to build homes and infrastructure.”

FONOM noted that municipalities across Northern Ontario often experience significantly higher per-kilometre costs for essential infrastructure such as water, wastewater, and roads, while also working with smaller tax bases and greater geographic challenges.

“Growth still requires infrastructure—whether or not a municipality charges development fees,” added Plourde. “Without access to comparable funding tools, Northern communities risk being left behind in their ability to support new housing and attract investment.”

FONOM is calling on both the Province of Ontario and the federal government to ensure that housing and infrastructure programs are applied equitably across all regions.

“We are asking for fairness in how these programs are delivered,” said Plourde. “Municipalities that do not levy development charges should not be excluded from accessing housing-enabling infrastructure funding. There must be complementary funding mechanisms to ensure all communities can participate in building the housing our province needs.”

FONOM emphasized that Northern Ontario communities are ready to grow and play a key role in addressing Ontario’s housing challenges.

“Northern communities are part of the solution,” said Plourde. “With the right tools and equitable support, we can continue to build homes, attract residents, and contribute to Ontario’s long-term growth.”

Looking Ahead

FONOM remains committed to working collaboratively with all levels of government to support economic development, improve infrastructure, and strengthen Northern communities.

“Today’s budget includes several positive steps for Northern Ontario,” said Plourde. “We look forward to continuing to work with the Province and federal partners to build on this momentum and ensure our communities have the tools they need to grow and succeed.”

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

March 31, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

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

**Ensuring Equitable Access to Housing, Enabling Infrastructure Funding for
Northern Ontario Municipalities**

Dear Prime Minister and Premier,

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), I am writing to acknowledge the recent Canada–Ontario partnership to increase housing supply and improve affordability through investments in housing-enabling infrastructure and reductions in municipal development charges.

FONOM supports the shared objective of building more homes and strengthening communities across Ontario and Canada. We recognize the importance of reducing barriers to housing development and appreciate the commitment from both levels of government to address these challenges.

However, we are writing to highlight a significant concern about the current program structure. Many Northern Ontario municipalities do not levy development charges and therefore may not be positioned to benefit from funding tied to their reduction. At the same time, these communities face some of the highest costs in the province to build homes and deliver infrastructure, including significantly higher per-kilometre costs for water, wastewater, and road systems, as well as smaller tax bases and vast geographic distances.

In Northern Ontario, growth still requires infrastructure, whether or not development charges are in place. Without access to comparable funding tools, these municipalities risk being placed at a structural disadvantage in their ability to support new housing development, attract investment, and contribute to broader provincial and national housing goals.

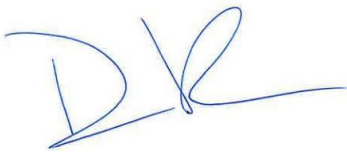
FONOM respectfully requests that both governments consider complementary funding mechanisms to ensure that municipalities without development charges are not excluded from accessing housing-enabling infrastructure investments. Ensuring equity in program design will allow all regions of Ontario to participate meaningfully in addressing the housing crisis.

Northern Ontario communities are ready to be part of the solution. With equitable support, our municipalities can continue to build homes, support workforce growth, and contribute to the long-term economic success of both Ontario and Canada.

FONOM looks forward to working collaboratively with your governments to ensure that housing and infrastructure programs reflect the unique realities of Northern communities and support growth across all regions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dave Plourde
President, FONOM

Cc'd Hon. Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Graydon Smith, Association Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Patty Hajdu, Minister Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for FedNor
Pauline Rochefort, MP Nipissing-Timiskaming and Parliamentary Secretary Rural Development
Viviane Lapointe, MP Sudbury, Chair Northern Ontario Caucus and Member Standing Committee on National Defence
Rick Dumas, President NOMA
Christa Lowry, President ROMA
Robin Jones, President of AMO
FONOM Member Municipalities

Resolution – Equitable Access to Housing and Infrastructure Funding for Northern Ontario Municipalities

Date: March 31, 2026

WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and Ontario have announced a joint partnership to invest in housing-enabling infrastructure and reduce municipal development charges to support housing affordability and supply;

AND WHEREAS this program provides funding primarily to municipalities that reduce and maintain low development charges;

AND WHEREAS many municipalities in Northern Ontario do not levy development charges and therefore may not be positioned to benefit from this program in the same manner;

AND WHEREAS Northern municipalities face disproportionately higher costs to build and maintain infrastructure, including increased per-kilometre costs for water, wastewater, and transportation systems, combined with smaller tax bases and vast geographic areas;

AND WHEREAS infrastructure investment is required to support housing development regardless of whether development charges are in place;

AND WHEREAS without access to comparable funding mechanisms, Northern municipalities risk being placed at a structural disadvantage in their ability to support housing growth, attract investment, and contribute to provincial and national housing objectives;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario communities are essential contributors to Ontario's and Canada's economy and must be supported to grow and thrive;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) calls on the Governments of Canada and Ontario to ensure that housing-enabling infrastructure programs are applied equitably across all regions, including municipalities that do not levy development charges;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that both levels of government establish complementary funding mechanisms or program streams to provide comparable support to Northern municipalities that are not eligible under development charge reduction frameworks;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that FONOM distribute this resolution to its member municipalities for endorsement and forward it to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the federal Minister of Finance, the federal Minister of Indigenous Services, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth, and the Ontario Minister of Transportation for their consideration.

For Immediate Release

April 8, 2026

FONOM Urges Ontario to Act as Manitoba Advances Compassionate Intervention Legislation

NORTHERN ONTARIO – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is calling on the Province of Ontario to move forward with legislative changes to address addiction and public safety, following the introduction of new legislation in Manitoba that enables short-term, medically supervised intervention for individuals in crisis.

FONOM has long advocated for a compassionate intervention framework that allows for timely, health-based responses when individuals are at risk of harming themselves or others due to severe substance use.

“Manitoba has taken a significant step forward in recognizing the need for intervention tools that balance compassion, care, and public safety,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “We believe Ontario must now move with urgency to provide similar supports for our communities.”

Across Northern Ontario, municipalities are experiencing increasing pressures on emergency services, health care systems, and community safety, as individuals cycle through crisis without access to effective intervention pathways.

“Our communities are dealing with this reality every day,” added Plourde. “Police, paramedics, hospitals, and social services are responding repeatedly to the same individuals, without the tools needed to connect them to care. That is not working for anyone, least of all the individuals in crisis.”

FONOM noted that the impacts of addiction-related crises are being felt directly by residents and businesses across Northern Ontario. Communities are reporting increased concerns related to break-ins, open drug use, theft, property damage, arson, and ongoing challenges with bail compliance.

“These are real, everyday impacts that people are seeing in their communities,” said Plourde. “Residents are asking for a system that not only responds to crisis, but helps prevent it through intervention, care, and accountability.”

Ontario Risks Falling Behind

FONOM noted that other jurisdictions, including British Columbia and Saskatchewan, are also advancing or exploring similar approaches.

“Ontario has an opportunity to learn from these provinces and act quickly,” said Plourde. “We have been raising this issue for some time, and while the need continues to grow, progress has not kept pace.”

A Call for Immediate Action

FONOM is urging the Province of Ontario, particularly the Ministry of Health, to move forward with targeted amendments to the Mental Health Act that would:

- Enable short-term, medically supervised intervention
- Provide pathways to treatment and stabilization
- Reduce pressure on frontline municipal and health services

“This is about ensuring people receive care when they need it most, while also improving safety in our communities,” said Plourde. “The tools exist. The models exist. What is needed now is action.”

Looking Ahead

FONOM remains committed to working with the Province of Ontario to advance a made-in-Ontario solution that reflects the realities of Northern communities and delivers meaningful outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

“We cannot continue to respond to the same crisis with the same limited tools,” said Plourde. “Ontario has the opportunity, and the responsibility, to act.”

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com



FONOM

ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

May 10th, 2026

FONOM CONFERENCE & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Timmins, Ontario

1. Approval of / Additions to Agenda

2. Introduction of Executive

3. President's Report

4. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Monday, May 5, 2025 – (Page 3 & 4)
(resolution required)

5. 2025 Conference Agenda – (Page 5 & 6)

6. Financial Report – 2025 - 2026 (Page 7) - **(resolution required)**

Presentation of the 2026 - 2027 Operating Budget - (Page 8)

7. Resolutions

- Urgent Action on Highway Safety – Highways 11 and 17
- Establishment of a Northern Ontario Policing Grant
- Targeted Amendments to the Mental Health Act to Support Compassionate Intervention
- Strengthening Mental Health and Addictions Crisis Response to Reduce Pressure on Police and Emergency Departments
- Northern Ontario ICI Recycling Depots

8. Adjourn

FONOM Board of Directors

2025-2027

<p>President Dave Plourde Mayor, Town of Kapuskasing Representing the District of Cochrane</p>	<p>First Vice President Maggie Horsfield Deputy Mayor, City of North Bay</p>
<p>Second Vice President Lynn Watson Mayor, Township of Macdonald Meredith and Aberdeen Add'l Representing the District of Algoma</p>	<p>Past President Danny Whalen Councillor, Temiskaming Shores Representing the District of Temiskaming</p>
<p>Al MacNevin Mayor, Municipality of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Representing the District of Manitoulin</p>	<p>Terry Kelly Councillor, Municipality of East Ferris Representing the District of Nipissing</p>
<p>Lynda Carleton Mayor, Township of Machar Representing the District of Parry</p>	<p>Renée Carrier Deputy Mayor, Municipality of French River Representing the District of Sudbury East</p>
<p>Sandra Hollingsworth Councillor, City of Sault Ste. Marie</p>	<p>Lorne Feldman Councillor, City of Timmins</p>
<p>Paul Lefebvre Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury</p>	<p>Staff Mac Bain, Executive Director</p>

Minutes
Annual Conference hosted by the City of North Bay
Annual General Meeting
Monday, May 5, 2025

Resolution: That the agenda be approved as presented to the membership

R. Carrie / S. Hollingsworth

CARRIED.

Introduction of the FONOM Board of Directors

President's Report (Verbal)

Resolution: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting on May 8, 2024, be accepted as presented.

M. Horsfield / A. MacNevin

CARRIED.

Resolution: The FONOM Financial Report for the year ending March 31, 2025, be accepted as presented. **(See Below)**

D. Plourde / L. Watson

CARRIED.

The FONOM 2025-2026 Operating Budget has been received for information. **(See Below)**

Provincial share for **Mandated** Public Health Programs

T. Kelly / D. O'Mara

Policing costs for all communities

L. Watson / S. Hagman

Provincial/Municipal Fiscal Review

S. Hollingsworth / A. MacNevin

EPR for the OCI Sector

M. Horsfield / L. Carleton

An addition to the Ministry of Transportation

M. Young / M. Dupuis

CARRIED.

Resolution: That the FONOM Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 11:34 am.

R. Carrie / S. Hollingsworth

CARRIED.

FONOM
Financial Summary
April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Yearend</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue			
Membership	32,555.00	35,384.91	(2,829.91)
AMO Reimbursements	4,000.00	7,968.45	(3,968.45)
NOHFC	45,000.00	77,895.40	(32,895.40)
Northern Suite at AMO	7,500.00	15,750.00	(8,250.00)
Investment Interest + Misc	-	20.00	(20.00)
Conference	30,000.00	188,260.60	(158,260.60)
Donations	5,000.00	-	-
FedNor - Promote the North	-	-	-
	<u>124,055.00</u>	<u>325,279.36</u>	<u>(201,224.36)</u>
Service Fees	225.00	458.67	(233.67)
Board Meetings	42,000.00	51,323.46	(9,323.46)
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	16,500.00	18,602.51	(2,102.51)
Provincial Committee Meetings	11,000.00	21,028.29	(10,028.29)
) Advertising - Clark Communications	4,571.00	1,193.28	3,377.72
Insurance	700.00	452.00	248.00
General & Admin	9,300.00	11,168.45	(3,307.23)
Audit And Legal Fees	6,000.00	5,989.00	(328.00)
Staff Wages	34,000.00	35,320.00	200.00
Staff Travel	1,500.00	1,608.83	441.88
Executive Honorarium	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Northern Hospitality Amo	9,500.00	13,317.88	(1,752.80)
Conference Expense	14,000.00	108,817.62	182.64
GoNorth Campaign	50,000.00	36,431.40	1,160.58
Catch n Release	10,000.00	-	5,462.86
SNOED Program	-	13,692.00	-
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
	<u>(214,296.00)</u>	<u>324,403.39</u>	<u>(110,107.39)</u>
	<u>(90,241.00)</u>	<u>875.97</u>	<u>(91,116.97)</u>



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Monday May 5

Scan for a self-guided tour of North Bay >>>



Time	Event	Location
9:30-11am	Bus Tour of North Bay <i>Registration required. Email: Carrie.Arre@northbay.ca</i>	Best Western Hotel & Conference Centre Front Door
10:30am	Registration Begins	Best Western Hotel & Conference Centre Lobby
11:00am	FONOM AGM	Ontario Room
11:15am	Trade Show	Foyer & Fab Hallway
12:00pm	Lunch Sponsored by OPG	Regency Ballroom
1:00pm	Official Opening Remarks	Ontario Room
1:15pm	Keynote Speaker - Olya Sanakoev, CTO, Financial Services <i>Unlocking the Power of AI</i>	Ontario Room
2:30pm	Refreshment Break Sponsored by MPAC	Foyer
3:00pm	George Couchie - Redtail Hawk Training & Consulting <i>Indigenous Cultural Mindfulness</i>	Ontario Room



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Monday May 5 ...cont.

Time	Event	Location
3:45pm	Ulf Stahmer, Senior Transportation Engineer, NWMO NWMO Transportation: <i>Post Site Selection Next Steps</i>	Ontario Room
4:15pm	Jennifer Gray, Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development <i>Leveraging the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) for Workforce Sustainability and Economic Growth</i>	Ontario Room
4:50pm	Board Bus To Reception	Best Western Hotel & Conference Centre Front Door
5:00pm	Opening Reception (Cash Bar) Sponsored by NWMO	Gateway City Brewery 490 Gormanville Rd. Unit B
6:30pm	Trade Show Closes	Foyer & Fab Hallway
7:00pm	Board Bus Back to Hotel	Front Doors, Gateway City Brewery
7:15pm	Delegates Dine in North Bay	



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Tuesday May 6

Time	Event	Location
7:45am	Breakfast Sponsored by Destination Northern Ontario & CNB Event Hosting Fund	Foyer
8:00am	Trade Show Opens	Foyer & Fab Hallway
8:30am	Dr. Carol Zimbalatt, Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer & Dr. Lianne Cotton, Medical Officer of Health, Porcupine Health Unit <i>Partnership for Healthy Communities in the North</i>	Ontario Room
9:00am	Oscar Poloni, Partner, KPMG <i>The Orange County Insolvency - Lessons for Northern Ontario</i>	Ontario Room
9:45am	Carla Y. Nell, VP, Corporate Relations Engmnt. & Strategy Beverly Noller, Director, Transmission Integration, IESO <i>Northeastern Ontario's Energy Future: Empowered Communities</i>	Ontario Room
10:15am	Refreshment Break Sponsored by Hydro One	Foyer



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Tuesday May 6 ...cont.

Time	Event	Location
10:30am	Christa Lowry, ROMA Chair <i>Rural Ontario Municipal Assoc. Updates</i>	Ontario Room
11:00am	Jessica Jaremchuk, VP Risk Mgmt. Services, Intact Public Entities <i>Disaster Domino Effect: Understanding the Chain Reaction of Catastrophes</i>	Ontario Room
11:45am	Lunch Sponsored by IESO	Regency Ballroom
1:00pm	Mary Sye, Advisor, Muni. Energy Solutions & Kristen Oliver, Senior Advisor, Muni. & Stakeholder Engmnt. <i>Partnering for a sustainable future: How Enbridge Supports Local Northern Municipalities and Promotes Smart Energy Use</i>	Ontario Room
1:30pm	Brent Kalinowski, CNB-Community Safety & Well-Being <i>The Evolving Municipal Role in Community Safety & Well-Being Adapting for a Stronger Future</i>	Ontario Room
2:15pm	Ontario Northland, Chad Evans, CEO & Al Spacek, Chair <i>Getting Ready for the New Era of the Northlander</i>	Ontario Room
2:45pm	Refreshment Break Sponsored by LAS	Foyer



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Tuesday May 6 ...cont.

Time	Event	Location
3:00pm	Trade Show Closes	Foyer & Fab Hallway
3:00pm	Robin Jones, AMO President <i>Remarks</i>	Foyer & Fab Hallway
3:00pm	Lindsay Jones, AMO Director of Policy & Government Relations <i>AMO Policy Updates</i>	Ontario Room
3:45pm	MPAC, Alan Spacek, Chair, and Nicole McNeill, President & CAO <i>Insights and Innovation: MPAC's work in Northern Ontario</i>	Ontario Room
4:15pm	Matt Sikstrom, Project Director, OPG <i>Expanding Hydroelectric Generation in Northeastern Ontario</i>	Ontario Room
5:30pm	Pre-Banquet Reception Hosted by the City of Timmins <i>2026 Conference Host</i> EDF Renewables, Bar Sponsor	Foyer
6:30pm	Banquet & Entertainment Banquet Sponsored by Enbridge Entertainment Sponsored by Uber	Regency Ballroom



2025 Northeastern Municipal Conference

Wednesday May 7

Time	Event	Location
7:45am	Breakfast Sponsored by Ontario Northland	Regency Ballroom
8:30am	Dr. Owen Prowse, Vice-President, Clinical Partnerships & Hospital Relations, NOSM <i>Successes and Future of NOSM University Update</i>	Ontario Room
9:00am	Ian Dunn, President & CEO of OFIA	Ontario Room
9:30am	Andrew Siegart, President & CEO TIAO: <i>Understanding How Tourism Impacts at the Community Level</i>	Ontario Room
10:00am	Minister, Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade	Ontario Room
10:15am	George Pirie, Minister of Northern Development	Ontario Room
10:30am	Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources	Ontario Room
10:45am	Refreshment Break Hydro One	Foyer
11:00am	Bear Pit	Ontario Room
11:45am	Closing Ceremonies	Ontario Room
12:00pm	Bagged Lunch Sponsored by GFD & Kennedy Insurance Brokers	Foyer

2025 NORTHEASTERN MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

Executive

PRESIDENT

Danny Whalen
Councillor, City of Temiskaming Shores

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Dave Plourde
Mayor, Town of Kapuskasing

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Lynn Watson
Mayor, Township of Macdonald Meredith & Aberdeen Additional

PAST PRESIDENT

Vacant

Board of Directors

Lynda Carleton

Mayor, Machar Township
(Representing the District of Parry Sound)

Terry Kelly

Councillor, Township of East Ferris
(Representing the District of Nipissing)

Al MacNevin

Mayor, Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands
(Representing the District of Manitoulin)

Renée Carrier

Councillor, Municipality of French River
(Representing the District of Sudbury)

Sandra Hollingsworth

Councillor, City of Sault Ste. Marie
(Representing the City of Sault Ste. Marie)

Paul Lefebvre

Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury
(Representing the City of Greater Sudbury)

Lorne Feldman

Councillor, City of Timmins
(Representing the City of Timmins)

Maggie Horsfield

Deputy Mayor, City of North Bay
(Representing the City of North Bay)

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is the unified voice of Northeastern Ontario, representing and advocating on behalf of 110 cities, towns and municipalities.

Our mission is to improve the economic and social quality of life for all northerners and to ensure the future of our youth.



Contact

208-850 Oak St. E.
North Bay, Ontario P1B 9E5
fonom.info@gmail.com
www.fonom.org

2025 NORTHEASTERN MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

Exhibitors

- Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario
- Ontario Clean Water Agency
- PSD Citywide
- AdvantAge Ontario
- Hobson Chahal Advisory Group
- Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program
- Continest Canada Inc.
- Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)
- Beacon Lite Traffic
- MPAC
- Nelson Granite
- InnVest Hotels
- RSM Building Consultants
- MuniSoft
- Ontario Phragmites Action
- MIS Municipal Insurance Services
- TC Energy
- Enbridge
- Nuclear Waste Management Organization
- Intact Public Entities
- GFD
- OPG
- Hydro One
- OneInvestment
- AMO /LAS
- Planet Youth (NBPS Health Unit)



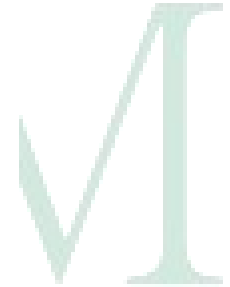
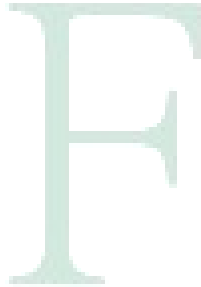
NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES



MUNICIPAL
PROPERTY
ASSESSMENT
CORPORATION

Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario / Agence fédérale de développement économique pour le Nord de l'Ontario



Celebrate with Us!

Welcome to North Bay!
This year, we're celebrating 100 years as a City, and we're thrilled to share this milestone with you. While you're here, we hope you enjoy our beautiful waterfront, vibrant downtown, and warm Northern hospitality. Join us in celebrating a century of community, history, and progress throughout 2025!

northbay.ca/100

FONOM
Financial Summary
April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026
as of March 31, 2026

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue			
Membership	\$ 35,000.00	35,783.11	(783.11)
AMO Reimbursements	\$ 6,500.00	5,063.42	1,436.58
NOHFC	\$ 50,000.00	75,000.00	(25,000.00)
Northern Suite at AMO	\$ 10,000.00	13,562.50	(3,562.50)
Investment Interest + Misc		-	-
Conference	\$ 60,000.00	106,668.62	(46,668.62)
Donations + Tax Return	\$ 5,000.00	25,722.06	(20,722.06)
FedNor - GONorth & SNOED	\$ 200,000.00	78,408.00	121,592.00
Transfer from Reserves*		35,000.00	
	366,500.00	375,207.71	26,292.29
Expenses			
Service Fees	\$ 275.00	255.75	19.25
Board Meetings	\$ 48,000.00	51,914.23	(3,914.23)
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	\$ 19,000.00	15,803.18	3,196.82
Provincial Committee Meetings	\$ 19,000.00	49,855.50	(30,855.50)
Advertising - Clark Communications	\$ 4,571.00	1,193.28	3,377.72
Insurance	\$ 1,100.00	-	1,100.00
General & Admin	\$ 16,500.00	14,524.29	1,975.71
Audit And Legal Fees	\$ 7,000.00	3,164.00	3,836.00
Staff Wages	\$ 34,000.00	50,959.98	(16,959.98)
Staff Travel	\$ 5,000.00	3,369.57	1,630.43
Executive Honorarium	\$ 5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Northern Hospitality Amo	\$ 14,000.00	17,432.62	(3,432.62)
Conference Expense	\$ 14,000.00	51,701.25	(37,701.25)
GoNorth Campaign	\$ 35,000.00	35,933.55	(933.55)
Catch n Release	\$ 5,000.00	-	5,000.00
SNOED Program	-	10,295.00	
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
	227,446.00	311,402.20	(73,661.20)
	139,054.00	63,805.51	99,953.49

FONOM
FONOM Budget
April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027
Presented May 10, 2026

	2025-2026	2025-2026	2026-2027
	Approved Budget	Actuals	Budget
Revenue			
Membership	\$ 35,000.00	35,783.11	\$ 35,000.00
AMO Reimbursements	\$ 6,500.00	5,063.42	\$ 6,500.00
NOHFC	\$ 50,000.00	75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Northern Suite at AMO	\$ 10,000.00	13,562.50	\$ 14,000.00
Investment Interest + Misc		-	\$ -
Conference	\$ 60,000.00	106,668.62	\$ 75,000.00
Donations	\$ 5,000.00	25,722.06	\$ 10,000.00
FedNor - GoNorth & SNOED	\$ 200,000.00	78,408.00	\$ 54,000.00
Transfer from Reserves		35,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	366,500.00	375,207.71	319,500.00
Expenses			
Service Fees	228.00	255.75	\$ 260.00
Board Meetings	57,308.07	51,914.23	\$ 40,000.00
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	13,071.71	15,803.18	\$ 19,000.00
Provincial Committee Meetings	8,145.37	49,855.50	\$ 65,500.00
Advertising - Clark Communications	5,463.83	1,193.28	\$ 1,500.00
Insurance	-	-	\$ 500.00
General & Admin	12,607.23	14,524.29	\$ 15,500.00
Audit And Legal Fees	6,328.00	3,164.00	\$ 5,000.00
Staff Wages	33,800.00	50,959.98	\$ 75,000.00
Staff Travel	1,058.12	3,369.57	\$ 4,000.00
Executive Honorarium	5,000.00	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Northern Hospitality Amo	11,252.80	17,432.62	\$ 14,000.00
Conference Expense	13,817.36	51,701.25	\$ 14,000.00
GoNorth Campaign	48,839.42	35,933.55	\$ 60,000.00
Catch n Release	4,537.14	-	\$ -
SNOED Program	-	10,295.00	-
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	221,457.05	311,402.20	319,260.00
	145,042.95	63,805.51	240.00

From: GerriLyn Cicciarelli <GerriLyn.Cicciarelli@nearnorthschools.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 8:49 AM
To: GerriLyn Cicciarelli <GerriLyn.Cicciarelli@nearnorthschools.ca>
Subject: Near North District School Board - Trustee Elections Process

Good morning,

Pursuant to Ontario Regulation 412/00, please be advised that the Near North District School Board (NNDSB) is submitting the enclosed 2026 trustee determination and distribution information.

The selected configuration will maintain the number of NNDSB Trustees at 8, with total public supporters at 81,059 and the current ward distribution will be maintained as presented in the attached map.

Trustee Ward	Total Public Supporters	Electoral Quotient
Zone 1	39,040	3.853
Zone 2	10,991	1.085
Zone 3	10,151	1.002
Zone 4	10,661	1.052
Zone 5	10,261	1.008

Grand Total

Total Public Supporters - 81,059

Total Trustees - 8

Kind regards,

Gerri-Lyn Cicciarelli (she/her)

Executive Assistant to the Director of Education

Near North District School Board

963 Airport Road

North Bay, Ontario P1B 8H1

www.nearnorthschools.ca

Tel: (705) 472-8170, ext. 5028

Toll-free 1-800-278-4922



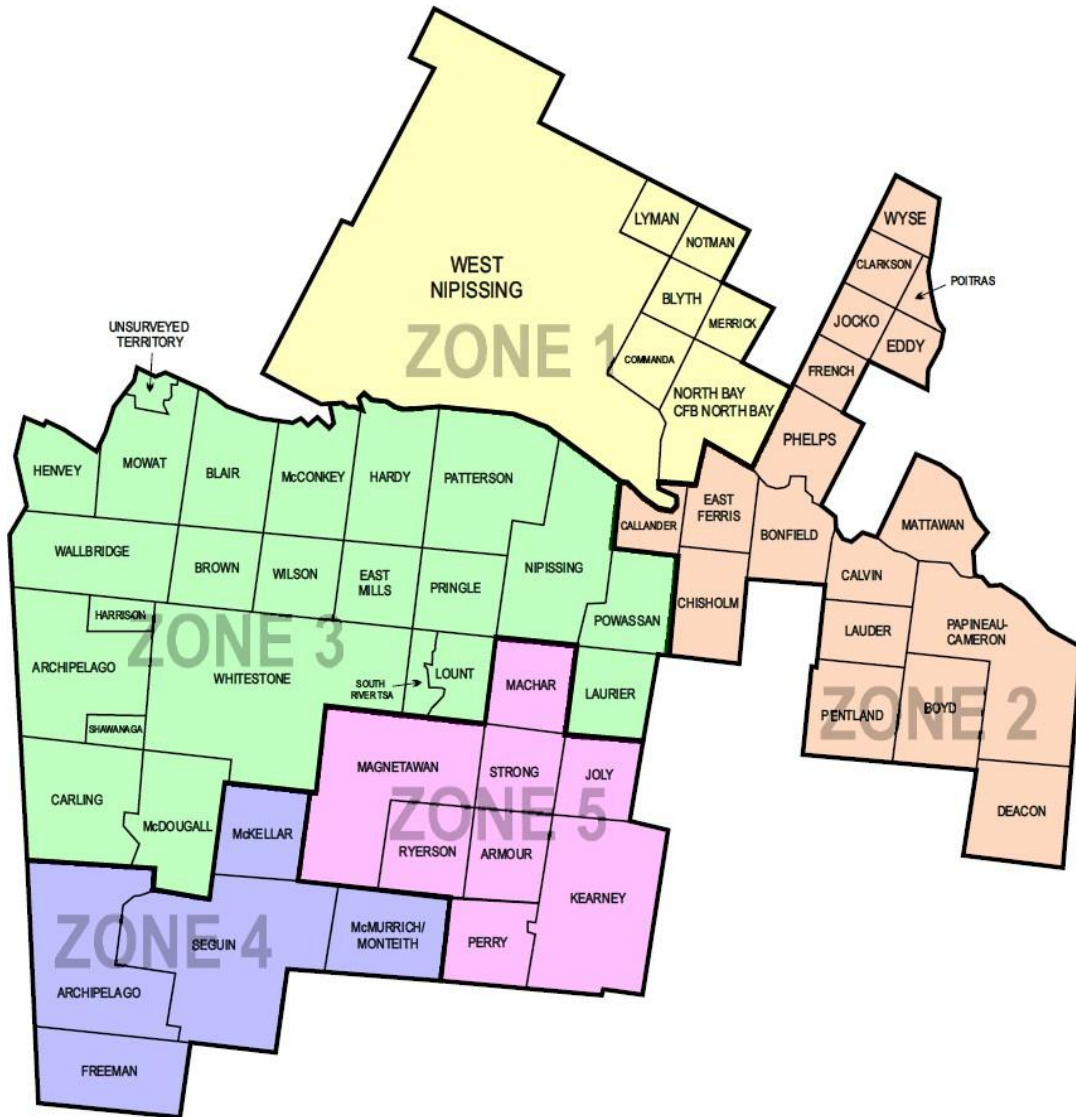
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This message was sent to you on behalf of the Near North District School Board, 963 Airport Road, North Bay, Ontario, P1C 1A5, www.nearnorthschools.ca. The Near North District School Board and its schools require your consent to send commercial electronic messages as outlined in Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL). You may withdraw your consent at any time, by replying to unsubscribe@nearnorthschools.ca. *Please be aware that if you choose to unsubscribe, you will not receive any email messages from the Near North District School Board or its schools.*

Near North District School Board – Electors Distribution - 2026

ZONE	MUNICIPALITIES	POPULATION	LEAD MUNICIPALITY
1	North Bay North Bay CFB West Nipissing Lyman Notman Blyth Merrick Commanda	32394 163 6360 64 21 0 5 33	North Bay (32394)
2	East Ferris Bonfield Calvin Mattawa Mattawan Wyse Poitras Jocko Eddy French Clarkson Phelps Papineau Boyd Pentland Callander Deacon Lauder Chisholm	2968 1373 403 1074 105 13 164 4 0 16 0 624 491 0 0 2771 1 32 952	East Ferris (2968)
3	Nipissing Lount South River TSA Laurier Patterson Pringle Hardy East Mills McConkey Wilson Unsurveyed Terr Henvey Mowat Blair Wallbridge Powassan McDougall Brown Harrison Shawanaga Whitestone Carling Archipelago N	1481 14 136 134 243 232 102 421 84 162 27 71 6 32 199 2291 2174 0 0 3 905 1117 317	Powassan (2291)
4	McKellar Geo Bay (Freeman) Seguin Parry Sound McMurrich Archipelago S	1214 531 3335 4526 743 312	Parry Sound (4526)
5	Machar South River Strong Sundridge Joly Burks Falls Armour Perry Magnetwan Ryerson Kearney	764 878 1247 774 254 727 1197 1802 1268 583 722	Perry (1802)

TRUSTEE DISTRIBUTION MAP 2022-2026



April 2, 2026

Terence Hubbard, President, Impact Assessment Agency
IAAC (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)
55 York Street, Suite 600
Toronto, ON
M5J 1R7 ontarioregion-regiondontario@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Re: TC Energy Ontario Pumped Storage Project

At its April 1, 2026 Council Meeting, the Township of Tiny Council ratified the following resolution regarding TC Energy Ontario Pumped Storage Project:

Moved by Councillor Sean Mskimins
Seconded by Councillor Dave Brunelle

WHEREAS the Township of Tiny recognizes the importance of developing reliable and sustainable energy infrastructure for the Province of Ontario and acknowledges that energy projects of this scale may have significant environmental, economic, and social implications for our region, particularly for Georgian Bay and surrounding ecosystems;

AND WHEREAS the proposed TC Energy Ontario Pumped Storage Project is located within the Municipality of Meaford, the Township of Tiny is committed to ensuring that the interests of our residents and the health of Georgian Bay are fully considered;

AND WHEREAS the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has twice recommended to the Ministry of Energy (MOE) that this Pumped Storage project would not reduce electricity costs and have no economic value to Ontario ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS the IESO has authorized newer, more efficient and less environmentally invasive technologies such as Long-Duration Battery Storage, as they not only take less property and time to build, they can be built at more locations closer to high demand markets, reducing the need for long transmission corridors;

AND WHEREAS the Department of Defence has warned of toxic contamination of Georgian Bay when soil on 4th Canadian Division Training Centres is disturbed by construction;

AND WHEREAS some 30 endangered species will be put at risk should the project proceed;

AND WHEREAS the Niagara escarpment is a UNESCO designated geological formation deserving of protection;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Tiny Council emphasizes the following principles:

1. Environmental Stewardship: The Township of Tiny is deeply concerned about potential irreversible impacts on aquatic ecosystems, water quality, and species at risk in Georgian Bay. Any project of this magnitude must meet the highest standards of environmental assessment and protection.
2. Transparent Governance and Consultation: We call for full transparency in the project approval process, including open communication with neighbouring municipalities and local stakeholders. Public consultation and meaningful engagement with communities in the Georgian Bay region are essential.
3. Regional Collaboration: The Township of Tiny encourages collaboration between municipalities, provincial authorities, and Indigenous partners to ensure that any energy project reflects regional priorities, including environmental protection, economic sustainability, and community well-being.
4. Precautionary Approach Given the uncertainties and potential ecological risks, the Township of Tiny advocates for a precautionary approach. We support comprehensive independent studies and a thorough review process before any approvals or construction activities proceed.

AND THAT Council reaffirms its commitment to representing the interests of our residents and protecting the natural heritage of Georgian Bay, and stands ready to engage constructively with TC Energy, the Municipality of Meaford, the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and provincial authorities to ensure that energy development in our region proceeds responsibly and sustainably;

AND THAT Council requests that the IAAC requires a full Comprehensive Environmental Assessment in a radius of 100 kms of Georgian Bay and release these findings to the public prior to issuing any decision on TC Energy's Pumped Storage project;

AND THAT Council further requests that the IAAC fully implements a Coastal Engineering study involving a coupled. High fidelity numerical modeling combined with physical lab testing (wave flumes) and long-term, high-resolution field data monitoring for a radius of 100kms of the shoreline;

AND THAT that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, IAAC (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada), the IESO, DND, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans, Simcoe North Member of Parliament, Simcoe North Member of Provincial Parliament, Canadian Coast Guard, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding;

AND THAT, due to the urgent and time sensitive nature, this request is filed prior to the public comment period from the IAAC of April 06, 2026;

AND THAT the correspondence from the SSEA dated September 9, 2025 regarding the TC Energy Pumped Storage Proposal be included in the submission;

AND THAT Council read and pass this motion on April 01, 2026.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TINY



Sarah Cathcart
Deputy Clerk

Copy to:

- IAAC (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada), the
- IESO,
- Ministry of the Environment,
- Conservation and Parks,
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry,
- Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans,
- Simcoe North Member of Parliament,
- Simcoe North Member of Provincial Parliament,
- Canadian Coast Guard,
- Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and the
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Concerns Regarding TC Energy's Proposed Pumped Storage Project at Meaford (IAAC Deadline April 6)

From Pasq Zita <pasqzita@224211350.mailchimpapp.com>

Date Wed 2026-04-01 16:12

To Alana Torresan <atorresan@thearchipelago.ca>

You don't often get email from pasqzita@224211350.mailchimpapp.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[View this email in your browser](#)



Concerns Regarding TC Energy's Proposed Pumped Storage Project at Meaford (IAAC Deadline April 6)

Dear Mayor, Councillor, and Municipal Staff,

TC Energy's Proposed 1,000 MW Pumped Storage Project

at Military Base Meaford (4CDTC)

Will Harm Georgian Bay

Project Risk Overview

A briefing for municipal leaders, ratepayers, and residents

Prepared by the Save Georgian Bay Association

Purpose of This Briefing

This briefing is intended to inform residents, municipal leaders, and ratepayers about key concerns associated with **TC Energy’s proposed pumped storage project at Meaford**, and to encourage **informed submissions** to the **Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)**.

This brief provides a **plain-language summary of unresolved risks, omissions, and questions** arising from TC Energy’s Initial Project Description (IPD), based on publicly available information and expert review. Readers are encouraged to submit comments to the IAAC addressing the issues most relevant to their **community** and the interests of Ontario ratepayers.

Context and Project Overview

Seven municipalities around Georgian Bay have passed **Resolutions** opposing TC Energy’s proposal or demanding independent studies before the project advances. These include:

- Township of The Archipelago
- Town of The Blue Mountains
- Tiny Township
- Killarney
- Parry Sound
- Township of Georgian Bay
- Municipality of McDougall

Save Georgian Bay is issuing this briefing for municipal leaders and residents who may not yet be familiar with the scale and risks of this project, and to clarify what is at stake if it proceeds.

Save Georgian Bay believes that **all municipalities around Georgian Bay should have a voice** in decisions about this project — not only Meaford Council.

We are asking you to submit comments to the IAAC outlining how the project would adversely affect your community, and the **ratepayers and residents of Ontario**, and to support a determination that the project should not proceed, or alternatively that it be required to undergo **comprehensive, independent environmental studies**.

Summary: Project Background and Core Risks

TC Energy Corporation, formerly known as TransCanada Pipeline, proposes to build a **1,000-megawatt (MW) open-loop pumped storage hydroelectric facility**, known as the **Ontario Pumped Storage Project (PSP)**, on the shore of Georgian Bay near Cape Rich.

The proposed site is on **Department of National Defence land** at the **4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4CDTC)** in Meaford, Ontario.

The project would require:

- Excavating a **400-acre reservoir** into the Niagara Escarpment
- Removing approximately **75 million tonnes of earth**, which would require **approximately 3.75 million truckloads**, assuming 20-ton trucks, moving through surrounding communities; **or about 30,000 barge trips** (dump scows or hoppers) traversing Georgian Bay to transport and manage the excavated material
- Drilling massive tunnels into Georgian Bay, forming a **1.5-kilometre ring of twenty-four 10-metre-diameter intakes**
- Constructing up to **80 kilometres of high-tension transmission lines**, either overland or underwater
- Demolishing and replacing **24 existing military facilities**
- Constructing a concrete plant and construction staging areas adjacent to the base

The **Initial Project Description (IPD)** submitted by TC Energy is a **252-page document** that advances the project into the initial phase of the federal impact assessment process. This is a critical moment when the IAAC must decide whether to **reject the project, approve it, or require a full federal Impact Assessment**.

Public submissions from municipalities and residents are essential to protect Georgian Bay and Ontario ratepayers.

Key Areas of Concern

- Project costs have increased **more than threefold**, from approximately **\$2.2 billion in 2020** to **\$7.3 billion by 2024**, with additional major costs still undefined
- No current cost estimate is disclosed in the IPD
- Independent experts estimate the final cost could **exceed \$10 billion**, borne by Ontario ratepayers
- The project is being advanced with a **\$285 million provincial grant** for pre-development work

The project was previously rejected by the Independent **Electricity System Operator (IESO)** for failing to demonstrate net value for ratepayers.

2. Contamination Risk at Cape Rich and an Active Military Base

The proposed site is part of an **active military training facility** used for live-fire exercises since World War II.

For more than **eight decades**, land and water sediments at and near the base have been contaminated by military materials and weapons residues. The IPD does **not identify cleanup costs or responsibility** for remediation. Large-scale excavation would occur **at the top of the watershed**. When soils are disturbed at this elevation, contaminants can migrate downslope and enter Georgian Bay — a shared drinking-water source for surrounding communities.

3. Water Quality and Fish Habitat

Each day, the project would draw **26 million cubic metres of water** — and the fish within it — from Georgian Bay into the reservoir and discharge it back through turbines. This process causes **entrainment**, meaning fish kill.

A comparable open-loop pumped storage facility in **Ludington, Michigan**, reportedly kills **over 100 million fish annually**.

The intake zone proposed off Cape Rich overlaps known **spawning habitat for Lake Whitefish and Lake Trout**, species already experiencing severe population decline in southern Georgian Bay.

4. Species at Risk

The 4CDTC lands support habitats for **33 COSEWIC-listed Species at Risk**, including:

- Butternut tree
- Eastern meadowlark
- Eastern whip-poor-will
- Massasauga rattlesnake
- Western chorus frog
- Tri-coloured bat

Under the **federal Species at Risk Act (SARA)**, such habitat on federal land is legally protected from destruction.

5. Transmission Lines and Piecemealing

TC Energy has not disclosed the route, design, or construction method for required high-tension transmission lines.

Options include extensive overland corridors affecting farmland and private property, or underwater routes through Georgian Bay. Communities potentially affected include **Epping, Rocklyn, Heathcote, Ravenna, Duntroon, Wasaga Beach, Stayner, Angus, Essa**, and surrounding areas.

The IPD excludes transmission corridors, base reconfiguration, and off-site construction staging areas, effectively **piecemealing the project** to minimize the apparent scale of impacts.

6. Dam Safety

The project proposes a **4.5-kilometre-long ring dam** holding **26 million cubic metres of water**, located **174 metres above Georgian Bay**.

Approximately **10% of Meaford's population** lives downhill from the proposed reservoir. The IPD contains **no dam safety analysis**, and the terms dam failure, flooding, or inundation do not appear anywhere in the document.

Our Request

Save Georgian Bay urges municipal leaders, residents, and elected officials to submit comments to the IAAC no later than:

Monday, April 6, 2026.

We respectfully ask the IAAC to:

- Require a **full federal Impact Assessment**
- Assess all project components as **one integrated project**
- Ensure independent, transparent studies before any advancement

Submission links are available here:

<https://savegeorgianbay.ca/iaac-brief-links/>

Full briefing background and analysis:

[Download Public Issue Brief & IAAC Submission Guide \(PDF\)](#).

What follows

The sections below provide additional background and detail for councillors, staff, and residents who wish to review the supporting information before making or finalizing a submission. Readers who have sufficient information above may proceed directly to submitting comments to the IAAC.

Detailed Background and Risks

(Supporting information – optional reading)

Cost

TC Energy's publicly stated cost estimates for the sole-source project proposal grew from **\$1.9 billion in 2018** to **\$7.3 billion between 2019 and 2024**. There is **no current cost estimate** disclosed in the Initial Project Description, despite the scale of the proposed works.

Independent hydro-project experts advising Save Georgian Bay estimate the final cost will exceed **\$10 billion**, with costs borne by **Ontario ratepayers** through electricity rates and public funding for decades to come.

The project is being advanced with an unprecedented **\$285 million provincial grant** to TC Energy for pre-development work, despite the **Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)** previously determining that the project did not provide net benefits to Ontario's electricity system or its ratepayers.

Water

The project proposes constructing a dam to retain approximately **26 million cubic metres (26 billion litres) of water** for daily operation. That volume exceeds **2.5 times the total amount of water used daily by all Canadian households**.

Each day, the reservoir would be filled and drained, sending water down the Niagara Escarpment and into Georgian Bay. The long-term impacts of repeatedly moving this volume of water through the Bay remain unknown, particularly given the construction of **twenty-four intake structures**, each **ten metres in diameter**, arranged in a **1.5-kilometre ring**.

Fish Kill and Fisheries

According to experts consulted by Save Georgian Bay, the proposed intake and discharge systems are located within a unique transition zone of Georgian Bay characterized by submerged shale terraces known as the **Cape Rich Steps**.

These rocky shoals provide critical spawning habitat for **Lake Whitefish and Lake Trout**, species that rely on clean, silt-free substrates to oxygenate eggs throughout the winter. Lake Whitefish populations in southern Georgian Bay are already experiencing a documented **recruitment crisis**.

Juvenile sturgeon are also present in the area. The project's intake system would cause **entrainment**, drawing fish into turbines and resulting in mortality. A similar open-loop pumped storage facility in **Ludington, Michigan**, reportedly kills over **100 million fish annually**.

The installation of vertical inlet and outlet diffusers may also create physical conflicts

with recreational and commercial fisheries.

Species at Risk

Over the past 20 years, surveys have identified 33 COSEWIC-listed Species at Risk at or near the 4CDTC site, including:

- 11 endangered species
- 9 threatened species
- 13 of special concern

Documented habitats include those of the **Butternut tree**, **Eastern Meadowlark**, **Eastern Whip-poor-will**, **Massasauga rattlesnake**, and **Western Chorus Frog**, as well as bat colonies inhabiting older forest tracts.

Under **Section 58 of the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA)**, critical habitat on federal land is legally protected from destruction. The Initial Project Description does not demonstrate how this protection would be achieved.

Transmission Lines

TC Energy has not definitively stated the routing, design, or construction method for the high-tension transmission lines required to support the project.

Options include:

- Overland high-tension lines extending up to 80 kilometres, crossing farmland, private property, and protected Niagara Escarpment lands
- Submerged transmission lines across Georgian Bay from 4CDTC to Wasaga Beach, followed by overland routing to Stayner

Either option would affect thousands of acres and multiple communities, including **Epping, Rocklyn, Heathcote, Ravenna, Duntroon, Wasaga Beach, Stayner, Angus, and Essa**. By withholding route details, affected municipalities are denied meaningful opportunity to comment.

Piecemealing and Cumulative Effects

Save Georgian Bay has obtained a legal opinion indicating that TC Energy appears to be piecemealing the project description to minimize perceived impacts.

The Initial Project Description does not fully account for:

- Reconstruction and relocation of military facilities
- Transmission corridors
- Off-site construction staging areas, concrete plants, and access routes

These elements are **functionally interdependent** and must be assessed as **one integrated project** to evaluate cumulative environmental and social impacts.

Without a holistic assessment, the **aggravated migration of contaminants** — including metals and energetic materials from disturbed soils — could occur across a far wider geographic area than currently disclosed.

The IPD also fails to describe how excavated materials will be transported, disposed of, or remediated.

Alternative Energy Storage Options

TC Energy describes the project as renewable energy. In reality, it is a **large-scale energy storage facility**, not a generation facility.

The system would require approximately **1,400 MW of electricity** to pump water uphill and return only **1,000 MW** to the grid. More efficient energy-storage technologies, particularly battery storage systems, have seen cost reductions of approximately **93% since 2010**.

According to **Bloomberg NEF's 2025 Lithium-Ion Battery Price Survey**, stationary storage battery pack prices dropped to **\$70 per kilowatt-hour in 2025**, a 45% reduction from 2024. Since 2023, the IESO has contracted for **3,000 MW** of alternative storage solutions.

The IPD provides **no cost-per-MWh comparison** between its proposed design and battery storage alternatives — a significant omission for a project of this scale.

Dam Safety

The proposed **4.5-kilometre ring dam** would retain **26 million cubic metres of**

water, 174 metres above Georgian Bay. Residential properties lie within **500 metres** of project components.

Approximately **10% of Meaford's population** lives downhill of the proposed reservoir. The Initial Project Description contains **no dam safety analysis**, and the terms dam safety, dam failure, failure scenario, or inundation do not appear anywhere in the document.

Given the fractured bedrock of the Niagara Escarpment and known karst formations, this omission presents a serious public-safety concern.

Politics

The project is being advanced within a political and lobbying environment in which **TC Energy's primary lobbyists have well-established professional connections to Ontario's current political leadership.**

TC Energy retains **Rubicon Strategy** and **Sussex Strategy Group** as its principal government-relations firms. Rubicon Strategy is led by **Kory Teneycke**, who previously served as **Premier Doug Ford's campaign manager.**

Ontario's Minister of Energy, **Todd Smith**, is supported by a Chief of Staff, **David Donovan**, who joined the Minister's office from **Sussex Strategy Group**, whose senior executives, **Chris Benedetti** and **Paul Pellegrini**, are longtime political strategists with extensive involvement in Ontario provincial politics.

While no impropriety is alleged, these overlapping professional relationships underscore the importance of **transparent, arm's-length decision-making** and a **rigorous, independent assessment process** for a project of this scale and public consequence.

Support and Municipal Resolutions

Multiple municipalities around Georgian Bay have passed resolutions opposing the project or calling for independent studies before it advances, citing concerns related to cost, environmental risk, and the lack of demonstrated public benefit.

These municipalities include:

- Township of The Archipelago

- Town of The Blue Mountains
- Tiny Township
- Township of Georgian Bay
- Municipality of McDougall
- Killarney
- Parry Sound

These resolutions reflect growing concern that advancing the project without comprehensive and independent assessment would expose ratepayers, residents, ecosystems, and public trust to unacceptable risk.

Public Comment Deadline

The IAAC public comment period closes Monday, April 6, 2026.

Submissions can be made here:

<https://savegeorgianbay.ca/iaac-brief-links/>

Full briefing background and analysis:

[Download Public Issue Brief & IAAC Submission Guide \(PDF\)](#).

Sincerely,

Save Georgian Bay Association

SaveGeorgianBay.ca

tbuck@savegeorgianbay.ca

pat@savegeorgianbay.ca

For more information visit our web site: savegeorgianbay.ca

Save Georgian Bay is the recipient of Ontario Nature's 2024 Corporate Award for Conservation.



Join us! Go to our website at savegeorgianbay.ca and sign our petition, volunteer, or donate. **Help spread the word!** Visit us on social media - *like, comment and share!*

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Sound science on water levels, water quality, wetlands and aquatic invasive species.

March 30, 2026, 42 Chelsea Lane, King City ON L7B1E6

To Prime Minister Mark Carney,

There is an ecological and economic disaster unfolding on Georgian Bay due to the declining water levels. Now on a downward cycle the levels declined 1 foot last fall and are now declining another foot by spring. Worse ECCC did not consider St. Clair River conveyance increase during their own climate change impacts on Great Lakes water levels despite \$\$\$M research. Yet another new record low is very likely to be set by 2030. **This will result in:**

1. During the most recent record low in 2013 ships had to “**light load**” at about ½ load through the “rock cut” south of the St. Mary’s River locks. ECCC’s predictions show a meter below the 2013 record low by 2030 so it is likely ships will not be able to transit through the middle Great Lakes. This could shut down shipping for US and Canadian ships that move goods from Thunder Bay and Diluth to Montreal impacting our economy.
2. In 2013 with deteriorating water quality along shorelines with toxic blue green algal blooms such that the ON Min. of Health issued “advisories” telling shoreline property owners that the water is not safe for any use and to stay away from the water – this includes pets. Local municipalities delivered bottled water but most left their cottages. They could not sell their cottages and property values declined impacting local municipalities.
3. Waterfowl will be able again to access the invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels contaminated with botulism. Local municipalities will again have to bring in staff on the extensive beach areas west of Midland. Staff will again wear hazmat outflits to remove the dead waterfowl using front end loaders and dump trucks. The contaminated dead large birds including loons have to be buried so that no wildlife can eat them.
4. The boating channel for water access only properties will again be unsafe for most powered boats including US and Canadian large cruiser boats. That will impact the local economy for towns like Midland, Penetang, Honey Harbour, Parry Sound, Little Current etc.
5. Marinas will again have to dredge at great costs with again Transport Canada \$\$\$M funding support.
6. The highest quality, most extensive, most diverse wetlands in all the Great Lakes are scattered on glacial till sediments among the complex 30,000 granite islands and shorelines. The wetlands will again dry up due to the impendeing low water low. This will again impact the nursery habitat for fish, turtles, frogs and snakes. Many are Species At Risk. (McMaster U’s Prof Pat Chow-Fraser.)
7. The recreational fishery including local competitions will decline.
8. It may already be too late to prevent this impending disaster but at least we should try.

There is a solution to preventing this from disaster happening again. It is to respond to the IJC’s 2013 “Advice to Governments”:

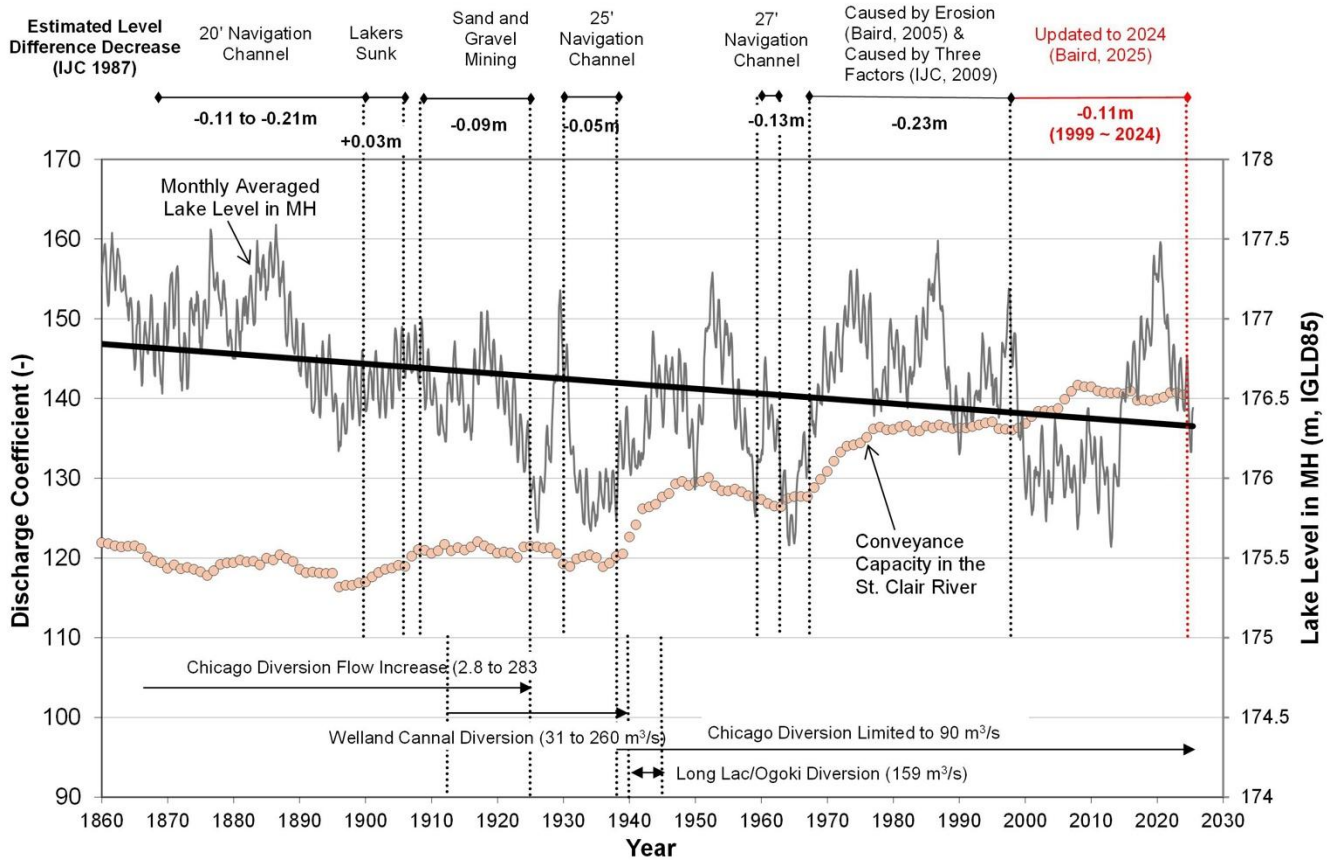
The Commission recommends that the Governments undertake further investigation of structural options to restore water levels in Lake Michigan-Huron by 13 to 25 cm (about 5 to 10 in)....etc.

When the Seaway was designed locks and control gates were designed for all the Great Lakes connecting channels. But they were not built for the St. Clair River – the outflow control for the middle Great Lakes including the “Crown Jewel” Georgian Bay.

Sound science on water levels, water quality, wetlands and aquatic invasive species.

The St. Clair River has a 160 year history of dredging for navigation with no compensation for the permanent lowering of the lake levels upstream. **In total 30 M cu.m. of sand, clay and gravel sediments have been removed and compensation structures designed twice but were never installed.** The time to act to address this is now. Each year ice jams develop in the St Clair River, the riverbed erodes and the USACE dredge to remove the sediments where they accumulate downstream. The outflow was dredged to 30 feet in the early 1960's but in 2002 the USACE reported that the channel was now 50 feet deep and in places over 70 feet deep. When will this end?

The Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation applied two years in a row for \$2M of the \$30M Federal funds approved for Great Lakes research. Both times our application was rejected. In conversations with senior ECCC staff it is now clear to us that they simply do not have enough knowledge and or experience to understand the complex need to respond to the IJC's 2013 Advice to Governments. Recent work (funded by GBGLF) by the internationally respected coastal consulting engineering firm based in Ottawa and Oakville Ontario, W.F. Baird and Associates, not only determined that the conveyance capacity of the St. Clair River has continued to increase but also that the USACE bathymetric data is flawed and cannot be used and that the US Geological Survey St Clair Rver flow data are incorrect and reports flows that are 2,000 cu/m/sec higher than they actually are. These numbers are used by both Canada and the US government agencies and the IJC. Canada needs to correct the USACE and USGS flawed data.



This study is funded by the Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation



Baird.
Innovation Engineered.



Sound science on water levels, water quality, wetlands and aquatic invasive species.

Given that President Trump thinks he can put a “spigot” in Lake Michigan that could further lower the levels, there could not be a better time for Canada to step up and develop a response to the IJC’s 2013 Advice to Governments. The Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation has the experts to be able to undertake this research and develop a model to show the possible benefits of the submerged foil wings designed by our hydraulic control engineer that would not interfere with shipping or fish habitat... if the government of Canada provides GBGLF with the needed \$2M funding.

Thank you for your consideration. Mary Muter, Chair, Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation

Mary Muter

mary@georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com 905 833 2020. Cell 416 407 5800

From: Pat Maloney
Sent: March 28, 2026 3:38 PM
To: Bert Liverance - Reeve <bliverance@thearchipelago.ca>
Subject: FW: TCE's Pumped Storage Project

Township of the Archipelago
Attn: Bert Liverance, Reeve:
Subject: TCE's Pumped Storage Project

I hope all goes well with you and your family.

I am sending this email to provide you with information with regards to the IAAC. As you know I am opposed to the project, but this is not the purpose of this email.

You are likely aware the TC Energy Pumped Storage Proposal (PSP) is now under the IAAC. Note the IAAC Initial Project Description (IPD) summary attached

Until April 6th, 2026 council as well as individuals can submit comments to the IAAC and voice your concerns. I have attached a few of my submissions so you can see the format and make your own submissions. Also, alternative energy storage systems can also be presented that need to be assessed and not ignored. One attachment "Modern Batter Technologies" reflects some solid research by a well versed PhD. I also submitted the "IAAC March 21, 2026, Can we Trust": you can review that but it is way more info than necessary. The Cement plant, Transmission Line and Costs submissions are better examples of short and to the point: what is the concern, why it is a concern and request for IAAC attention. Answers are not needed at this time...just concerns.

The entire IPD does not address any challenges that TCE put forward: for an engineering report it is a joke as you will see. Our group's biggest concern is that TCE will likely try to "piecemeal" certain proponents and try to get them assessed separately: transmission lines, Cement plant, environment issues, etc. that all MUST be included in this IAAC #89203 investigation.

If I can assist in any way to help identify concerns that the Archipelago may have with regards to this project, I would be happy to help. Also, call me anytime!

Stay Healthy! Thank you for your service to the Archipelago and all of Georgian Bay!

Pat Maloney

Overview Regarding TCE's Pumped Storage Project

Comment to IAAC: Pumped Storage: Construction Costs Are Excessive

The original anticipated budget was in the \$3-\$4 billion. At this time the IESO rejected the project as the costs would provide no value to Ontario's rate/taxpayers. Estimates in 2025 now exceed \$7 billion. The impact of this expensive energy storage option as acknowledged by IESO is unacceptable to Ontario rate/taxpayers and must be investigated. \$7+ billion would have a positive impact on modernizing and improving the fragile grid rather than one remote massive archaic Pumped Storage Plant. Other way less energy storage options exist NOW.

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

Initial Project Description – Plain Language Summary

February 24, 2026

Prepared for:
TransCanada Energy Ltd.

Prepared by:
Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Project Number:
123515349

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Acronyms/Abbreviations

4 CDTC	4th Canadian Division Training Centre
Class EA	Class Environmental Assessment
CO ₂ e	carbon dioxide equivalent
DND	Department of National Defence
GHG	greenhouse gas
ha	hectare
Hydro One	Hydro One Networks Inc.
IA	Impact Assessment
IAA	<i>Impact Assessment Act</i>
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
IESO	Independent Electricity System Operator
IPD	Initial Project Description
km	kilometre
kV	kilovolt
m	metre
m ³	cubic metre
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt-hour
PTG	pump turbine generator
SAR	Species at Risk
TC Energy	TransCanada Energy Ltd.
UXO	unexploded ordnance

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

1 Introduction

February 24, 2026

1 Introduction

TransCanada Energy Ltd. (TC Energy) plans to build and operate a pumped hydroelectric storage facility (the Project) on the 4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4 CDTC), near Meaford Ontario. The proposed Project, called the Ontario Pumped Storage Project, will act as a very large naturally powered battery, capable of storing up to 10,600 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity. The Project will operate by pumping water from Georgian Bay to a Reservoir located approximately 174 metres (m) above the water surface, storing the water as potential energy. When needed, water in the Reservoir will then be released back down to Georgian Bay, passing through pump turbine generators (PTG) units, to generate electricity.

This document is the plain-language summary of the Ontario Pumped Storage Project Initial Project Description (IPD) and has been prepared based on the *Physical Activities Regulations* and the information requirements outlined in the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulation*.

1.1 Proponent Information

TC Energy, a part of TC Energy Corporation, is a Canadian energy company based out of Calgary, Alberta. TC Energy has been operating for over 70 years and has a large network of power generation and natural gas pipelines across North America. It is envisioned, subject to a future agreement, that TC Energy will enter a commercial partnership with Saugeen Ojibway Nation. While a partnership has not been reached at the time of the preparation of this document, TC Energy has consistently collaborated with Saugeen Ojibway Nation in the planning of the Project and has committed to not construct the Project without Saugeen Ojibway Nation's support.

1.2 Project Location

The proposed Project location is within the traditional territory of Saugeen Ojibway Nation (Saugeen First Nation and the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation) and is in Grey County, Ontario. The Project is expected to be predominately located on federally owned lands managed by Department of National Defence (DND) and occupied by 4 CDTC, which is found along the southern shores of Georgian Bay, east of Owen Sound and north of Meaford's downtown (Figure 1-1). Access to portions of 4 CDTC is restricted, and the surrounding waters are located within a Military Practice Area.

At 4 CDTC, the proposed Project is expected to be situated adjacent to the 4 CDTC Garrison, which includes administrative and maintenance buildings, classrooms, support services (including a daycare), and temporary and permanent accommodation facilities. There are also residential properties adjacent to 4 CDTC, some of which would be located less than 500 m from Project components.

2 Project Purpose, Need, and Benefits

2.1 Project Purpose and Rationale

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has forecasted that by 2050 the overall demand for electricity will expand by 65% relative to 2026 demand (IESO 2025). To address the growing demand, the IESO anticipates that by 2035, additional generation and peaking capacity will be needed from a mix of supply sources (IESO 2022a), along with increased energy storage capacity (IESO 2022b). Without this storage capacity, electricity would be exported to adjacent markets (typically at an economic loss) or generation would be curtailed and, therefore, wasted. To address the supply shortfall, the then Minister of Energy (now Minister of Energy and Mines) directed the IESO to undertake a variety of procurement programs to seek both new generation and storage capacity over the short, medium, and long terms (Executive Council of Ontario 2022).

TC Energy has identified an opportunity to participate in the development of incremental storage with the Minister of Energy and Mines and is seeking to advance a grid-scale energy storage solution (i.e., the Project) to help meet the future needs of the Ontario electrical system. The Project presents a unique and sustainable energy storage solution to address this existing and growing issue regarding the imbalances in the production and use of electricity in Ontario. Specifically, there are times when Ontario's electrical system produces more power than it can consume, resulting in wasted electricity and economic loss. This surplus electricity is predominantly from non-emitting intermittent renewable energy sources and nuclear energy generated at times of low demand (e.g., nights and weekends). Without system capability to store this surplus generation, electricity is either exported to adjacent markets (typically at an economic loss) or generation is curtailed and therefore wasted. The Project seeks to address the electricity load demand in southern Ontario, specifically southwestern Ontario (areas west of Lake Simcoe) and close to the Greater Toronto Area where demand for electricity in Ontario is the greatest.

The Project intends to fulfill a portion of demand during Ontario's peak energy periods, which typically last longer than 4 hours and usually occur in the evening hours (IESO 2023). This makes a longer duration storage solution more appropriate. The need for long duration energy storage is also anticipated to increase over time as the percentage of electricity in Ontario increasingly comes from nuclear and non-emitting energy generation sources as there are inherent fluctuations in output associated with these sources.

Given the storage needs identified by IESO (2022b), a larger capacity storage solution is desirable, but is also more challenging to locate, as it requires access to the appropriately sized electrical system infrastructure and appropriately sized site. As a long duration energy storage facility, the Project would also help address the supply shortfall identified by the Minister of Energy and Mines by providing power load management and frequency regulation, building

Ontario Pumped Storage Project
2 Project Purpose, Need, and Benefits
February 24, 2026

resilience and adaptability into the electrical system. The need for the Project is also supported by the Ontario Government, who announced in January 2025 an up to \$285 million investment to advance pre-development work.

2.2 Project Benefits

In addition to addressing the supply shortfall in generation and peaking capacity by providing a long duration energy storage facility (discussed in Section 2.1), the Project would build resilience and adaptability into the Ontario electrical system by providing flexible storage and supply. Traditional energy generation in Ontario comes from a mix of sources, including nuclear, hydroelectric, natural gas, and renewable (i.e., solar and wind) sources. However, many of these traditional energy generation facilities do not have the ability to efficiently regulate output. Renewable energy generation alternatives (i.e., solar and wind) provide intermittent capacity and are dependent on ambient conditions. The Project would build adaptability into the system by capturing and storing excess energy during low demand and times of excess generation, then dispatching it back to the Ontario electrical system during periods of demand.

The Project also builds resiliency into Ontario’s electrical system as a dependable resource that can be called upon to respond quickly to changing system conditions – generating power in the event of an unforeseen outage or absorbing excess electricity as a result of an unforeseen demand reduction, provided there is capacity). Start-up time for the Project is estimated to be under five minutes to reach full generation capacity. During a power interruption or black-out, the Project could be an important resource to assist in restoring the electrical system by providing power to the system almost instantaneously. What is more, in comparison to other grid-scale energy storage options, pumped storage has a lower environmental footprint over its lifecycle (Simon et al., 2023).

The Project would support the Government of Canada’s and Government of Ontario’s efforts to achieve sustainability goals/targets and combat climate change by providing an economically responsible and low emissions storage solution using proven technology to build resiliency and adaptability into Ontario’s existing and future electricity system. In 2021, the Government of Canada committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 in the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*. This Act established Canada’s 2030 GHG emissions target at 40% to 45% below 2005 levels, with an interim objective of 20% below 2005 levels by 2026. Based on the most recent projections reported in the 2023 Progress Report, Canada is on track to exceed the previous 30% target below 2005 levels by 2030 and 20% emissions reductions below 2005 levels by 2026. In accordance with the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, the Government of Canada is required to set progressively more ambitious GHG emissions targets for 2035, 2040 and 2045. To meet these targets, additional emissions reductions are needed (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2023).

Ontario Pumped Storage Project 2 Project Purpose, Need, and Benefits

February 24, 2026

The Government of Ontario committed to an emissions reduction target of 30% below 2005 levels by 2030 (Government of Ontario 2023). In 2022, Ontario forecasted hitting its 2030 target by reducing emissions by an additional 12 million metric tonnes (to 143.7 million metric tonnes) from current projected levels (155.7 million metric tonnes) (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2023). It is estimated that the Project will reduce GHG emissions by an average of 490,000 tonnes per year based on current emissions levels, which is the equivalent to taking 150,000 cars¹ off Ontario's roads, thereby supporting the Government of Ontario's and the Government of Canada's net-zero targets (Navigant 2020).

With the support of Saugeen Ojibway Nation, the Project aims to establish a benchmark Indigenous partnership for pumped storage development in Canada. The partnership structure is intended to advance economic reconciliation and support Saugeen Ojibway Nation's self-determination, while also creating employment and economic opportunities for Saugeen Ojibway Nation members. Own-source revenue generated through the Project, including revenues, taxes, and associated funding flowing to Saugeen Ojibway Nation, will support the governments of both Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation.

In April 2024, the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis reported the economic and social benefits of the Project. Here are some highlights:

- The Project will generate roughly 41,000 jobs (direct and indirect), with 66% from full-time positions, and 1,700 construction jobs during the 4-year peak construction period.
- The Project will be built with Ontario supply chains. Of the total capital investment in the Project, 83% remains in Canada of which 92% stays in Ontario. More than 90% of the economic activity occurs in Ontario, with 30% of the total remaining in the local regions of Grey, Bruce, and Simcoe.
- The Project can help address affordability challenges with a third of the jobs created anticipated to be filled by those under 35. This demographic is the most likely to be facing housing affordability pressures. As most jobs created will be in skilled sectors with generally higher incomes, these jobs have the potential to improve the affordability of affected households. There is a projected \$450 million in social value contributions from the Project. This signifies a considerable improvement in regional well-being over the current levels experienced by Ontarians.

¹ Assuming a standard 2016 model sedan in Ontario driven 15,000 km/year. Vehicle Emission Comparison Tool v. 1-1-5, Natural Resources Canada, July 2016, <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/vehicle-emission-comparison-tool/18907>.

3 Project Description

It is expected that the Project will be made up of a variety of major components. Figure 3-1 illustrates the various components of the Project, Preliminary Project Boundary, and Preliminary Construction Zone. Figure 3-2 is a conceptual rendering of the Project that illustrates some of the key Project components in relation to the surrounding environment. Table 3-1 identifies the key Project components and sub-components along with their location relative to 4 CDTC. The design and specification of the Project and its components are ongoing and approximate, as engineering and field studies are being undertaken to confirm constructability, refine design, and improve efficiency, while seeking to reduce potential environmental effects of the Project.

Table 3-1: Key Project Components

Key Project Component	Description	Located on Federal Lands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservoir <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ring Dam ○ Upper Inlet/Outlet Structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Reservoir will be located close to Georgian Bay on top of the level plateau of the Niagara Escarpment and will hold approximately 26 million cubic metres (m³) of water • to create the Reservoir, a Ring Dam will be constructed that is approximately 4.5 kilometers (km) in length to encircle approximately 135 hectares (ha) of land • the slope and surfacing of the Ring Dam will be engineered for stability and to control surface water runoff related to the structure the Upper Inlet/Outlet Structure (refer to Figure 3-1) will be located within the Reservoir and will convey water into and out of the Reservoir • the Upper Inlet/Outlet structure will connect to two or more Headraces (i.e., tunnels or pipes that convey water between the Powerhouse and the Upper Inlet/Outlet structure) that will be outfitted with mechanisms to control the water being conveyed to and from the Powerhouse 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerhouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PTG units ○ Access Tunnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consists of a series of structures that will house the equipment necessary to pump water from Georgian Bay into the Reservoir and produce electricity when water is released back into Georgian Bay • proposing the use of four approximately 250 megawatt (MW) reversible PTGs that will be located within the Powerhouse • proposed as an underground chamber(s) with an access tunnel (illustrated on Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2) 	Yes

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Key Project Component	Description	Located on Federal Lands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Conveyance Structures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Headraces ○ Tailraces ○ Spillway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consists of Headraces and Tailraces (i.e., tunnels or pipes that convey water between the Lower Inlet/Outlet structure in Georgian Bay and the Powerhouse) • consideration of a contingency spillway system to provide a conveyance route for water from the Reservoir to Georgian Bay in the unlikely scenario where water levels in the Reservoir exceed normal operating parameter 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • connects to the Tailraces and will allow for the withdrawal and release of water into Georgian Bay • located on or below the lakebed and currently envisioned as an underground ring-type structure that will have multiple inlet/outlet ports located above the lakebed where water will be withdrawn and released • Inlet/outlet ports will be outfitted with screens and are envisioned to incorporate flow dispersion measures 	Partially
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switchyard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Electrical equipment ○ Control room ○ Offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interface between the Project and Ontario’s electrical system that will house electrical switches and equipment to control power import and export operations, including a control room that will interface with the Powerhouse • support offices and ancillary infrastructure (i.e., septic) will be located within or adjacent to the Switchyard 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access Roads ○ Potential Marine Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to facilitate construction and operational access to Project components, several roads and potential Marine Access may be required • a Marine Access, if needed, is an in-water structure to facilitate the movement of large components (e.g., PTG units) and bulk materials (e.g., engineered aggregates and excess soils) 	Partially
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Construction Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staging/storage yards ○ Potential accommodation facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to support construction of the Project, warehouses, laydown and staging/storage areas, and parking areas may be required 	Partially

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

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Key Project Component	Description	Located on Federal Lands
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transmission Connection²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a high-voltage (i.e., 230 kilovolt [kV] or 500 kV) transmission connection to the Ontario electrical system will be required	Partially

² A preferred connection point or route has not been determined as input from IESO and Hydro One will be required. A coordinated connection process will be undertaken by IESO, under the purview of the Ontario Energy Board, with support provided by TC Energy, Hydro One, and other electricity transmission and distribution companies, as required at this time. TC Energy's role in the transmission connection has not yet been determined; ultimate ownership and responsibility for construction and operation of the transmission connection will be determined as part of the IESO process.

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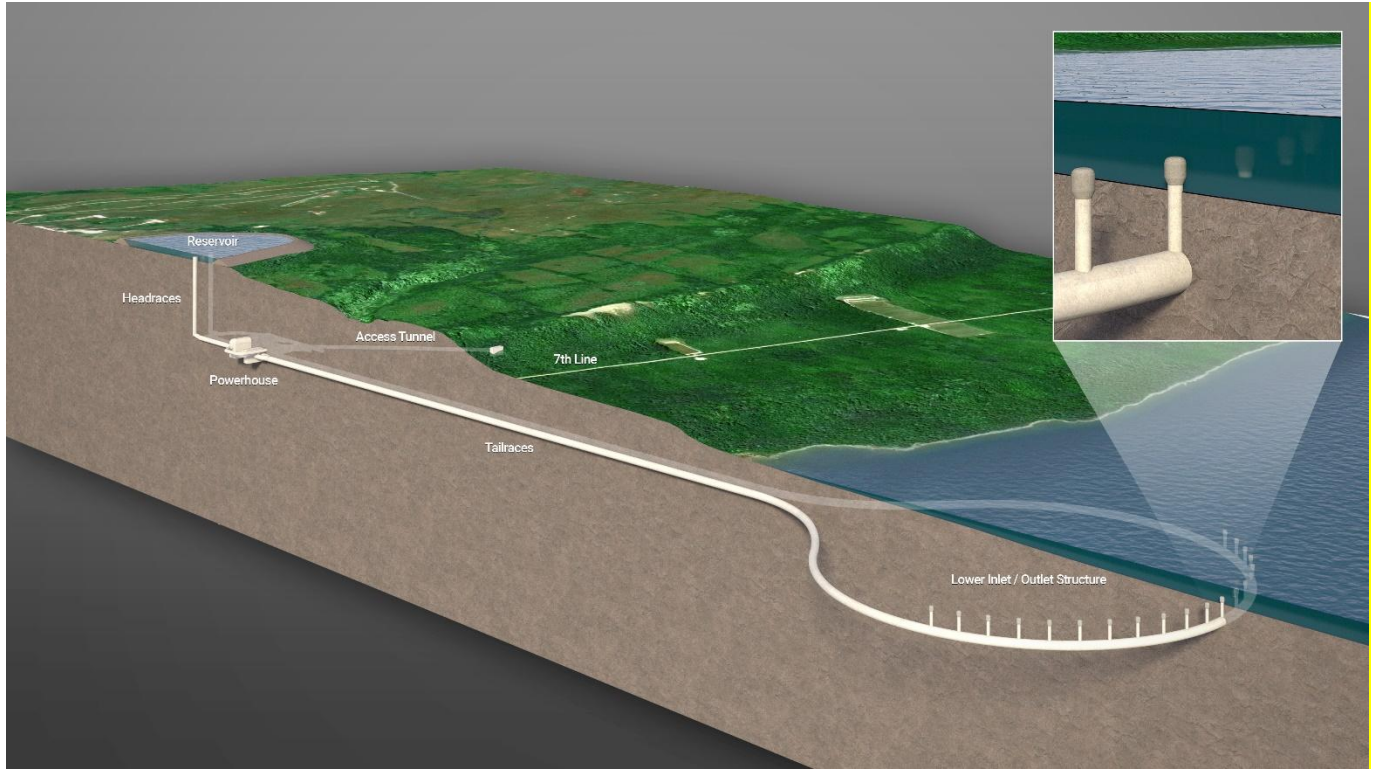
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Figure 3-2: Conceptual Rendering of Key Project Components



Note: This figure is not to scale.

4 Project Schedule

Table 4-1 provides a high-level overview of the anticipated Project phases and schedule.

Table 4-1: Project Phases and Preliminary Schedule

Project Phase / Activity	Date
Construction	2029 to 2035
Operations	2035 onwards

Once the Project is commissioned and ready to operate, it is envisioned that it could operate for the foreseeable future with proper maintenance and equipment upgrades.

If the Project ceases to operate, TC Energy, as the proponent, would be responsible for decommissioning and associated land reclamation. Decommissioning and land reclamation methods will be determined through engagement with applicable federal departments and provincial agencies, rightsholders, as well as DND as the end land user, and in accordance with applicable regulations as required at the time.

5 Project Activities

Table 5-1 describes the anticipated Project activities during each of the construction and operations phases. The sequencing of construction activities will continue to evolve as Project planning progresses; the order of activities listed below may be adjusted at the time of construction.

Table 5-1: Anticipated Project Activities during the Construction and Operations Phases

Phase	Project Activity
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decommissioning of DND infrastructure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site preparation, including clearing vegetation, grubbing and earthworks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockpiling of topsoil suitable for reclamation activities for areas impacted during construction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Access Roads and the potential Marine Access
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation of vertical shafts, drilling, blasting, and/or tunneling for the Water Conveyance Structures and Powerhouse
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure through several potential construction methods, including but not limited to, tunnel boring, in-water construction, other forms of drilling, and prefabrication
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of excavated materials for construction of the Ring Dam around the Reservoir
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate disposal of excess materials that are not suitable for construction or on-site use at a suitable receiving facility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of pumping and control equipment, including the PTG units, Headraces, Tailraces and the Upper Inlet Outlet Structure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the Switchyard and other site services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System commissioning
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressive reclamation of disturbed areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the transmission connection 	
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pumping, storing and releasing water within the Reservoir via a control room within the Switchyard
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine inspections, monitoring and maintenance activities

6 Regulatory Framework

6.1 Project Assessment

The Project is subject to the federal Impact Assessment (IA) process under *the Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) as a designated project under the Physical Activities Regulation. Components of the Project may also be subject to several Provincial Class Environmental Assessments (Class EAs) under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, including:

- Class EA for MNRF Resource Stewardship and Facility Development Projects
- Class EA for Transmission Facilities

In addition to the IA and Class EA requirements, various federal, provincial, and municipal permits and approvals will be required for the Project. An authorization to allow for construction and operation of the Project on federal lands will be sought under the *Dominion Water Power Act* from Indigenous Services Canada.

6.2 Regional or Strategic Assessments

The federal *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change – Revised October 2020* is applicable to the Project. Since operation of the Project is anticipated to continue beyond 2050, this Project will be expected to achieve net-zero emissions.

7 Project Alternatives

‘Alternatives to’ the Project are different technically and economically feasible ways to meet the need that the Project is expected to achieve (i.e., to address the increasing demand for storage capacity within Ontario’s electrical system— see Section 2.1). TC Energy has identified a business case to provide incremental energy storage to the Ontario electrical system and is proposing pumped storage as the preferred alternative (i.e., “alternative to”) at this location to achieve this goal.

“Alternative means” are the various technically and economically feasible ways that could allow a designated project and its physical activities to be carried out. TC Energy is currently considering alternative means of carrying out the following components of the Project:

- Project location
- Lower water source
- Spillway
- Reservoir design
- Location of Switchyard and Offices
- Project access road locations
- Potential Marine Access
- Transmission connections
- Other alternative means (e.g., construction methodologies, management of excavated materials and location of Temporary Construction Facilities)

8 Indigenous Engagement

As noted in Section 1.2, the proposed Project location is within the traditional territory of Saugeen Ojibway Nation. TC Energy recognizes the importance of early and meaningful engagement with Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups that could be affected by the Project. TC Energy strives to establish and maintain mutually respectful relationships with Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups by fostering productive dialogue and exchange of information.

8.1 Engagement with Indigenous Rights-holders and Indigenous Groups

TC Energy identified potentially affected Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups based on the location of the Project within asserted traditional territories, established treaty areas and settlement areas, TC Energy’s own operating experience and established network of contacts, and based on the advice of the Government of Canada. TC Energy began engagement activities for the Project with Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, collectively known as Saugeen Ojibway Nation, in October 2018, and with other interested Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups in September 2019. Table 8-1 lists the Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups that expressed an interest in engaging with the Project among those who were contacted. Engagement was informed by Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) guidance (September 25, 2023), which included their preliminary list of potentially impacted Indigenous groups, identified by an asterisk in Table 8-1.

Table 8-1: Identified Indigenous Rights-holders and Indigenous Groups

Indigenous Rights-holders and Indigenous Groups	Treaties/Agreements
First Nations	
Alderville First Nation*	Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Beausoleil First Nation*	Treaty 18 Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation*	Treaty 18 Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation*	Treaty 45 ½ Treaty 72

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

8 Indigenous Engagement

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Indigenous Rights-holders and Indigenous Groups	Treaties/Agreements
Chippewas of Rama First Nation*	Treaty 18 Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Curve Lake First Nation*	Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Hiawatha First Nation*	Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation*	Williams Treaties 2018 Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement
Wendat Nation (Huron Wendat Nation)*	Huron-British Treaty of 1760 2023 Framework Agreement between Huron-Wendat Nation and Canada
Saugeen First Nation*	Treaty 45 ½ Treaty 72
Six Nations of the Grand River*	Nanfan Treaty 1701 (or Treaty of Albany 1701)
First Nation Organizations	
Chippewa Tri-Council	First Nation signatories to Treaty 18 and the Williams Treaty, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beausoleil First Nation • Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation • Chippewas of Mnjikaning (Rama) First Nation
Saugeen Ojibway Nation	First Nation signatories to Treaty 45 ½ and Treaty 72, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saugeen First Nation • Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation
Métis Organizations and Potentially Affected Métis Groups	
Historic Saugeen Métis*	TC Energy is not aware of any treaty or agreement between the Crown and the Historic Saugeen Métis
Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 7)*	Consultation Agreement between the Métis Nation of Ontario and Government of Canada Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement
Métis Nation of Ontario (Land, Resources, and Consultation Branch – Toronto)	
<p>Note:</p> <p>*Preliminary list of potential affected Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups identified by IAAC for engagement on the Project.</p>	

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8 Indigenous Engagement

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TC Energy implemented a wide range of engagement activities and communication tools to share information with and solicit feedback from Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups on the Project. These have included, but are not limited to:

- Participation in community events, open houses/information sessions: in-person and virtual sessions that included presentations and hosting info booths
- Face-to-face and virtual meetings: focused discussions with members of Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups to cover specific topics
- Email, telephone calls, text messages: standard communications to coordinate logistics and to confirm receipt of information
- Site visits: in-person tours to both the Project location (on land and boat), as well as to see other pump storage facilities
- Indigenous newsletters: newsletters and fact sheets describing Project information, updates, and other pertinent information related to the Project
- Initial Project notification package: a package to provide Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups with an overview of the Project, contact information for TC Energy, and an invitation to engage with TC Energy on the Project
- Project mailouts/announcements: formal notifications to inform Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups about the Project and/or Project related changes (e.g., announcements from provincial government that affect the Project)
- Visual Communication tools: various models (e.g., scale models, working models, key component models, cut aways, and profiles) and renderings to support in-person and virtual engagement activities
- Project website: online resource that includes Project information including videos, renderings, and maps. The site also contained contact information and a Frequently Asked Questions section that is updated periodically
- Indigenous knowledge studies³

TC Energy continues to actively engage with Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups consistent with the approach described above. Engagement activities will continue during the Project phases. TC Energy will continue to respond to questions and concerns, and ongoing engagement activities will continue.

³ Indigenous knowledge is community specific, and place based, arising from Indigenous peoples' intimate relationship with their environment and territory over thousands of years (IAAC 2022).

8.2 Summary of Comments Received

The key concerns that have been raised through engagement with Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups are summarized as follows:

- **Soil and Groundwater Quality:** Concerns about long-term water storage affecting soil and groundwater quality, specifically as it relates to concerns that the Reservoir may degrade soil or contaminate groundwater.
- **Water Quality, Turbidity, and Temperature:** Potential changes to surface water quality, turbidity, and temperature in Georgian Bay due to Project operations, resulting in impacts on aquatic ecosystems.
- **Disturbance from Construction:** Concerns about tunneling, drilling, and construction disturbing lake shorelines, lakebeds, and aquatic habitats.
- **Fish Mortality and Habitat:** Concerns that Project operations could kill fish and reduce populations, including Species at Risk (SAR). Concerns include entrainment/impingement and habitat destruction.
- **Wildlife and Vegetation:** Concerns about potential habitat destruction, fragmentation, and restricted movement patterns for wildlife, as well as impacts on plant populations.
- **Potential Effects to SAR:** Concerns about impacts to both aquatic and terrestrial SAR.
- **GHG Emissions:** Interest in how the Project will contribute to lower greenhouse gas emissions and whether alternative energy options—such as solar—have been fully considered.
- **Project Location:** Concerns regarding the suitability of the Project location.
- **Workforce Accommodation and Community Life:** Questions about where construction workers will be housed and the effects on local communities. Concerns include infrastructure capacity, community well-being, and potential adverse effects from workforce influx.
- **Economic Benefits:** Interest in local job opportunities, economic prosperity, and the Project's value to Ontario ratepayers. Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups want assurance that local communities will benefit economically, even if much of the Project is on federal land.
- **Restrictions on Access:** Concerns about restricted access to traditional territories for harvesting, recreation, and cultural practices due to development and privatization.

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

8 Indigenous Engagement

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- **Archaeology, Heritage, and Burial Sites:** Concerns about impacts to archaeological, heritage, cultural, spiritual, and burial sites.
- **Reservoir Safety:** Concerns about the safety of the Reservoir and impacts on the ability to exercise rights below the site.

9 Public Engagement

Recognizing the importance of early and meaningful engagement with the public in the area around the proposed Project, TC Energy initiated engagement with communities and regulatory agencies in 2019. Examples of these engagement activities are listed below.

9.1 Engagement with the Public

Engagement by TC Energy has begun and is proposed to continue using the following means:

- Community Liaison Committee
- Local Project Office and Coffee Chats
- Community Information Sessions
- Project Website, Toll Free Phone, Email, and Social Media
- Factsheets and Newsletters
- Video Series
- Media
- Door-to-door Canvassing
- Environmental Non-Government Organization Workshops
- Visual Aids and Models
- Virtual Meeting Rooms

TC Energy's engagement efforts up to May 2025 can be summarized as follows:

- **Municipal Engagement** - Ongoing communication with municipalities in Bruce, Grey and Simcoe Counties including regular updates to elected officials and municipal staff through Project newsletters, Council presentations, staff workshops, and email communications. The Municipality of Meaford, as the host community for the Project, is a key stakeholder and TC Energy has been communicating with staff and elected officials since 2019.
- **Public Engagement** – Public Engagement started in 2019. Activities have focused on in-person and virtual efforts to connect, inform and converse with residents and interested parties to share Project information, to clearly articulate Project benefits and Project need, to clarify Project details, and seek feedback. These interactions allow TC Energy to hear the concerns of the local community and interested parties to incorporate this feedback into the design of the Project, where applicable, and for consideration within the regulatory process.

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

9 Public Engagement

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- **Federal Department and Provincial Agency** – Engagement with various federal departments and provincial agencies has focused on initial Project planning, study methods, and understanding of the various permits and approval processes required for the Project.

As the Project progress, TC Energy will continue engaging the public and will tailor engagement activities accordingly.

9.2 Summary of Comments Received

The key concerns that have been raised through engagement with the public, community, agencies, government officials, and other interested parties are summarized as follows:

- **Clean Energy:** Concerns about zero carbon energy and the use of lithium-ion batteries. Questions include whether the pumped storage will consume or store only emission-free electricity and the duration of the facility's operation, as well as whether the environmental impacts of construction will be outweighed by the benefits of clean energy.
- **Pumped Storage Technology:** Questions about the existence of other pumped storage facilities in Ontario and the Project footprint. Concerns that pumped hydroelectric storage is an old technology and questions about its future relevance compared to lithium-ion batteries.
- **Jobs:** Local employment opportunities are a significant concern. Questions include whether the Project will offer employment to locals, including high school students and local contractors.
- **Consultation Efforts:** There is interest in how TC Energy is investing in Meaford and whether it will become part of the community. Question on whether TC Energy is looking at best practices of other power facilities in the area.
- **More Energy:** Questions about how the Project will impact utility bills and whether Ontario will pursue more pumped storage projects.
- **Local Environment:** Concerns about fish and fish habitat, impacts on the Niagara Escarpment, near shore and lakeshore habitats, nuisance noise, dust, vibration, transmission connection overland, Electromagnetic Fields (EMF), water quality and quantity, water temperature, light and noise for nearby residents, drinking water, and the historical land use of the 4 CDTC property by settlers and farmers.
- **Technology:** Consideration of alternative locations and technologies (e.g., closed-loop system).

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

9 Public Engagement

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- **Other Concerns:** These include road improvements as part of construction and whether pumped storage will address power grid issues in Ontario.

10 Environmental Setting

The Project is located adjacent to Georgian Bay, primarily on 4 CDTC, and on/under the lakebed of Georgian Bay. This region is defined by a unique interplay of natural landscapes, rural communities, and ongoing nature-based recreation facilities. It is located within the core territories of Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation (collectively, Saugeen Ojibway Nation) and the historic boundaries of the Southern Ontario Treaties (1764-1862). The Project is also located within or near the areas of interest (e.g. Georgian Bay) to First Nation signatories to the Williams Treaties (1923), the Robinson-Huron Treaty (1850), and one non-treaty First Nation. The Project is also in the areas of interest to the Historic Saugeen Métis and the Métis Nation of Ontario.

Air quality in the region is generally expected to be good, with low concentrations of pollutants, reflecting its predominantly agricultural and residential land uses. Vehicle emissions and dust from farming are the main contributors to air emissions, while industrial sources of air emissions are limited in the area. The soundscape is shaped by both natural and human influences. Daytime noise is primarily generated by car traffic and military training at 4 CDTC, while nighttime noise is quieter and made up of mainly natural sounds.

Visually, the location of the proposed Project is marked by the presence of the Niagara Escarpment and the shoreline of Georgian Bay. The landscape transitions from beaches and shorelines to agricultural fields and rural communities. Lighting and skyglow from development subtly influence the nighttime environment.

Georgian Bay's waters are notably clean and support a rich diversity of fish species, including those important to Indigenous and commercial fisheries. While large areas of the region have been modified by agriculture and other human uses, the terrestrial ecosystem is varied with intact areas of woodlands, wetlands, and culturally significant plant species. SAR, such as Butternut, Western Chorus Frog and Black Ash, have been documented within 4 CDTC, alongside a wide array of wildlife including amphibians, birds, bats, and mammals.

Socio-economic conditions reflect a region with a diverse economy predominately focused on agriculture, tourism, and retail. Unemployment rates are lower than the provincial average, though median incomes lag behind the Ontario average. Housing remains relatively affordable.

Archaeological and cultural heritage investigations are being conducted in collaboration with Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups and regulatory agencies. Preliminary findings have identified areas of archaeological potential and settlement period structural remains and features.

11 Potential Project Effects

As part of the IA process, if required, and as guided by Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, an assessment of environmental, health, social, cultural, and economic effects will be undertaken focusing on those effects within Federal jurisdiction. Table 11-1 identifies the potential Project interactions with the environment and corresponding potential effects associated with key Project components.

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

11 Potential Project Effects

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Table 11-1: Potential Effects of the Project

Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment		
Environmental Component	Potential Effect	Potential Interactions with the Environment
Air Quality	Change in air quality	• Air contaminant emissions from equipment and vehicles burning fuel
		• Dust generated during soil stripping and grading, site infrastructure construction, and throughout the construction footprint and unpaved roads
Noise and Vibration	Change in existing sound levels	• Noise emissions from equipment and vehicles
		• Noise emissions from blasting
		• Noise emissions from operation of the Project
	Change in existing vibration levels	• Vibration emissions from stationary construction equipment (e.g., piling)
• Vibration emissions from mobile construction equipment		
• Vibration emissions from construction blasting and tunneling for underground components		
Visual Setting	Change in existing visual landscape	• Construction equipment and machinery will temporarily interrupt the visual landscape
		• Some Project components will be visible within the landscape
	Change in ambient nighttime light conditions	• Lighting required for safety and security has potential to be experienced as a new source of light
Terrain, Geology and Soils	Change in terrain conditions	• Terrain stability issues resulting from ground disturbance (e.g., at locations of excavations)
		• Potential water erosion and sedimentation due to exposure of bare soils
	Change in soil quality/quantity	• Compaction, rutting, admixing or loss of soil structure through vehicle and equipment movement
		• Soil loss through wind and water erosion following vegetation clearing and grading
Groundwater	Change in groundwater quality or quantity	• Disturbance to soil and parent material above or below the water table may change physical infiltration rates and locations and flows)
		• Alteration of groundwater levels or flow rates through drilling of extraction wells, dewatering or operation of the Reservoir
		• Disturbance of pre-existing contamination
Surface Water	Change in surface water quality	• Increased sediment concentrations and transport in surface water due to in-water construction, erosion, or release of water from the Project
	Change in surface water quantity	• Construction changes to natural flow patterns
		• Change in flow patterns near Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

11 Potential Project Effects

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Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment		
Environmental Component	Potential Effect	Potential Interactions with the Environment
Fish and Fish Habitat	Change in fish habitat (including habitat for SAR)	• In-water construction resulting in the loss of habitat
		• In-water construction resulting in changes to habitat structure (e.g., substrate, banks, aqua)
		• Construction activity on land adjacent to watercourses resulting in changes to bank stability, sedimentation, or in increased erosion potential
		• Change to water quality that have the potential to affect fish or fish habitat
		• Changes in water temperature during Reservoir filling and release
		• Changes to surface and groundwater flow patterns that has the potential to affect fish or fi
	Change in fish mortality risk	• Mobilization and transport of sediment resulting in fish mortality or mortality of fish eggs
		• Change in timing, duration and frequency of flow (including during Reservoir filling and rele stranding, entraining or impinging fish (Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure), or by preventing acco
		• Destruction of fish and/or eggs during in-water work
		• Lethal or sub-lethal effects on fish due to blasting or vibrations
Vegetation and Vegetation Communities	Change in vegetation communities and species	• Direct loss and/or alteration of native vegetation communities or plant species of concern ground disturbance
		• Indirect change in vegetation communities or species (e.g., dust, weed introduction and/or movement)
	Change in wetlands	• Alteration or loss of wetland vegetation arising from vegetation clearing and ground distur
		• Change in hydrological regime, storage capacity or overall function
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat, including SAR and Migratory Birds	Change to habitat	• Direct loss or alteration of habitat from vegetation removal and ground disturbance
		• Indirect loss or alteration of habitat effectiveness through sensory disturbance
	Change in wildlife movement	• Alteration or impediment of wildlife movement due to physical barriers, sensory disturban forested habitat)
	Change in mortality risk	• Ground disturbance and vegetation clearing resulting in physical destruction of key habitat
		• Vehicle-wildlife collisions and ground disturbance
		• Collisions with Project buildings (e.g., windows) or infrastructure
		• Trapped wildlife (e.g., excavation areas)
		• Wildlife-human conflict
Socio-Economic	Change in Infrastructure and Services	• Potential effects to local commercial accommodations capacity
		• Potential effects to services within 4 CDTC
		• Potential population effects to the region
		• Potential effects to local housing market

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

11 Potential Project Effects

February 24, 2026

Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment		
Environmental Component	Potential Effect	Potential Interactions with the Environment
		• Potential change in transportation and traffic
		• Potential change in demand to social infrastructure and utilities
		• Potential changes to the Ontario electrical system
	Change in Land or Resource Use	• Potential effect to commercial and recreation fishing
		• Potential change in land tenure
	Change in Employment and Economy	• Potential changes in employment
		• Potential changes in Project expenditures on goods and services
		• Potential changes to gross domestic product
		• Potential changes to labour income
		• Potential changes in federal, provincial and local taxes
• Potential changes in access to training resources and opportunities		
Change to Community Well-being	• Potential well being effects on nearby residents, land users, and 4 CDTC personnel (e.g., no interaction, perceived safety and health effects)	
	• Potential benefit to social value	
Human Health	Change to human health	• Potential effect from electromagnetic fields from the transmission connection options
		• Potential effect from soil movement and dust generated during construction
		• Potential effect from air quality contaminants because of vehicular traffic
		• Potential effect from noise because of Project activity
		• Potential effect to social well-being
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Change to archaeological resources	• Removal or disturbance of archaeological site or resources
	Change to cultural heritage resources	• Removal or disturbance of cultural heritage site or resources
Indigenous Interests	Change in physical and cultural heritage ⁴	• Potential loss or disturbance of archaeological, heritage or cultural sites
		• Potential sensory disturbances
		• Potential loss or change to land or water harvesting methods or opportunities
		• Potential loss or change to the use or access to preferred land or water harvesting or cultural

⁴ TC Energy understands that changes to physical and cultural heritage and structures, sites or items of historical, archaeological, paleontological, addition to provincial heritage legislative requirements. TC Energy also understands that there are tangible and intangible elements of physical a

Ontario Pumped Storage Project

11 Potential Project Effects

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Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment		
Environmental Component	Potential Effect	Potential Interactions with the Environment
	Change in current use of traditional lands, waters and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential loss or change to harvested terrestrial and aquatic species or resources
	Change to any structure, site or other item of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential loss or disturbance of sites
	Changes to the health, social and economic conditions of Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential changes in the real or perceived quality of harvested foods
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for the disruption of subsistence-based livelihoods
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for increased demands on community services (e.g., urban centres)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for changes to resource-based Indigenous businesses, such as guiding and fishing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential economic effects and opportunities such as employment and training

Notes:

C – Potential effect during construction

O – Potential effect during operation

C/O – Potential effect during construction and operation

¹ Pumped Storage Facility includes the Reservoir, Powerhouse, Water Conveyance Structures, Lower Inlet/Outlet Structures, Switchyard and Office

12 Waste and Emissions Generated by the Project

Table 12-1 summarizes the waste and emissions that are expected to be generated by the Project. Where applicable, measures will be implemented to mitigate the extent of waste and emissions generated.

Table 12-1: Waste and Emissions Generated by the Project

Waste/Emission	Description
Air Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction-related emissions may include dust from vehicle travel on unpaved roads, earthworks and wind erosion of stockpiles, and exhaust emissions from stationary equipment (e.g., generators, pumps), light and heavy vehicles, and construction equipment. Incidental activities, such as vehicle emissions used during maintenance activities during the operations phase, however it is probable that any limited incidental emissions would in turn decrease over time with increasing vehicular and industry electrification. Preliminary GHG emissions for annual construction were estimated at 108,755 tonnes Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), leading to a total projected emission of 598,153 tonnes CO₂e over five and a half years. Initial analysis of the Project’s operations shows that the Project has the potential to reduce Ontario’s electricity system CO₂ emissions by approximately 490,000 t/year, on average (Navigant 2020).
Noise Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction-related emissions from vehicle traffic, the operation of construction equipment (excavation, earth movement, drilling), as well as tunneling and blasting activities. No substantial environment noise expected during operations as the majority of equipment with the potential to produce noise will be located underground or within structures/buildings.
Liquid Discharges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During construction, potential liquid discharges primarily relate to runoff from within construction areas where soils have been exposed. Domestic sewage during construction will be collected in portable washroom facilities. During operations, domestic sewage is anticipated to be held in septic tanks and periodically pumped out for appropriate disposal at a licensed facility. The Project has been designed to draw water from Georgian Bay into the Reservoir and then to discharge that same water back into Georgian Bay to produce power, however the water is not treated, heated, or otherwise altered when being conveyed. During the operations, surface water runoff will be managed through a storm water infrastructure to control the quantity and quality of runoff.

Ontario Pumped Storage Project
12 Waste and Emissions Generated by the Project
 February 24, 2026

Waste/Emission	Description
Other Waste Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excess soil and overburden – stripped materials suitable for use in the Ring Dam or for reclamation activities will be stockpiled for use on site. Any excess materials will be disposed of offsite, in accordance with relevant federal or provincial regulations. • Solid wastes generated during construction activities and operation of the Project, including Industrial, Commercial and Institutional waste and recyclable materials (wood, paper, metal) – disposal through contracted waste disposal and recycling. • Waste oil generated from regular maintenance activities – disposal through licensed recycler. • Hazardous waste (e.g., paint, solvents, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, herbicides) – disposal through licensed disposal facility. • Munitions scrap (e.g. UXO) – disposal through licensed party.

13 Closing

The proposed Project is a pumped hydroelectric storage facility located in Ontario, designed to provide a long-duration energy storage solution that helps balance electricity supply and demand. It would support Ontario's growing electricity needs and aligns with IESO forecasts for increased generation and storage capacity across the province. By capturing excess energy and releasing it when demand is high, the facility will manage imbalances in electricity production and consumption, improve grid reliability, and strengthen the resilience of Ontario's electrical system.

Economically, the Project will be built with Ontario supply chains, generate thousands of jobs, and stimulate regional development, particularly in the Grey and Bruce counties. It also has the potential to represent a benchmark Indigenous partnership with Saugeen Ojibway Nation, advancing economic reconciliation and self-determination through shared ownership and long-term collaboration.

The Project is still in the early planning stages and will go through several federal and provincial processes, including provincial Class EAs and permitting. As the Project advances through the federal IA process, Project design will be advanced and potential Project related effects will be further evaluated.

TC Energy is committed to ongoing engagement with Saugeen Ojibway Nation, other Indigenous rights-holders and Indigenous groups, stakeholders, and the public. Feedback received during these engagement activities will help shape the Project as it moves forward. TC Energy will continue to listen, share updates, and respond to questions and concerns throughout all phases of the Project.

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Submission to: IAAC Comments on TC Energy's Pumped Storage Proposal

March 24, 2026

Ref # 89203

Attn: Ms. Eve McLeod Norberg

This Initial Project Description (IPD) submitted by TC Energy is essentially a compilation of their research dating back to 2016. It is important for the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) to recognize that after a decade—despite TC Energy's assertion that their engineering team is highly skilled—the company has produced a document exceeding 200 pages that fails to provide tangible solutions to known challenges, evidence of completed tests, or reliable projections that they claim are achievable.

TC Energy has made some effort to engage with the Meaford community. However, their so-called "Coffee Chats", which they label as "community engagement", are in reality more akin to promotional events intended to advance the project. As an educated individual, I must stress to the IAAC that this is not merely an opinion, but a fact. During these sessions, TC Energy's representatives presented the purported benefits of pumped storage (their terminology) to residents of Grey Bruce. I attended two of these events, in 2023 and 2025. Their presentations were polished and likely persuaded several attendees to support the project. Upon reviewing the IPD, it is evident that some of the concerns addressed within the document stem directly from these community meetings. For the past three years, I have highlighted the reasons, based on analysis, why this project should not proceed, including cost, project efficiency, timelines to operation, and other factors. I have also suggested viable alternatives for energy storage. The IPD addresses the "who, where, when, and why" but, consistent with their approach since 2016, fails to adequately address "what" needs to happen and the consequences of those actions. Many questions raised over the past six years remain unanswered. The IAAC should ask TC Energy: what have their "engineers" been doing over the past ten years?

Prior to TC Energy's involvement, other corporations* evaluated this pumped storage concept and concluded that it would not yield a reasonable return on investment at this site. I have reviewed engineering research that raises questions about the safety of the proposed final reservoir location. This raises further concerns: why is TC Energy, via sole source bidding from the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), pursuing this project in its current form? The absence of verifiable facts in the IPD is inexcusable. For example, the report presents questionable data and calculations:

-TC Energy claims a variety of efficiency rates of 72%, 76%, and even 80%. These figures are misleading; the actual efficiency, according to accepted engineering calculations, is

closer to 68%, with a margin of error of approximately +/-1%. TCE and the IAAC can confirm the efficiency calculations that must be made at the Barrie Transfer Station.

-There is ambiguity regarding the routing of transmission lines—will they be placed above or below ground? Will they connect to Barrie, Sudbury, or another location? The proposal offers no clarity on this point despite that this project was advanced in 2019. Can the IAAC please get the plan for these lines.

Another operational concern involves the concept of nighttime “charging”. The proposal does not specify whether excess energy will be sourced from nuclear (Bruce Power), existing natural gas, or other means from the current grid. It is also unclear whether there will be any “excess” power available for charging in ten years’ time. The IAAC needs to provide current estimates of available nighttime energy over the next 10 years.

Within the IPD, TC Energy claims a 1,000 MW output and a 10,000 MWh capacity for 11 hours from a 26,000 cubic metre reservoir. This is simply not possible: it is not feasible to produce 1,000 MW for 11 hours per day from a reservoir of that size unless the output is derated. Furthermore, it is unclear whether the stated reservoir capacity accounts for the necessary dead water reserve (typically 10–20%). Standard power calculations using a 26 million cubic metre reservoir, 174 metres of head pressure, and 72% efficiency yield a storage capacity of only 8,860 MWh. Achieving the proposed 10,000 MWh would require a round-trip efficiency of 81.3%, which is unrealistically high. In reality, efficiency will not reach 72%; at best, it will be 68%. The IAAC with TCE need to confirm these calculations.

The examples above illustrate just a portion of the questionable data and calculations presented by TC Energy and their consultants in their effort to promote this pumped storage project to the public and government agencies. If TC Energy’s engineers are willing to misrepresent the project’s potential power output and efficiencies, one must question what other aspects of the proposal might be similarly misrepresented.

Given these issues, a fundamental question remains: can we trust any of the claims made by this company?

*Names of Companies from my 2012-2014 comments. GDF SUEZ. (Now it’s been absorbed by ENGIE). I can provide more information when needed.

To IAAC re: Ref # 89203: TC Energy's IPD

Good Morning!

My concern involves "piece mealing" this single project into possible separate Impact Assessments. I understand you are generally aware of this corporate ploy to separate massive projects like this one into smaller "projects" which then become easier to approve even though they are part of the actual project.

Reviewing the IPD, I notice a lack of attention to the **requirement of a new cement plant**. This is clearly an integral part of the 89203 Pumped Storage Project and must be included in this Impact assessment and not done as a separate project.

Please do not let TC Energy to piece meal this project. Corporate agenda is to "win at all costs" Do not let this happen.

Thank You!

Pat Maloney
102 Ross St.
Meaford, On.N4L 1W7
416-727-1845-cell

To IAAC re: Ref # 89203: TC Energy's IPD

Good Morning!

My concern involves "piece mealing" this single project into possible separate Impact Assessments. I understand you are generally aware of this corporate ploy to separate massive projects like this one into smaller "projects" which then become easier to approve even though they are part of the actual project.

Reviewing the IPD, I notice a lack of attention to the **Proposed Transmission Lines**. This is clearly an integral part of the 89203 Pumped Storage Project and must be included in this Impact assessment and not done as a separate project.

Please do not let TC Energy to piece meal this project. Corporate agenda is to "win at all costs" Do not let this happen.

Thank You!

Pat Maloney
102 Ross St.
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To: IAAC Comments, March 24, 2026

RE: TCE Pumped Storage Proposal REF # 89203

Assessment: Time to Update Battery Energy Storage Systems

I have borrowed an earlier IAAC submission and added extra facts from :

Mr. Greg Appleyard, PhD , Calgary, Alberta.

The core references are between three and nine years old

The proposal’s dismissal of battery storage rests on three sources: the World Energy Council (WEC 2016), the ICF 2020 report, and the MIT 2022 energy storage analysis — respectively nine, five, and three years old at the time of submission. The specific claim that pumped hydro provides “10 hours” of storage compared to batteries’ “4 hours” (ICF 2020) was contested when written and is no longer defensible in 2026. In a technology sector experiencing the fastest cost decline of any energy category in history, this vintage of analysis cannot be considered current.

Battery pack prices have fallen 93 percent since 2010.

According to Bloomberg NEF’s 2025 Lithium-Ion Battery Price Survey, battery pack prices for stationary storage dropped to \$70 per kilowatt-hour in 2025, a 45 percent reduction from 2024.[11] At the full system level, turnkey battery energy storage system prices fell to \$117 per kilowatt-hour in 2025.[11] The proposal offers no cost-per-MWh comparison between the proposed open-loop pumped hydro design — characterized only as “a multibillion-dollar project” — and a battery storage system of equivalent capacity. The absence of such a comparison in an alternatives analysis submitted to a federal regulatory body is a significant deficiency.

Long-duration storage technologies now exist and are in commercial deployment

Iron-air batteries are capable of 100-hour storage duration, enabling the grid to draw on stored renewable energy for over four days.[12] Form Energy’s manufacturing facility in Weirton, West Virginia began trial production in 2024 and is expected to reach 500 MW annual production capacity by 2028.[13] On February 24, 2026 — the same date as the TC Energy IPD submission — Google and Xcel Energy announced a 300 MW / 30 GWh iron-air battery system, described as the largest battery project by gigawatt-hour energy capacity announced to date in the world.[14] The iron-air deployment announced on the same day as this IPD would deliver 30 GWh of long duration storage — approximately three times the proposed project’s capacity in energy terms — in a system with no dam, no reservoir, no lakebed structure, no karst geology risk, and no impact on Georgian Bay. Iron-air technology is absent entirely from the proposal’s alternatives analysis.

The supply chain argument against batteries no longer applies to dominant chemistries

The IPD’s most substantive argument against battery storage is supply chain risk: “BESS would require substantial amounts of critical minerals, such as lithium, to be sourced from abroad, particularly from China” (CANCEA 2024). This was a legitimate concern for nickel-manganese-cobalt chemistries. The stationary storage market has now seen an almost total switchover to lithium iron phosphate batteries, which eliminates dependence on cobalt.[11] Iron-air batteries

use iron and atmospheric oxygen — two of the most abundant materials on earth — with no critical mineral dependency whatsoever. The supply chain argument does not apply to the long duration battery chemistries entering commercial deployment as this IPD is submitted.

It is encouraging to encounter individuals who not only possess the appropriate educational background but also take the time to conduct thorough research and bring substantial knowledge to the discussion. Their efforts provide crucial support for the points and evidence I have been working to present over the past several years, which have at times been limited by available information. It is worth noting that those who resort to dismissive language, such as calling other's commentary "stupid" simply because they disagree with it, might wish to reconsider their approach, as such crude language may just reflect upon themselves.

As I have emphasized repeatedly, the pumped storage project proposed by TC Energy represents an expensive, outdated, inefficient and archaic boondoggle. For the sake of Ontario, Georgian Bay, the Niagara Escarpment, and the surrounding municipalities, this project must be halted. To ignore the future is futile.

Pat Maloney

Meaford, Ontario

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Outlook

Invitation to the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony June 13th

From Caitlin Dyer <cdyer@boh.f.ca>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 11:43 AM

To Maryann Martin <mmartin@thearchipelago.ca>

You don't often get email from cdyer@boh.f.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

Reeve and Council
Township of the Archipelago

On Saturday, June 13, 2026, the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame will be hosting an Induction Ceremony at Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts in Parry Sound. We are pleased to announce that **Georgian Nordic Outdoor Activity Centre, Carol Henry, Ryan Knox, Chris Stanley**, and **Sue Whitley** will be inducted into the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame as the class of 2026.

We hope that you are planning to join us for this event. this year. Tickets are **\$105 plus HST** and include admission to the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame, a reception from 5-7 pm with a selection of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and the ceremony which begins at 7pm. Tickets are available by visiting our box office or phoning (705) 746-4466 ext. 405.

If you require more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Dyer
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