

**Township of The Archipelago**



**REVISED**  
**COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE**  
Regular Meeting of Council  
October 18, 2024

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

★ ➤ (Add-on)

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

[01]

**PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**

[02] Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
RE: Agricultural Workforce Equity and Diversity Initiative Funding

**ARCHIPELAGO CORRESPONDENCE**

[03] Letter to Seguin Township regarding Clear Lake Subdivision  
RE: Township of The Archipelago

**WEST PARRY SOUND AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

[04] Notice of Study Commencement – Master Servicing Plan for Minister’s Zoning Order Lands  
RE: Seguin Township

**ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES**

[05] Request to Province to update the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act to reflect the inflation rates  
RE: Tay Valley Township

- \*[06] Request to Province to update the Municipal Election Act with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections
  - RE: Clearview Township
  - RE: Township of Amaranth
  - RE: Town of Bracebridge
  - RE: Town of Halton Hills
  - RE: Township of McGarry
  
- [07] Request to Province to reverse their decision to allow alcohol to be sold in more locations and implement a Provincial Alcohol Strategy
  - RE: City of Temiskaming Shores
  
- [08] Request to Federal Government to provide a supplement to the allocations provided to municipalities under the AMO Canada Community-Building Funds agreement for 2024-2028 for the same amount that was allocated
  - RE: Municipality of Tweed
  
- [09] Request to Province to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health and addictions grows
  - RE: Regional Municipality of Waterloo
  
- [10] Request to Province to amend the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006
  - RE: City of Kitchener
  
- [11] Resolution supporting Public Health Sudbury and District's resolution pertaining to recommendations for Government regulations of nicotine pouches
  - RE: Municipality of St. Charles
  
- [12] Request to Province to implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities
  - RE: Municipality of Tweed
  - RE: Hilliard Township
  
- \*[13] Resolution calling upon the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) boards to re-establish a combined OGRA and ROMA annual conference
  - RE: Municipality of East Ferris
  
- \*[14] Request to Province to recognize the physician shortage in Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care
  - RE: City of Stratford
  - RE: Township of Springwater
  
- [15] Request to all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage, and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries

RE: Town of Cobourg

\* > [15A]

Request to Province to initiate the transfer of ride-share regulations and licensing from the municipal level to the provincial level

RE: Township of Brock

## FIRST NATIONS

[16]

## RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATIONS

[17]

## RATEPAYERS/OTHERS

[18]

## AGENCIES

> [18A]

Belvedere Heights

RE: Request for funds to be re-submitted for 22 new private rooms

[19] District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB)

RE: Chief Administrative Officer's Report – September 2024

> [19A]

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

RE: Resolution supporting the implementation of the Ontario Forest Industries Association's 2025 Budget Recommendations

> [19B]

Floating Accommodations Not Vessels Coalition

RE: Slide Deck Presentation for the Township of Georgian Bay's Public Meeting to Inform Municipal Regulatory Strategy for Floating Accommodations

> [19C]

Royal Canadian Legion

RE: Thank you letter for ad in the 2024 Military Service Recognition Book

## ENVIRONMENT

[20]

Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Agribusiness

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3  
Tel: 416-326-3074

Ministère de l'Agriculture,  
de l'Alimentation et de l'Agroalimentaire

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3  
Tél. : 416 326-3074



September 24, 2024

Bert Liverance  
Reeve  
Township of The Archipelago  
bliverance@thearchipelago.ca

Dear Reeve Liverance:

I am pleased to share that the governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to \$1.5 million in our new Agricultural Workforce Equity and Diversity Initiative (AWEDI) to help minority groups start and grow businesses in the agri-food sector.

Funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), AWEDI provides grants of up to \$100,000 to support agribusiness ventures led by underrepresented groups, including Indigenous peoples, 2SLGBTQI+ people, persons with disabilities, youth, women or members of French linguistic minority communities.

AWEDI is open to applications from organizations, research bodies, municipalities or Indigenous communities. Successful projects will support underrepresented groups in accessing spaces and equipment to grow or process agri-food products, as well as resources to help with financing.

Applications will open on October 8, 2024, and will be open until December 3, 2024.

Our government is committed to increasing the entrepreneurial diversity of our agricultural sector through our Grow Ontario Strategy. AWEDI will reinforce additional efforts our government has taken to cultivate agri-food talent, while enabling more Ontarians to share in the success of our growing agri-food industry. Should you have any questions about this or any other Ministry programs, please call 1-877-424-1300.

Sincerely,

Rob Flack  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness



Good things grow in Ontario  
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2  
Bureau principal du ministère: 1, rue Stone ouest, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Agribusiness

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor  
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Ministère de l'Agriculture,  
de l'Alimentation et de l'Agroalimentaire

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3  
Tél. : 416 326-3074



Le 24 septembre 2024

Bonjour,

Je suis heureux de vous annoncer que les gouvernements du Canada et de l'Ontario investissent jusqu'à 1,5 million de dollars dans notre nouvelle Initiative pour l'équité et la diversité dans le secteur agricole (IEDSA) afin d'aider les groupes minoritaires à lancer et à faire croître des entreprises dans le secteur agroalimentaire.

Financée dans le cadre du Partenariat canadien pour une agriculture durable (PCA durable), l'IEDSA offre des subventions pouvant atteindre 100 000 \$ pour appuyer les agroentreprises dirigées par groupes sous-représentés, y compris des Autochtones, des personnes 2SLGBTQI+, des personnes handicapées, des jeunes, des femmes ou des membres de collectivités francophones minoritaires.

L'IEDSA accepte les demandes d'organismes, d'organismes de recherche, de municipalité ou de collectivités autochtones. Les projets retenus appuieront des groupes sous-représentés dans l'accès à des lieux et à du matériel pour cultiver ou transformer des produits agroalimentaires, ainsi qu'à des ressources pour les aider avec le financement.

La période de réception des demandes s'amorce le 8 octobre 2024 et se poursuivra jusqu'au 3 décembre 2024.

Notre gouvernement est déterminé à accroître la diversité entrepreneuriale de notre secteur agricole grâce à notre stratégie Cultiver l'Ontario. L'IEDSA renforcera les efforts additionnels consentis par notre gouvernement pour cultiver le talent agroalimentaire, tout en permettant à une part plus importante de la population ontarienne de participer au succès de notre industrie. Si vous avez des questions concernant ce programme ou d'autres programmes du ministère, veuillez composer le 1 877 424-1300.

Veuillez recevoir mes plus cordiales salutations.

Le ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et de l'Agroentreprise,

Rob Flack



Good things grow in Ontario  
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2  
Bureau principal du ministère: 1, rue Stone ouest, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2



9 JAMES STREET • PARRY SOUND, ONTARIO • P2A 1T4  
PHONE: (705) 746-4243 • FAX: (705) 746-7301  
[www.thearchipelago.on.ca](http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca)

Reply Attention of: Cale Henderson  
Telephone Extension: 305  
Internet Address: [chenderson@thearchipelago.ca](mailto:chenderson@thearchipelago.ca)

September 30, 2024

Mr. Taylor Elgie, Director of Planning  
Seguin Township  
5 Humphrey Drive  
Seguin, Ontario  
P2A 2W8

Delivered via email ([telgie@sequin.ca](mailto:telgie@sequin.ca))

Dear Mr. Elgie:

**RE: Clear Lake Subdivision, Seguin Township**

With the recent development of the Clear Lake Subdivision in Seguin Township, the ongoing use of the creek connecting Clear Lake and Crane Lake has been a growing concern within our community. The Township previously raised concerns with the use of the creek in 2018, as per the attached letter.

This past summer, it was reported to both the Township of The Archipelago and the Ministry of Natural Resources that the creek has been cleared of any obstructions, including a beaver dam, to allow for the transportation of floating docks and navigation through the creek. Township of The Archipelago Council and the Crane Lake Community is concerned with any further alterations to the creek and degradation to the natural environment.

To avoid further impacts, Township of The Archipelago Council has directed me to outline these concerns and explore opportunities to resolve these matters, including the possibility of Seguin Township creating an access point on Clear Lake to avoid further impacts to the creek.

At your earliest convenience, we would be pleased to schedule a meeting to further discuss these matters.

Regards,

Cale Henderson  
Manager of Development & Environmental Services  
The Township of The Archipelago

cc. Parry Sound Work Centre, Ministry of Natural Resources ([psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca](mailto:psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca))



9 JAMES STREET • PARRY SOUND, ONTARIO • P2A 1T4  
705-746-4243 • FAX: 705-746-7301  
www.thearchipelago.on.ca

Reply to Attention of: Cale Henderson  
Telephone Extension: 305  
Email address: chenderson@thearchipelago.on.ca

October 26, 2018

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
7 Bay Street  
Parry Sound, ON P2A 1S4

Attention: Mr. Dan Duggan  
District Manager, Parry Sound

Dear Mr. Duggan:

Re: Clear Lake Subdivision, Seguin Township

Council for the Township of The Archipelago has renewed concerns with the potential impacts on the creek connecting Clear Lake with Crane Lake, due to the recent activity regarding the draft approved plan of subdivision on Clear Lake in Seguin Township.

Understanding that the Clear Lake Subdivision received draft approval from the Ontario Municipal Board in 1998, Council is concerned with the likelihood of increased use of the creek that flows from Clear Lake into Crane Lake in the Township of The Archipelago. Due to the limited recreational capacity of Clear Lake, the concern is that many of the future Clear Lake residents will utilize the creek to access Crane Lake. This area is identified as Critical (Type 1) fish habitat and is environmentally sensitive. The increased traffic, use and possible modification to the creek, has the potential of significant, negative environmental impacts on the creek and the surrounding natural heritage features.

In addition, due to the amount of time that has lapsed since the original approval, Council for the Township of The Archipelago supports the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Seguin Township in implementing current standards of development, where reasonable and legally possible.

Council for the Township of The Archipelago wanted to inform the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Seguin Township, of its concerns and is looking forward to working together to protect our community.

Sincerely,

Cale Henderson  
Manager of Development &  
Environmental Services

c. Steve Stone, Seguin Township



## Seguin Township Master Servicing Plan for Minister's Zoning Order Lands

### Notice of Study Commencement

#### Introduction

Recognizing the need for more attainable housing in Seguin Township, the Municipality submitted a request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) for an area of land, approximately 309 hectares, located in the north part of the Township immediately adjacent to the Town of Parry Sound. The request was submitted January 5, 2022, along with supporting information including correspondence from neighboring municipalities and community organizations, preliminary environmental constraints and servicing information and planning justification. The Order was granted March 17, 2023. The MZO permits the lands to be developed to facilitate housing and mixed-use development without the need for a zoning by-law amendment application to establish the principle of use. Development of these lands will still require comprehensive studies to establish developable area and servicing requirements, together with detailed planning exercises such as draft plan of subdivision approval and site plan control.

The Township intends for the development to proceed in an orderly, well planned and coordinated manner. At its meeting of July 2, 2024, Township Council authorized staff to proceed with the preparation of a Master Servicing Plan (MSP) for the area to lay the groundwork for Water, Wastewater and Transportation Servicing.

#### The Study

The Township has retained the services of Ainley & Associates Ltd. to undertake the MSP for the MZO lands. The objective of the MSP is to identify and evaluate options for water and wastewater servicing and transportation (major roads) in order to develop a comprehensive long range plan for infrastructure.

#### The Process

The study is to follow and satisfy the requirements of Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process dated February 2024 prepared by the Municipal Engineers Association. The end product will be a comprehensive document that will be used in support of further specific projects such as water supply and wastewater treatment works.

#### How to Get Involved

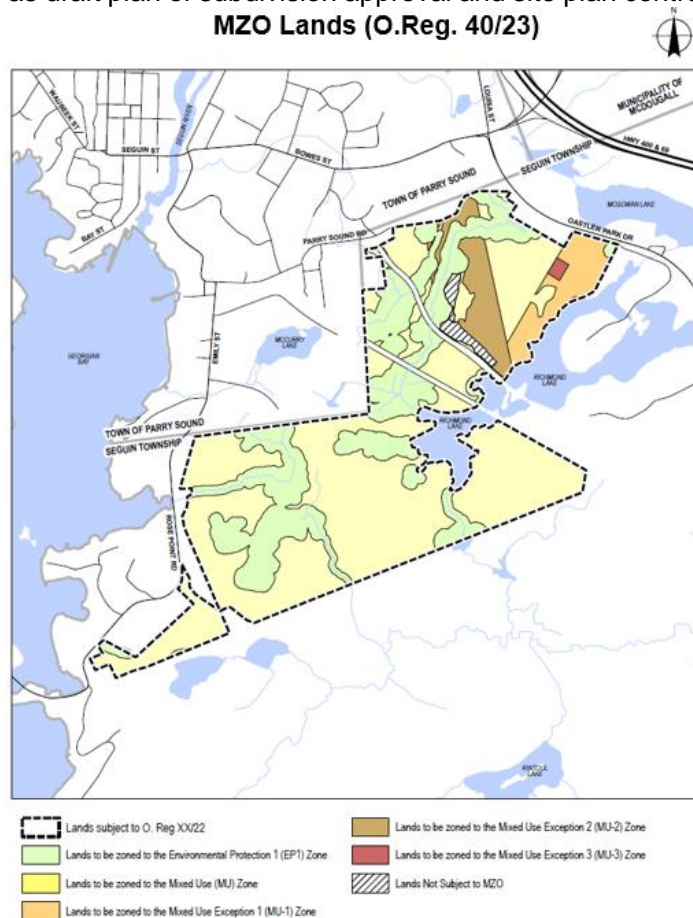
Public input is encouraged throughout this project and will be given consideration during the study. Study notices will be published on the Township's website <https://letsconnectseguin.ca/mzo-application> to inform the public of updates and engagement opportunities. To obtain additional information, provide input, or request to be added to the contact list for this study, please contact either of the following members of the study team.

**Taylor Elgie**  
**Director of Planning**  
**Seguin Township**  
 5 Humphrey Drive  
 Seguin, ON P2A 2W8  
 Phone: 705-732-4300 x 248  
[telgie@seguin.ca](mailto:telgie@seguin.ca)

**Preya Balgobin, P.Eng.**  
**Senior Project Manager**  
**Ainley & Associates Ltd.**  
 280 Pretty River Parkway  
 Collingwood, ON L9Y 4J5  
 Tel: 705-790-5755  
[preya.balgobin@ainleygroup.com](mailto:preya.balgobin@ainleygroup.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.  
 This notice first issued October 2, 2024.

**MZO Lands (O.Reg. 40/23)**







September 25, 2024

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

Sent by Email

Dear: Honourable Doug Ford

**RE: Public Sector Salary Disclosure**

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting held on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #C-2024-09-16**

MOVED BY: Greg Hallam  
SECONDED BY: Wayne Baker

**“THAT**, the Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township support the Township of Stirling-Rawdon’s resolution regarding Public Sector Salary Disclosure;

**THAT**, the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act be updated to reflect the inflation rates since 1996;

**THAT**, the Act be further updated so that the inflation rate is applied each year to the requirement to report public salaries;

**AND THAT**, this resolution be sent to the Province of Ontario Premier's Office, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities.”

**ADOPTED**

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (613) 267-5353 ext. 130 or [deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca](mailto:deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca)

Sincerely,



Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

Cc: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All Ontario Municipalities



CLEARVIEW  
TOWNSHIP

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

October 8, 2024

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Hon. Paul Calandra

**Sent by Email:** [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

**RE: Support Resolution – Updates to the Municipal Elections Act**

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Please be advised at its meeting held on October 7, 2024, Council of the Township of Clearview passed the following resolution supporting AMCTO's advocacy for updates to the Municipal Elections Act:

Moved by Councillor Broderick, Seconded by Councillor Walker, Whereas, election rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

Whereas, legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

Whereas, the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

Whereas, the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

Whereas, the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the *Assessment Act, 1990* and the *Education Act, 1990* also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

Whereas, with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the *MEA* containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill;

Whereas, the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

Whereas, while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges;

Whereas, to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

Whereas, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

And Whereas, AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That Council of the Corporation of the Township of Clearview calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections;

And Be It Further Resolved that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Education ([minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery ([todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca](mailto:todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)), Minister of Finance ([Minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.fin@ontario.ca)) the Premier of Ontario ([premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)), Simcoe-Grey MPP ([brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org](mailto:brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org)) and AMCTO ([advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com)). Motion Carried.

We look forward to hearing of the continued advocacy regarding this matter and updates on when the Ministry will move ahead with amending the Municipal Elections Act.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Minister of Education  
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery  
Minister of Finance  
Premier of Ontario  
Simcoe Grey MPP  
AMCTO Advocacy



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

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September 18, 2024

AMCTO Advocacy Team  
2680 Skymark Ave, Suite 610  
Mississauga, ON L4W 5L6

Senty by Email to: [advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com)

**Re: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act**

At its regular meeting of Council held on September 18, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

**Resolution #: 3**

**Moved by:** G. Little

**Seconded by:** B. Metzger

WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections.

WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process,

WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026.

WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the *Assessment Act, 1990* and the *Education Act, 1990* also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario.

WHEREAS with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the *MEA* containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill.

WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce.

WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges.

WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities.

WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration.

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Township of Amaranth calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

And Be It Further Resolved that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Education ([minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery ([todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca](mailto:todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)), Minister of Finance ([Minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.fin@ontario.ca)) the Premier of Ontario ([premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)), Sylvia Jones MPP ([sylvia.jones@ontario.ca](mailto:sylvia.jones@ontario.ca)) and AMCTO ([advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com))

**CARRIED**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information.

Yours truly,



Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.  
CAO/Clerk

cc. All Ontario Municipalities

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca))

Minister of Education ([minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca))

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery ([todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca](mailto:todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca))

Minister of Finance ([Minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.fin@ontario.ca))

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

Sylvia Jones MPP ([sylvia.jones@ontario.ca](mailto:sylvia.jones@ontario.ca))



October 15, 2024

**Re: Item for Discussion – AMCTO Recommendations for Updates to the Municipal Elections Act**

At its meeting of October 9, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-184, regarding the AMCTO Recommendations for Updates to the Municipal Elections Act, as follows:

“WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

AND WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

AND WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

AND WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act, 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the MEA containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill;

AND WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

AND WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today’s needs and tomorrow’s challenges;

AND WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

AND FURTHER THAT that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Education; the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery; Minister of Finance; the Premier of Ontario; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; AMCTO; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori McDonald". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

October 10, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Via Email

**Re: Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act**

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, October 7, 2024, adopted Resolution No. 2024-0168 regarding Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2024-0168.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP  
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Minister of Education  
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery  
Minister of Finance  
Halton MPPs  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)  
All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

**Resolution No.:** 2024-0168

**Title:** Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

**Date:** October 7, 2024

**Moved by:** Councillor A. Hilson

**Seconded by:** Mayor A. Lawlor

**Item No. 12.1**

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WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

AND WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

AND WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

AND WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act, 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the MEA containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies and gaps to fill;

AND WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

AND WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges;

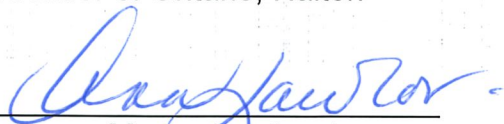
AND WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis-disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Halton Hills calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, Halton MPPs, AMO and AMCTO.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Ann Lawlor



October 8, 2024

Resolution No. 310/2024

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY  
P.O. BOX 99,  
VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0**

MOVED BY *Alcine Lee*

SECONDED BY *Francine Plante*

**WHEREAS** elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections.

**WHEREAS** legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process,

**WHEREAS** the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities.

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026.

**WHEREAS** the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act, 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario.

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**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules and streamlining and simplifying administration.

**AND WHERAS** AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Township of McGarry calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer- term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Education ([minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)) the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery ([todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca](mailto:todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)), Minister of Finance ([Minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.fin@ontario.ca)) the Premier of Ontario ([premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)) , Sylvia Jones MPP ([sylvia.jones@ontario.ca](mailto:sylvia.jones@ontario.ca)) and AMCTO ([advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com))

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ / Carried Bonita Culhane  
 Mayor Mayor

Recorded Vote Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

	YES	NO
Mayor Bonita Culhane	_____	_____
Councillor Louanne Caza	_____	_____
Councillor Elaine Fic	_____	_____
Councillor Annie Keft	_____	_____
Councillor Francine Plante	_____	_____



October 8, 2024

Resolution No. 310/2024

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY  
P.O. BOX 99,  
VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0**

MOVED BY *Alaine Gu*

SECONDED BY *Francine Plante*

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**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)), the Minister of Education ([minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)) the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery ([todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca](mailto:todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca)), Minister of Finance ([Minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.fin@ontario.ca)) the Premier of Ontario ([premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)) , Sylvia Jones MPP ([sylvia.jones@ontario.ca](mailto:sylvia.jones@ontario.ca)) and AMCTO ([advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com))

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ / Carried Bonita Culhane  
 Mayor Mayor

Recorded Vote Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

	YES	NO
Mayor Bonita Culhane	_____	_____
Councillor Louanne Caza	_____	_____
Councillor Elaine Fic	_____	_____
Councillor Annie Keft	_____	_____
Councillor Francine Plante	_____	_____



The Corporation of the City of Temiskaming Shores  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 17, 2024

## Resolution

### **Provincial decision regarding alcohol sales in convenience stores and locations that sell fuel to drivers, and the development of a comprehensive provincial alcohol strategy**

Resolution No. 2024-332

Moved by: Councillor Whalen  
Seconded by: Councillor Wilson

Whereas excessive consumption of alcohol has a negative impact on many communities because of detrimental health effects, road safety, and other harms; and

Whereas the number of cases of individuals driving under the influence are increasing in Ontario, and the Timiskaming District has recently seen its highest rate ever for impaired driving infractions with 10 in April of 2024; and

Whereas jurisdictions with broader access to alcohol have higher rates of driving under the influence and crashes associated with alcohol; and

Whereas alcohol causes at least seven types of cancer and is a risk factor for, disease, disability and premature death, and is a direct cause of 4,300 deaths and 195,000 emergency department visits per year in Ontario; and

Whereas alcohol related emergency department visits increased 18 percent after the introduction of alcohol sales in grocery stores in Ontario; and

Whereas 35 percent of youth in grades 10 and 11 in the Timiskaming District have indicated that they consumed alcohol at 13 years or younger; and

Whereas 49 percent of youth in grades 10 and 11 in the Timiskaming District have been drunk at least once in their life; and

Whereas alcohol related harms cost the Ontario economy 7 billion dollars a year; and

Whereas alcohol is a factor in many domestic, sexual and physical assaults in Ontario; and

Whereas most tax revenue generated by the sale of alcohol goes to the province yet the costs and harms that are alcohol related are borne by the municipalities in the form of policing and social services and public health costs.

Therefore be it resolved that Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores requests the Government of Ontario reverse their decision to allow alcohol to be sold in more locations and implement the following recommendations:

1. Permit municipalities to opt out of retail alcohol expansion;
2. Grant municipalities the powers to use zoning to determine where new alcohol retail locations are acceptable;
3. Not permit alcohol sales within 150 m of schools, daycares, or substance use facilities;
4. Prohibit the sale of Alcohol at gas stations;
5. Require health warning labels on all alcohol containers;
6. Dedicate a portion of provincial alcohol revenue to addressing alcohol related harms; and
7. Develop and implement a comprehensive provincial alcohol strategy, in partnership with municipalities, that prioritizes health and safety and considers the costs associated with alcohol consumption.

Further that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming Cochrane; AMO; FONOM; ROMA; Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA); Timiskaming Health Unit (Planet Youth Timiskaming); Temiskaming Shores OPP Detachment Board; and all Ontario Municipalities.

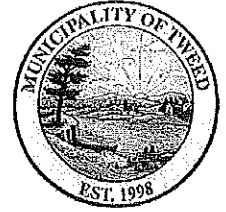
**Carried**

Certified True Copy  
City of Temiskaming Shores



Logan Belanger  
Municipal Clerk

Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting  
Council Meeting



**Resolution No.** 462.  
**Title:** Mayor D. DeGenova  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024

---

**Moved by** J. Palmateer  
**Seconded by** P. Valiquette

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Municipality of Tweed is entering into an agreement to receive Canada Community-Building Funds, which is administered by the Association of Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of the Federal government;

AND WHEREAS the funding allocations are less than 2% year over year for the next 5 years;

AND WHEREAS the amounts allocated in the past 5 years were less than 2% year over year;

AND WHEREAS non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure projects without a corresponding growth in revenue;

AND WHEREAS there is a requirement for municipalities to complete an asset management plan and a housing needs analysis;

AND WHEREAS both of these plans show the large funding gap between infrastructure and housing needs and funds available from property taxation;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the Municipality of Tweed has over \$195 million in core infrastructure assets and, like other municipalities, its infrastructure is aging and in need of upgrades and replacement;

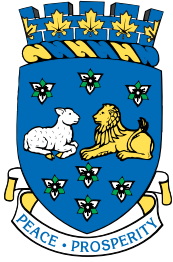
AND WHEREAS the Municipality's Asset Management Plan requires \$15.1 million annually to maintain existing assets which, based on current available funding, is resulting in an annual infrastructure deficit of over \$14.4 million;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Municipality of Tweed calls on the Federal Government to provide a supplement to the allocations provided to municipalities under the AMO CBBF agreement for 2024 - 2028 for the same amount that was allocated, effectively doubling the allocation for those years;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to MFOA, AMO, MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, and Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

**Carried**



September 26, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

Dear Prime Minister:

**Re: Solve the Crisis**

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their regular meeting held on September 25, 2024, approved the following motion:

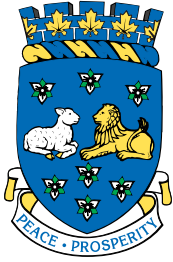
**Whereas there is a humanitarian crisis in cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. We need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province; and**

**Whereas the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023 as well as with an estimated 234,000 Ontarians experiencing homelessness and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023; and**

**Whereas the province has provided additional funding for mental health, addictions and homelessness programs, including the recently announced Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and**

**Whereas municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and**

**Whereas this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and**



**Whereas there is no provincial Minister focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.**

**Now Therefore be it resolved that the Region of Waterloo supports the Solve the Crisis Campaign;**

**And calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;**

**AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;**

**AND appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports;**

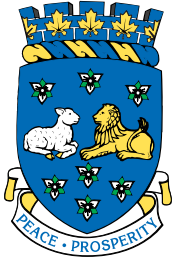
**AND request that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a *Made in Ontario Action Plan*;**

**AND that this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis.**

**AND provides the adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;**

**And that this Council calls on the residents across the Region of Waterloo to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](http://SolveTheCrisis.ca) and showing your support;**

**And further that a copy of this motion be sent to:**



- **The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada**
- **The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario**
- **The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health**
- **The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing**
- **The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services**
- **The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions**
- **Local and area MPs, MPPs and Heads of Council**
- **The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario's Big City Mayors and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario**

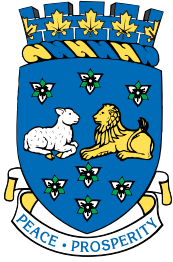
Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions please contact Regional Councillor Dorothy McCabe [Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca](mailto:Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca)

Please forward any written responses to this letter to William Short, Director, Council & Administrative Services/Regional Clerk  
[regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)

Yours sincerely,

William Short, Director Council and Administrative Services/Regional Clerk

cc: Region of Waterloo Councillor Dorothy McCabe [Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca](mailto:Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca)



September 26, 2024

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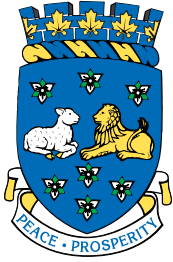
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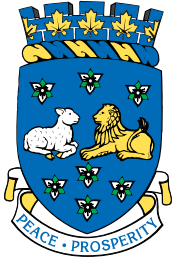
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**AND provides the adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;**

**And that this Council calls on the residents across the Region of Waterloo to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](http://SolveTheCrisis.ca) and showing your support;**

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- **The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario's Big City Mayors and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario**

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Yours sincerely,

William Short, Director Council and Administrative Services/Regional Clerk

cc: Region of Waterloo Councillor Dorothy McCabe [Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca](mailto:Dorothy.McCabe@waterloo.ca)



**AMANDA FUSCO**  
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk  
Corporate Services Department  
Kitchener City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7  
Phone: 519.741.2200 x 7809 Fax: 519.741.2705  
[amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca](mailto:amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca)  
TTY: 519-741-2385

September 19, 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on August 26, 2024, passed the following resolution regarding Renovictions and Safe and Adequate Housing:

"WHEREAS the City of Kitchener adopted the resolution, "Renovictions' - Safe and Adequate Housing" on October 18, 2021, advocating to the Province of Ontario to take additional and meaningful steps to address the ever-increasing problem of Renovictions;

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener is taking meaningful steps to help address the issue with the legislated tools available to municipalities including adopting Inclusionary Zoning By-law and a Rental Replacement By-law;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to urge the Province of Ontario to proclaim and bring into force all regulations pertaining to Bill 97, Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023,

THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to request to the Province of Ontario to amend the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, and/or related regulations to:

- a. reintroduce vacancy control legislation which ties rents to residential units rather than tenancies;
- b. introduce rent control to cover units first occupied after November 15, 2018;
- c. require landlords of residential units to be responsible for finding temporary accommodation or provide sufficient relocation assistance for their tenants for the duration of the renovations if tenants intend to return post - repair/renovation;

- d. require landlords to obtain a building permit before issuing an N13 notice of termination, provide a copy of the applicable permit to tenants together with any N13 notice of termination, require evidence that the permit was delivered with the N13 notice of termination as part of any L2 application to end a tenancy filed on that basis, and require the approved permit be provided to the LTB as part of any L2 application to end a tenancy filed on the basis of an N13 notice of termination;
- e. provide the same rights and compensation afforded to tenants in buildings with five (5) or more units to those in buildings with less than five (5) units;
- f. increase the required compensation for tenants in no-fault evictions;
- g. remove ex parte eviction orders for breached repayment agreements;
- h. require landlords to attach a plain-language tenants' rights information package to N13 eviction notices;
- i. regulate N11s and buy-out agreements; and
- j. amend Above Guideline Increase (AGI) rules to eliminate the eligibility of capital expenditures that constitute general repair and maintenance of the property; add a new subsection requiring landlords to save 10 percent of rental income to be accessed for capital expenditures; and require landlords to notify tenants of the decrease in advance of the date when rent is required to be reduced as specified in an order permitting an AGI related to eligible capital expenses;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener supports the resolution adopted by the City of Toronto to urge to the province of Ontario to make the following operational changes to the Landlord Tenant Tribunal (LTB):

- a. allow tenants the right to in-person LTB hearings to eliminate technological barriers for individuals who do not have access to digital devices or reliable internet connection;
- b. simplify LTB notices with plain language so they are easily understood and ensure all forms include a tracking number that is linked to a public registry; and
- c. establish a provincial rental registry that tracks building ownership, rental rates, AGIs and their expiry dates, and LTB eviction filings and their outcomes; and monitor data on N12 and N13 evictions.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing, all other municipalities within Ontario, the Region of Waterloo and other Municipalities for their consideration and possible endorsement.”

Yours truly,



---

A. Fusco  
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Cc: Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities Ontario  
Will Short, Clerk, Region of Waterloo  
Ontario Municipalities  
Sloane Sweazey, Senior Policy Advisor, City of Kitchener

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles  
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

**Agenda Number:** 7.4.  
**Resolution Number** 2024-325  
**Title:** Resolution stemming from May 15, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #12  
**Date:** August 14, 2024

---

**Moved by:** Councillor Loftus  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Laframboise

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution #26-24 passed by Public Health Sudbury and Districts, regarding recommendations for Government Regulations of nicotine pouches;**  
**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; our local member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Public Health Sudbury & Districts; and all Ontario Municipalities.**

CARRIED

  
MAYOR



April 22, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Recommendations for Government Regulation of Nicotine Pouches**

In July 2023, Health Canada gave approval to Imperial Tobacco Canada to sell Zonnica under the [Natural Health Product Regulations](#) as a Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) product. Consequently, Zonnica is sold under the Health Canada approval without adhering to the restrictions of the Federal [Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997](#) and the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017](#).

Since this time, nicotine pouches have become widely available to youth. These flavoured pouches can be legally purchased by those under 18 years of age in Ontario. The unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to accessibility, normalization, and potential health hazards. Nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children<sup>1</sup> and youth<sup>2</sup>. Exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of children and youth and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco<sup>2</sup>.

In March 2024, Public Health Sudbury & Districts released an advisory alert to local health system partners sharing concerns related to nicotine pouches. Additionally, letters were sent to education directors, educators, and parents to increase awareness of the availability and risks of nicotine pouches to children and youth.

At its meeting on April 18, 2024, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts took further action and carried the following resolution #26-24:

**Sudbury**

1300 rue Paris Street  
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3  
t: 705.522.9200  
f: 705.522.5182

**Elm Place**

10 rue Elm Street  
Unit / Unité 130  
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3  
t: 705.522.9200  
f: 705.677.9611

**Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est**

1 rue King Street  
Box / Boîte 58  
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0  
t: 705.222.9201  
f: 705.867.0474

**Espanola**

800 rue Centre Street  
Unit / Unité 100 C  
Espanola ON P5E 1J3  
t: 705.222.9202  
f: 705.869.5583

**Île Manitoulin Island**

6163 Highway / Route 542  
Box / Boîte 87  
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0  
t: 705.370.9200  
f: 705.377.5580

**Chapleau**

34 rue Birch Street  
Box / Boîte 485  
Chapleau ON P0M 1K0  
t: 705.860.9200  
f: 705.864.0820

**toll-free / sans frais**

1.866.522.9200

[phsd.ca](http://phsd.ca)



*WHEREAS Health Canada approved nicotine pouches for sale under the Natural Health Product regulations providing no restrictions on advertising or sale to children and youth; and*

*WHEREAS the unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to their accessibility, the normalization of nicotine use, and potential health hazards; and*

*WHEREAS nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children and youth; and*

*WHEREAS exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of adolescents and young adults and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco products; and*

*WHEREAS the emergence of nicotine pouch products occurred rapidly without requiring adherence to the restrictions of the federal [Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997](#), and the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017](#); and*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage Health Canada to take immediate action to close the regulatory gap that permits the sale of nicotine pouches to youth under 18 years of age; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Board of Health urge Health Canada to strengthen regulations to restrict the sale of new and emerging tobacco and nicotine products, ensuring that nicotine availability to children and youth never occur again; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage the Government of Ontario to exclusively sell nicotine pouches from behind pharmacy counters, limit their display in retail settings, and restrict their promotion, especially to youth; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Government of Ontario expand the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy to create a comprehensive, coherent public health-oriented framework for the regulation of vaping and all nicotine-containing products.*

We strongly encourage the Government of Ontario to follow immediately the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Québec to exclusively sell nicotine pouches in pharmacies, specifically behind the counter. This decision reduces product availability, restricts their promotion, and limits their display in retail settings.

Until tighter restrictions of nicotine pouches are implemented, the widely available and accessible product will continue to expose children and youth to nicotine. The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourages the Government of Ontario to expand the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy to create a comprehensive, coherent public health-oriented framework for the regulation of vaping and all nicotine-containing products.



We thank you for your speedy attention to this important issue, and we continue to look forward to opportunities to work together to promote and protect the health of Ontarians.

Sincerely,



René Lapierre  
Chair, Board of Health



M. Mustafa Hirji, MD, MPH, FRCPC  
Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Mark Holland, Minister of Health of Canada  
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health  
Honourable Ya'ara Saks, Canada's Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health  
Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
Yasir Naqvi, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, Honourable Mark Holland  
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario  
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt  
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury  
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin  
Viviane Lapointe, Member of Parliament, Sudbury  
All Ontario Boards of Health  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). "The Health Consequences of Smoking-50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General."

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK294308/#ch5.s2>

<sup>2</sup> National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (US) Office on Smoking and Health. (2016). "E-cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General." Retrieved on January 30, 2024 from

[www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/ecigarettes/pdfs/2016\\_sgr\\_entire\\_report\\_508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/ecigarettes/pdfs/2016_sgr_entire_report_508.pdf).



April 22, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Mark Holland  
Minister of Health of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Holland:

**Re: Recommendations for Government Regulation of Nicotine Pouches**

In July 2023, Health Canada gave approval to Imperial Tobacco Canada to sell Zonnica under the [Natural Health Product Regulations](#) as a Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) product. Consequently, Zonnica is sold under the Health Canada approval without adhering to the restrictions of the Federal [Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997](#) and the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017](#).

Since this time, nicotine pouches have become widely available to youth. These flavoured pouches can be legally purchased by those under 18 years of age in Ontario. The unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to accessibility, normalization, and potential health hazards. Nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children<sup>1</sup> and youth<sup>2</sup>. Exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of children and youth and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco products<sup>2</sup>.

In March 2024, Public Health Sudbury & Districts released an advisory alert to local health system partners sharing concerns related to nicotine pouches. Additionally, letters were sent to education directors, educators, and parents to increase awareness of the availability and risks of nicotine pouches to children and youth.

At its meeting on April 18, 2024, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts took further action and carried the following resolution #26-24:

*WHEREAS Health Canada approved nicotine pouches for sale under*

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Sudbury ON P3E 3A3  
t: 705.522.9200  
f: 705.522.5182

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Unit / Unité 130  
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3  
t: 705.522.9200  
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1 rue King Street  
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St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0  
t: 705.222.9201  
f: 705.867.0474

**Espanola**

800 rue Centre Street  
Unit / Unité 100 C  
Espanola ON P5E 1J3  
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1.866.522.9200

[phsd.ca](http://phsd.ca)



*the Natural Health Product regulations providing no restrictions on advertising or sale to children and youth; and*

*WHEREAS the unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to their accessibility, the normalization of nicotine use, and potential health hazards; and*

*WHEREAS nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children and youth; and*

*WHEREAS exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of adolescents and young adults and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco products; and*

*WHEREAS the emergence of nicotine pouch products occurred rapidly without requiring adherence to the restrictions of the federal [Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997](#), and the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017](#); and*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage Health Canada to take immediate action to close the regulatory gap that permits the sale of nicotine pouches to youth under 18 years of age; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Board of Health urge Health Canada to strengthen regulations to restrict the sale of new and emerging tobacco and nicotine products, ensuring that nicotine availability to children and youth never occur again; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage the Government of Ontario to exclusively sell nicotine pouches from behind pharmacy counters, limit their display in retail settings, and restrict their promotion, especially to youth; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Government of Ontario expand the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy to create a comprehensive, coherent public health-oriented framework for the regulation of vaping and all nicotine-containing products.*

We applaud your pledge to take action to review the approval process for flavoured nicotine sales and advertising. We acknowledge the advisory Health Canada issued in March stating nicotine pouches should be used for nicotine replacement therapy in adults and the emphasis on keeping them out of reach of children and youth.

However, only until tighter restrictions of nicotine pouches are implemented, the widely available and accessible product will continue to expose children and youth to nicotine. The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourages the federal government to take immediate action to close the regulatory gap by restricting the sale of nicotine pouches to those under 18 years of age. We also support Health Canada in their assertion to halt the legal purchasing loophole and ensure that nicotine availability to children and youth never occurs with new and emerging products.

We thank you for your attention to this important issue, and we continue to look forward to opportunities to work together to promote and protect the health of Canadians.

Sincerely,



René Lapierre  
Chair, Board of Health



M. Mustafa Hirji, MD, MPH, FRCPC  
Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health  
Honourable Ya'ara Saks, Canada's Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health  
Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
Yasir Naqvi, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, Honorable Mark Holland  
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario  
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All Ontario Boards of Health  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). "The Health Consequences of Smoking-50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General."

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK294308/#ch5.s2>

<sup>2</sup> National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (US) Office on Smoking and Health. (2016). "E-cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General."

The Honourable Mark Holland  
April 22, 2024  
Page 4

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Retrieved on January 30, 2024 from  
[www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/ecigarettes/pdfs/2016\\_sgr\\_entire\\_report\\_508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/ecigarettes/pdfs/2016_sgr_entire_report_508.pdf).



TOWNSHIP OF HILLIARD

Resolution # 2024- 106

Date: September 18, 2024

Moved by: *P. Veley*  
Seconded by: *B. Carleton*

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of Hilliard received correspondence from the Municipality of Tweed dated June 17, 2024 regarding a request for the government to implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities;  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of Hilliard does hereby endorse the letter from the Municipality of Tweed and request the Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities and;  
**FURTHERMORE** that a copy of the resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Councillor	For	Against
Bolesworth, Laurie	✓	
Lane, Dan	A	
Veley, Phil	✓	
Peckover, Karen	✓	
Carleton, Betty	✓	
Carried	✓	
Defeated		

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve  
*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

HELD  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**2024-204**

**Moved by Councillor Champagne  
Seconded by Councillor Trahan**

WHEREAS on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supported a resolution received from the Town of Petrolia calling upon both the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Boards to re-establish a combined OGRA and ROMA annual conference;

AND WHEREAS on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, correspondence was received from ROMA Chair, Robin Jones, stating that in 2019 the ROMA Board of Directors and the OGRA Executive Committee decided not to hold a joint conference, but agreed that there are matters the organizations can work together on;

AND WHEREAS with ROMA being the rural voice of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) it makes great sense for the ROMA and AMO conferences to be a combined conference, not only financially for municipalities but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff;

AND WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, moving to a combined ROMA/AMO conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of East Ferris call upon both the ROMA & AMO Boards to establish a combined ROMA/AMO annual conference;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED should the conferences be combined and held during the winter months, as has been past practice for the ROMA conference, that a hybrid participation option be considered as winter weather can be unpredictable and not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to ROMA, AMO, MPP Vic Fedeli, and all municipalities in Ontario.

**Carried Mayor Rochefort**

**T: 705-752-2740**

**E: [municipality@eastferris.ca](mailto:municipality@eastferris.ca)**

**25 Taillefer Road, Corbeil, ON. P0H 1K0**



**East Ferris**  
MUNICIPALITY • MUNICIPALITÉ

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of  
Resolution No. 2024-204 passed by the  
Council of the Municipality of East Ferris  
on the 24th day of September, 2024.

Kari Hanselman, Dipl. M.A.  
Clerk





**City of Stratford, Corporate Services Department**

Clerk's Office

City Hall, P. O. Box 818, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W1

Tel: 519-271-0250, extension 5237

Email: clerks@stratford.ca

Website: www.stratford.ca

September 13, 2024

Sent via email – councilmeeting@toronto.ca

John D. Elvidge,  
City Clerk  
City of Toronto

**Re: Resolution Regarding Requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians**

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated July 31, 2024, regarding the above-mentioned matter.

The said correspondence was provided to Stratford City Council for their information as part of the September 9, 2024, Council meeting Consent Agenda (CA-2024-140). Council adopted the following resolution:

**THAT CA-2024-140, being a resolution from The City of Toronto regarding Provincial Support for Family Physicians, be endorsed.**

Sincerely,

*T. Dafoe*

Tatiana Dafoe Clerk

/mf

cc: Hon. Mark Holland, Minister of Health  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario municipalities

Honourable Premier Doug Ford  
[Doug.Fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:Doug.Fordco@pc.ola.org)

Sent via electronic mail

October 4, 2024

Dear Honourable Premier Doug Ford

At its Regular meeting on October 2, 2024, the Township of Springwater's Council passed resolution C506-2024 endorsing the AMO and OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign.

**Resolution C506-2024**

Moved by: Garwood  
Seconded by: Fisher

Whereas the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.5 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being derostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

Whereas it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and,

Whereas Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine; and,

Whereas the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77% in 2008 to 65% in 2022; and,

Whereas per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada; and,

Whereas a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the Province; and,

Whereas these cracks in Ontario's health care system are impacting economic development, health, and well-being at the local level; and,

Whereas in response, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are working collaboratively to advocate for a better healthcare system for Ontario residents and communities.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That, Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in Springwater and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care; and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Hon. Doug Ford; Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte Member of Provincial Parliament, Hon. Doug Downey, the Minister of Health, Hon. Sylvia Jones, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities.

**Carried**

I can be reached via email at [jennifer.coughlin@springwater.ca](mailto:jennifer.coughlin@springwater.ca) or by phone at 705-728-4784, Ext. 2020.

Regards,



Jennifer Coughlin  
Mayor, Township of Springwater

cc: Hon. Minister of Health Sylvia Jones  
Hon. MPP Doug Shipley  
Ontario Medical Association  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities



# The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

## Resolution

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Town of Cobourg  
55 King Street West,  
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2  
[clerk@cobourg.ca](mailto:clerk@cobourg.ca)

**Sent via email**

September 27, 2024

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on September 25, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the increased importation and use of non-Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) aftermarket batteries is presenting a significant increase in fire and explosion, putting citizens and responding personnel in danger; and

WHEREAS these aftermarket batteries are not Underwriter Laboratories of Canada (ULC) certified but can be imported into Canada without any associated regulations; and

WHEREAS unlicensed persons and locations can store and modify lithium-ion batteries in our communities without regulations, providing dangerous conditions within a community and charging these batteries within the home or multi-unit dwellings can result in larger fires with grave results; and

WHEREAS as Canada becomes more aware of Green Energy solutions, these batteries are used more often, increasing the danger to our communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Cobourg supports the resolution from the from Municipality of Wawa regarding regulations for the importation of safe use of lithium-ion batteries; and

FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobourg does hereby support the Ontario Fire Marshal's program to educate citizens on the danger associated with lithium-ion batteries and encourage every municipality to actively promote safe practices for the use of lithium-ion batteries; and

FURTHER THAT Council does hereby call upon all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage, and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries and that this resolution be shared with the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, the Ontario Municipal Fire Prevention Officers Association and all Ontario Municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik  
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services



The Corporation of  
The Township of Brock  
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0  
705-432-2355

October 1, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario

Sent via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Rideshare Services

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Please be advised that Council adopted the following resolution at their Council meeting held on September 23, 2024:

C-2024-226

“Whereas, the Township of Brock faces challenges related to limited access to transportation, and there exists a pressing need for a ride-sharing service to address transportation gaps within our community; and

Whereas Rideshare services are increasingly relied upon by seniors, students, visitors and tourists, and residents looking for safe, affordable, convenient, and reliable ways to travel; and

Whereas, the standardization and consistency of regulations across municipalities, particularly in Ontario, can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory framework; and

Whereas, transferring the responsibility of ride-share regulations and licensing to the provincial level would contribute to a more streamlined and uniform governance structure, while eliminating associated red tape and unnecessary administrative costs;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Township of Brock Council hereby expresses its support for the migration of ride-share regulations and licensing from the municipal level to the provincial level;

Be It Further Resolved that the Township of Brock Council formally requests the Government of Ontario to initiate the transfer of responsibilities in the interest of creating a more coherent and standardized regulatory framework for ride-sharing services across the province;

Be It Further Resolved that copies of this motion be distributed to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock; the

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Region of Durham; all Durham Region lower-tier municipalities, and all Ontario municipalities.”

If this information is required in an accessible format,  
please contact the Township at 705-432-2355.

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Clerks@Brock.ca.

Yours truly,

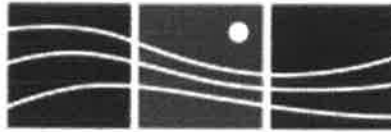
THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK



Maralee Drake  
Deputy Clerk

MD:dh

cc. Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation – minister.mto@ontario.ca  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing – minister.mah@ontario.ca  
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org  
Robin Jones, President, AMO - amopresident@amo.on.ca  
Durham Region municipalities  
All Ontario municipalities



# Belvedere Heights

Community Support Services Residences Long Term Care

October 07, 2024

Reeve Bert Liverance and Councilors  
Township of the Archipelago  
9 James St.  
Parry Sound, ON, P2A 1T4

Dear Reeve Liverance and Council:

In May 2021, Belvedere Heights returned the proportionate share of \$700,000 to each of our 8 owner municipalities. At that time, the then Long-Term Care Act only allowed us to retain 15 per cent of our total revenue as an operating surplus equivalent to \$1.6M, which meant that our \$2.3M operating reserves had to be reduced by \$700,000.

Most of the 8 municipalities placed their share into reserves for Belvedere Heights, which then should be available to return to Belvedere Heights to support the addition of 22 new private rooms. We kindly request that you remit these funds as soon as you are able to help offset the architect and engineering costs incurred during 2024.

Please see the attached the ownership share apportionment used to return the funds to the Municipalities in May 2021. This same breakdown will be used as the backup for this request to return these amounts for each municipality as approved by the Board.

Sincerely,

Pam Wing, Carling Councillor  
Chair, Belvedere Heights Board of Management

CC: CAO

**BELVEDERE HEIGHTS  
LONG TERM CARE**

ADMINISTRATION  
(705) 746-5871 • FAX (705) 774-7300

**21 BELVEDERE AVENUE**

NURSING DEPARTMENT  
(705) 746-5871 • Extension 2  
FAX (705) 774-7300

**PARRY SOUND, ON P2A 2A2**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES  
(705) 746-5602 or 1-800-883-0058  
FAX (705) 774-7300

**Belvedere Heights 2021 Levy Apportionment**

**Board Approved Levy**  
**repayment** March 2021  
**Levy 2021**

**2019**  
**FIR 26A**  
**Column I 7**

**\$700,000**

<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>Weighted Assessment</b>	<b>% Distribution</b>	<b>Distributed Amount 2021</b>
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Parry Sound	845,529,080	8.8120%	\$61,684 ✓
Carling	1,024,748,048	10.6798%	\$74,759 ✓
Whitestone	587,354,886	6.1214%	\$42,850 ✓
McDougall	744,399,378	7.7581%	\$54,307 ✓
McKellar	649,711,295	6.7712%	\$47,399 ✓
McMurrich-Montieth	221,094,343	2.3042%	\$16,130 ✓
Archipelago	2,089,910,184	21.7809%	\$152,466 ✓
Seguin	3,432,408,583	35.7723%	\$250,406 ✓
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,595,155,797</b>	<b>100.0000%</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>

*NOTE: The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing website provided the*



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# District of Parry Sound



Social Services  
Administration Board

## **Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

*September 2024*

### 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.

## Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference 2024

In August, I attended the AMO conference in Ottawa alongside my NOSDA counterparts to advocate for the issues impacting the North.

Along with my fellow NOSDA counterparts, we attended deputations with the following ministries:

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Long-Term Care
- Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services,
- Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- Solicitor General.



Also, of interest to our work is a campaign by Ontario’s Big City Mayors who are calling on the provincial and federal governments to devote more resources to tackling a surge in homelessness and addictions in communities across the province (see: [Solve the Crisis campaign](#)).

At the conference, Minister Jones announced that Ontario will ban consumption and treatment services sites within 200 metres of schools and child care centres, which will lead to the closure of 10 facilities. That measure will mean the closure of nine sites funded by the provincial government and another self-funded site. Five of the 10 sites set to close are in Toronto, with all but one located in southern Ontario. The Minister also announced plans for addiction recovery with new treatment hubs focusing on mental health and addictions. A total of 375 “highly supportive housing units” will be added, focusing on treatment without safe supply.

Media Release: [Protecting Community Safety and Connecting More People to Addiction Recovery Care | Ontario Newsroom](#)



## Home Depot Orange Door Campaign Results

Between June 4th to July 7th, Home Depot customers across Canada were empowered to be a part of the change by making a donation in support of a local charity that provides housing and supportive services during this year's Orange Door Campaign.

During this time, our local store in Parry Sound raised \$7,930.90! Esprit Place Family Resource Centre would like to thank the Home Depot Canada Foundation, staff at the local store, and all donors for their incredible support.



## Shelter Campaign -Shoppers Drug Mart

The Shoppers Foundation for Women's Health™ believes that all women should have access to the care and support they need to be healthy and safe. But with more than 2 in 5 women experiencing some form of intimate partner violence in their lifetime, many women in Canada are suffering. Violence against women has a direct and negative impact on the health of women and their families.

Their annual fall 'Giving Shelter' campaign unites all their stores in a fundraising effort to support over 310 local women's shelters and programs across Canada. 100% of donations raised in-store stay in the local community, and this year, **Esprit Place Family Resource Centre** has been chosen as the recipient. This campaign will run from September 7th to October 4th, and Esprit Place staff plan to be on site regularly to support the campaign with information about our programs and services.

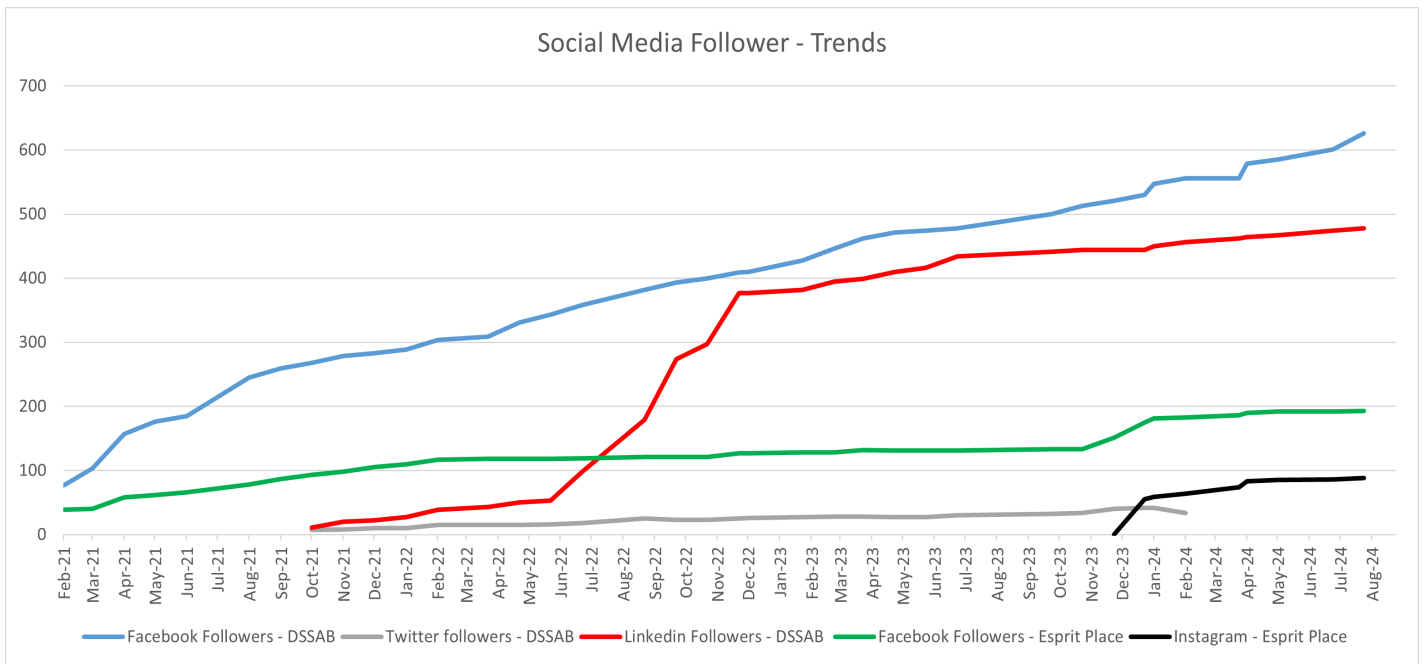


## Facebook Pages



A friendly reminder to follow our Social Media Pages

- ◆ [FACEBOOK - District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board](#)
- ◆ [FACEBOOK - Esprit Place Family Resource Centre](#)
- ◆ [FACEBOOK—EarlyON Child and Family Centres in the District of Parry Sound](#)
- ◆ [LINKEDIN—District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board](#)
- ◆ [INSTAGRAM—Esprit Place Family Resource Centre](#)



## Social Media

### Facebook Stats

<b>District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board</b>	<b>MAR 2024</b>	<b>APR 2024</b>	<b>MAY 2024</b>	<b>JUNE 2024</b>	<b>JULY 2024</b>	<b>AUG 2024</b>
Total Page Followers	556	579	585	601	626	642
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	3324	5,647	5024	5213	5510	6261
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	413	724	621	599	609	512

<b>Esprit Place Family Resource Centre</b>	<b>MAR 2024</b>	<b>APR 2024</b>	<b>MAY 2024</b>	<b>JUNE 2024</b>	<b>JULY 2024</b>	<b>AUG 2024</b>
Total Page Followers	186	190	192	192	193	196
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	241	310	299	421	526	1782
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	127	43	67	102	26	91

<b>DSSAB LinkedIN Stats</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/2YyFHIE">https://bit.ly/2YyFHIE</a>	<b>MAR 2024</b>	<b>APR 2024</b>	<b>MAY 2024</b>	<b>JUNE 2024</b>	<b>JULY 2024</b>	<b>AUG 2024</b>
Total Followers	462	464	467	474	478	485
Search Appearances (in last 7 days)	68	102	125	178	226	184
Total Page Views	54	30	56	26	26	26
Post Impressions	697	846	773	1089	1251	1241
Total Unique Visitors	25	12	22	15	11	13

<b>Instagram - Esprit Place Family Resource Centre</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/espritplace/">https://www.instagram.com/espritplace/</a>	<b>MAR 2024</b>	<b>APR 2024</b>	<b>MAY 2024</b>	<b>JUNE 2024</b>	<b>JULY 2024</b>	<b>AUG 2024</b>
Total Followers	64	74	83	85	86	93
# of accumulated posts	21	23	25	27	29	34

## Licensed Child Care Programs

### Total Children Utilizing Directly Operated Child Care in the District July 2024

Age Group	Fairview ELCC	First Steps ELCC	Highlands ELCC	Waubeek ELCC	HCCP	Total
Infant (0-18M)	2	1	0	2	15	20
Toddler (18-30M)	8	4	15	10	24	61
Preschool (30M-4Y)	15	11	20	41	43	130
# of Active Children	25	16	35	53	82	211

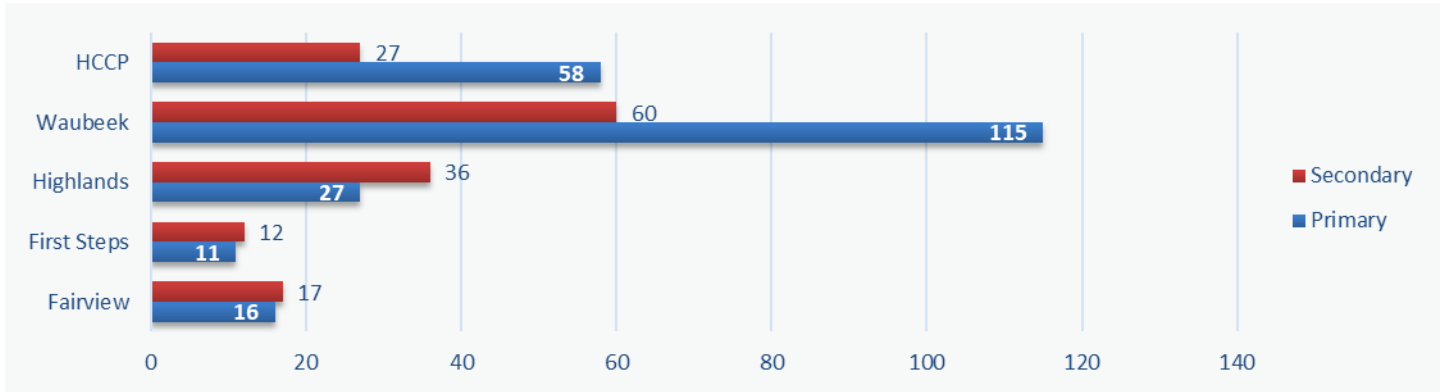
Programs have been able to keep enrollments steady for the summer months to meet the staffing challenges so staff can take some summer vacations. Waubeek ELCCC completed the licensing revisions and has transferred all the children over to 66A Waubeek Street.

## School Age Programs July 2024

Location	Enrollment	Primary Waitlist	Secondary Waitlist
Mapleridge After School	26 enrolled for Sept	8	0
Mapleridge Before School	8 enrolled for Sept	0	0
Mapleridge Summer Program	12	N/A	N/A
Sundridge Centennial After School	10 enrolled for Sept	2	0
Home Child Care	42	6	1
# of Active Children	54		

Mapleridge summer program was at capacity for July and August. Both Mapleridge and Sundridge After School Programs are enrolled to capacity and ready to reopen September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Directly Operated Child Care Waitlist by Program July 2024



These waitlist numbers are not reflective of the actual need in the district and are duplications as most families apply to more than one licensed child care program. Child care supervisors have been communicating with families on the waitlists to see what their current needs are as we transition to the new District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal (OneHSN).

### Inclusion Support Services July 2024

Age Group	EarlyON	Licensed ELCC's	Monthly Total	YTD Total	Waitlist	New Referrals	Discharges
Infant (0-18M)	0	3	3	4	2	1	0
Toddler (18-30M)	1	2	3	12	4	1	0
Preschool (30M-4Y)	2	33	35	45	3	1	1
School Age (4Y+)	9	31	40	27	5	0	2
Monthly Total	12	69	81	-	14	3	3
YTD Total	13	75	-	88	36	28	13

**EarlyON Child and Family Programs  
July 2024**

Activity	Monthly Total	YTD
Number of Children Attending	913	7089
Number of New Children Attending	48	271
Number of Adults Attending	590	5586
Number of Virtual Programming Events	4	65
Number of Engagements through Social Media	1273	4392
Number of Views through Social Media	21659	95796

**Funding Sources for District Wide Childcare Spaces - July 2024**

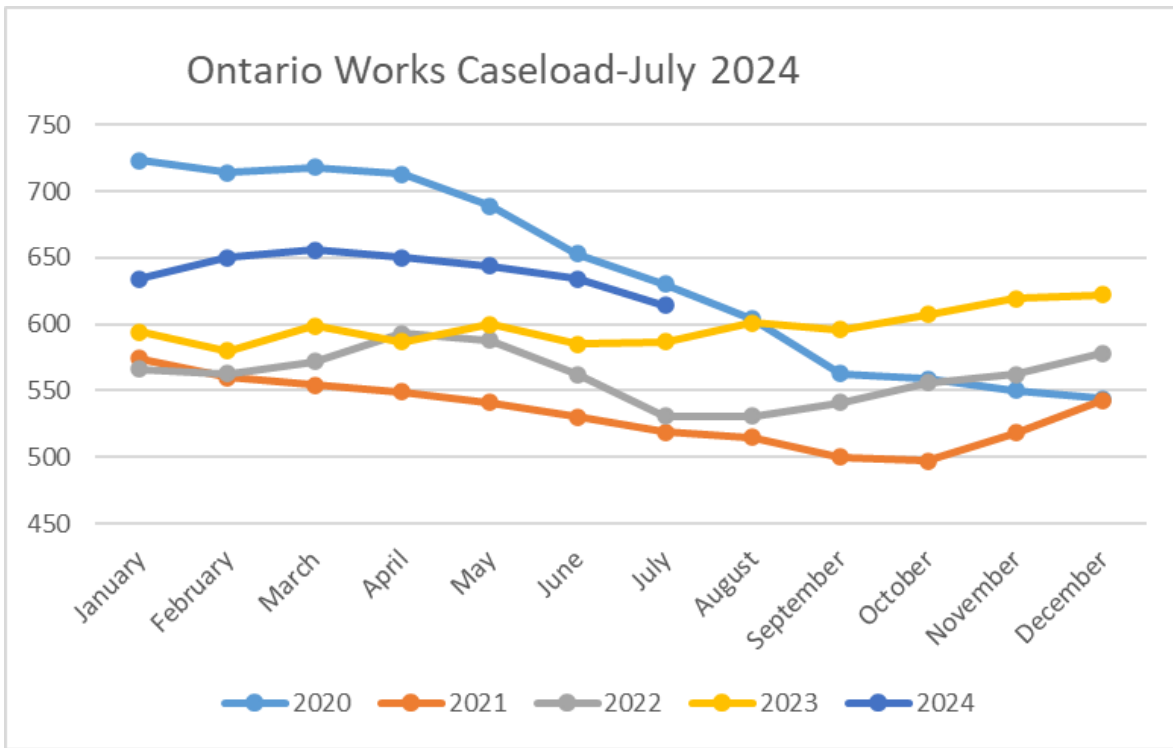
Funding Source - Active	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC*	71	66
CWELCC Full Fee	188	187
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	23	22
Fee Subsidy	105	75
Full Fee	9	8
Ontario Works	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>362</b>

Exits	# of Children	# of Families
Fee Subsidy	4	3
CWELCC Full Fee	2	2
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>

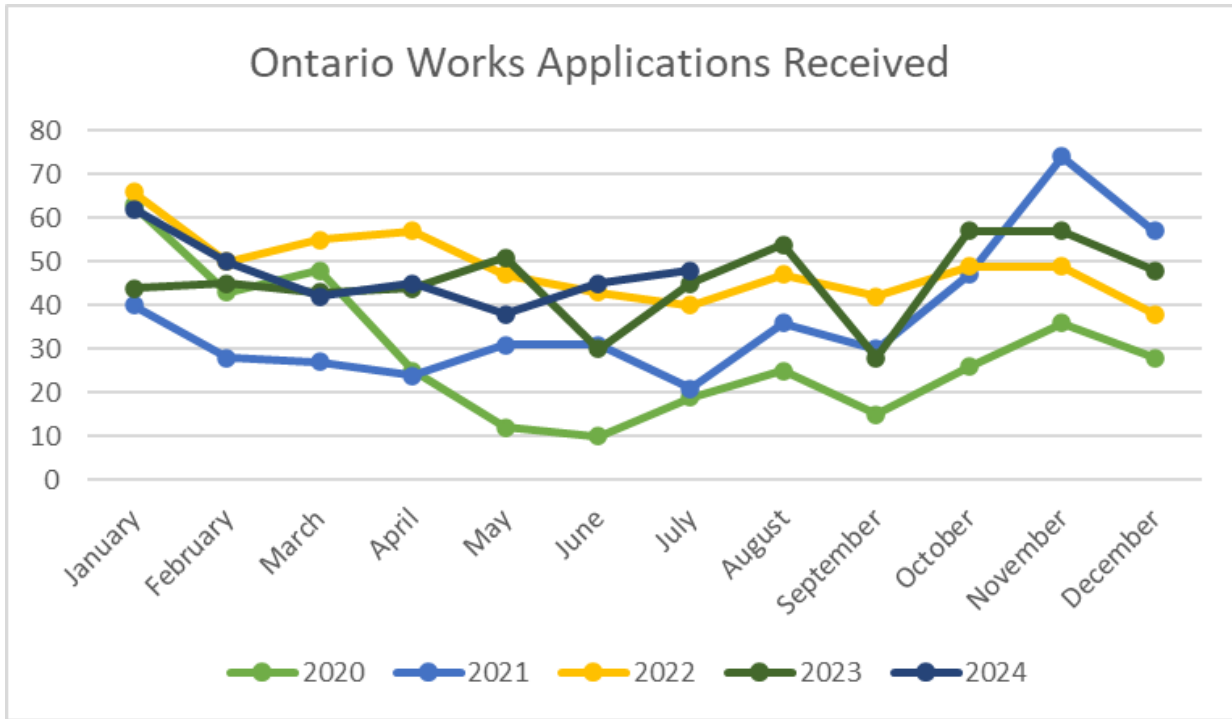
Funding Source - New	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC*	2	2
CWELCC Full Fee	6	6
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	18	17
Fee Subsidy	76	53
Full Fee	1	1
Ontario Works	4	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>82</b>

\* CWELCC: Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care; eligible for children 0 - 6

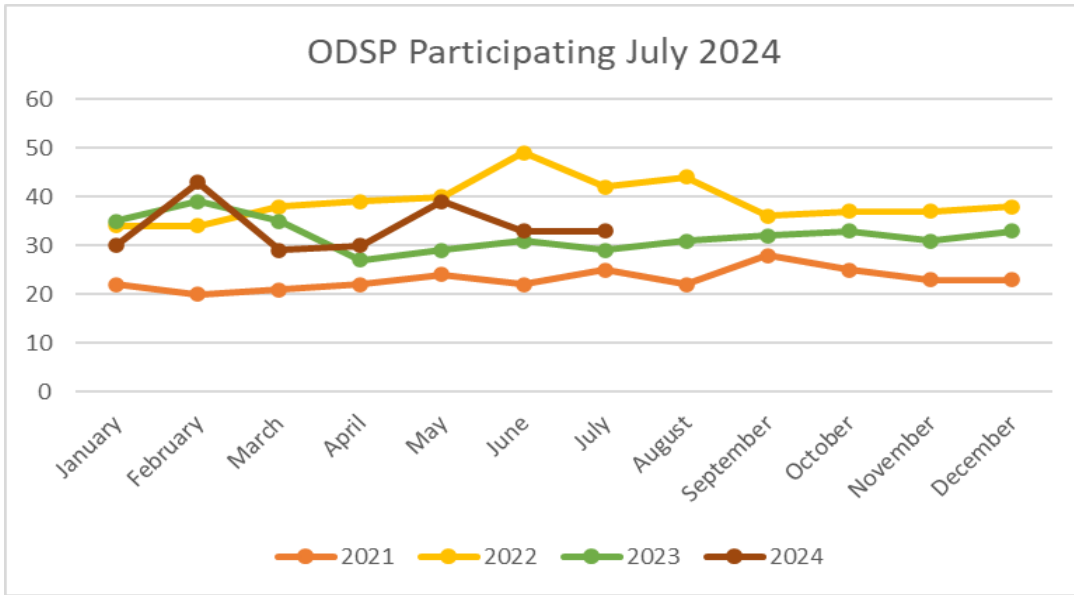




**Ontario Works Intake - Social Assistance Digital Application (SADA) & Local Office Ontario Works Applications Received**

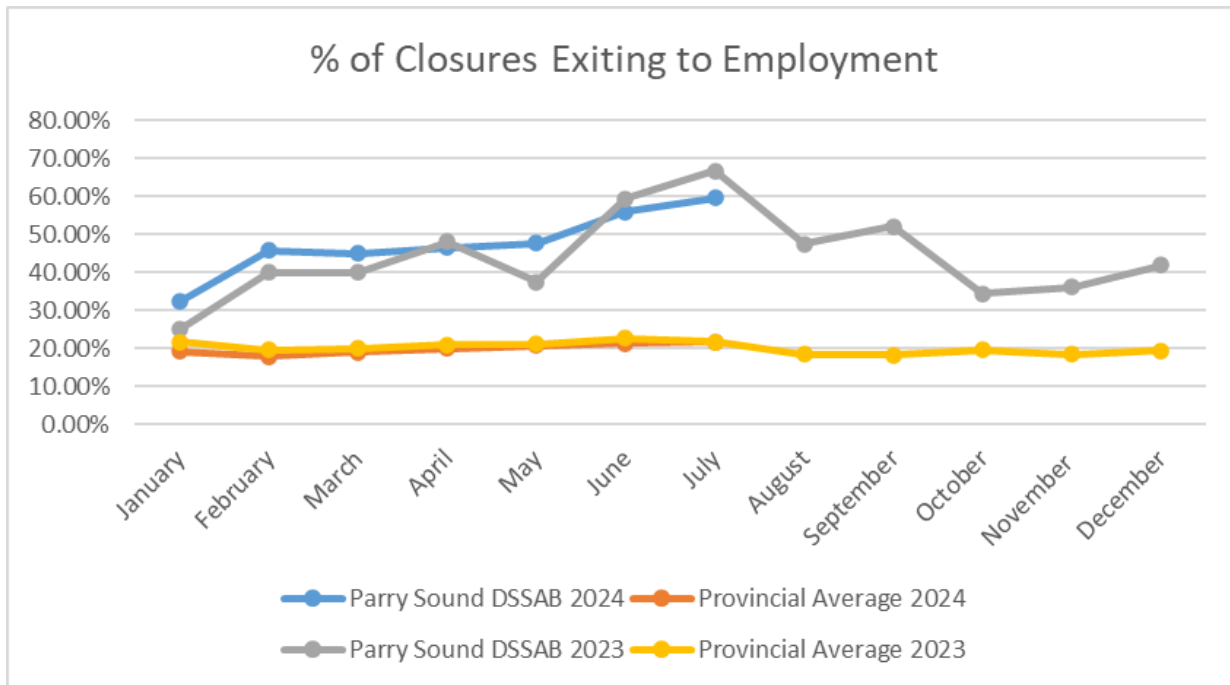


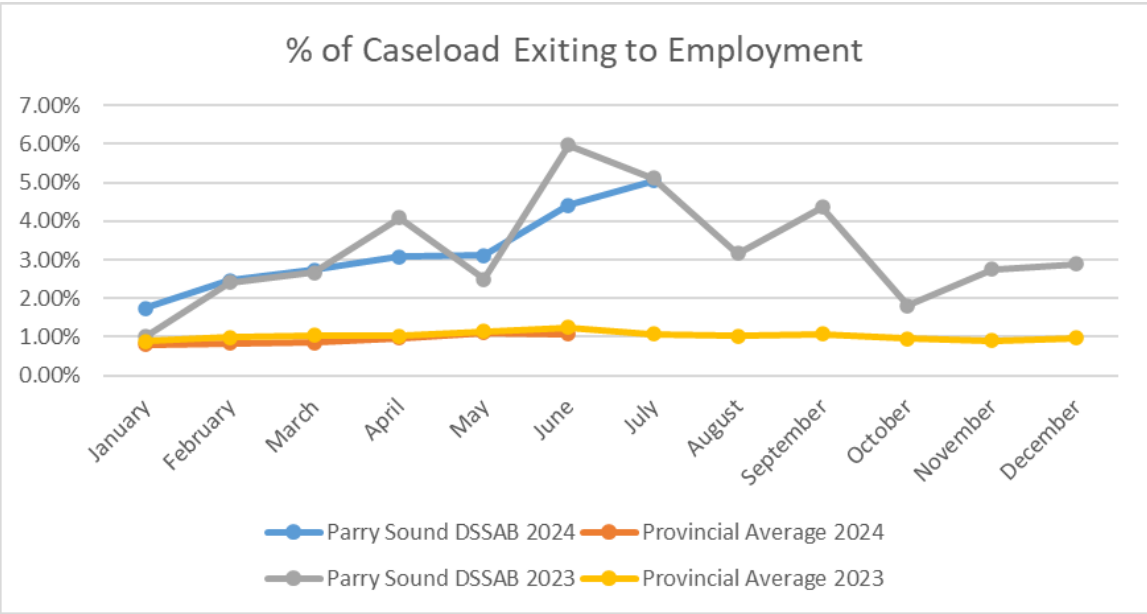
## ODSP Participants in Ontario Works Employment Assistance



The OW Caseload continues to trend down to **614**. We are supporting **33** ODSP participants in our Employment Assistance program. We also have **58** Temporary Care Assistance cases. We received **48** Ontario Works Applications, 40 (80%) of which were online through SADA and managed through IBAU in the month of July..

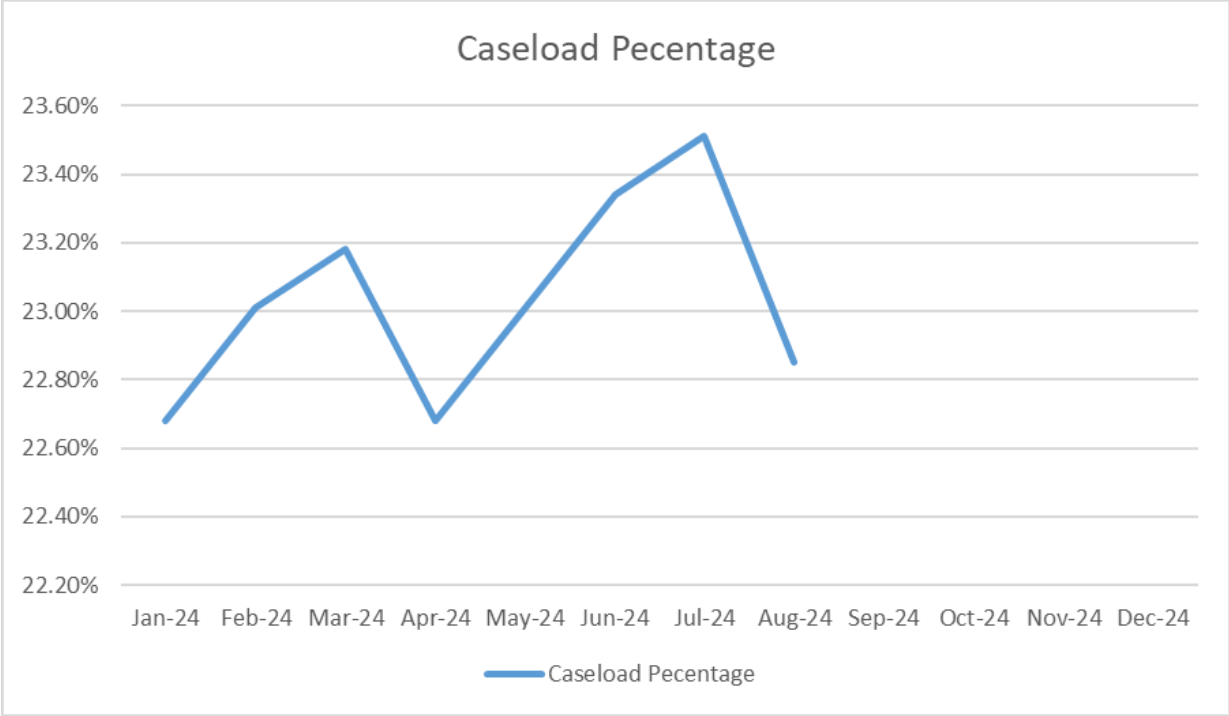
## Employment Assistance & Performance Outcomes



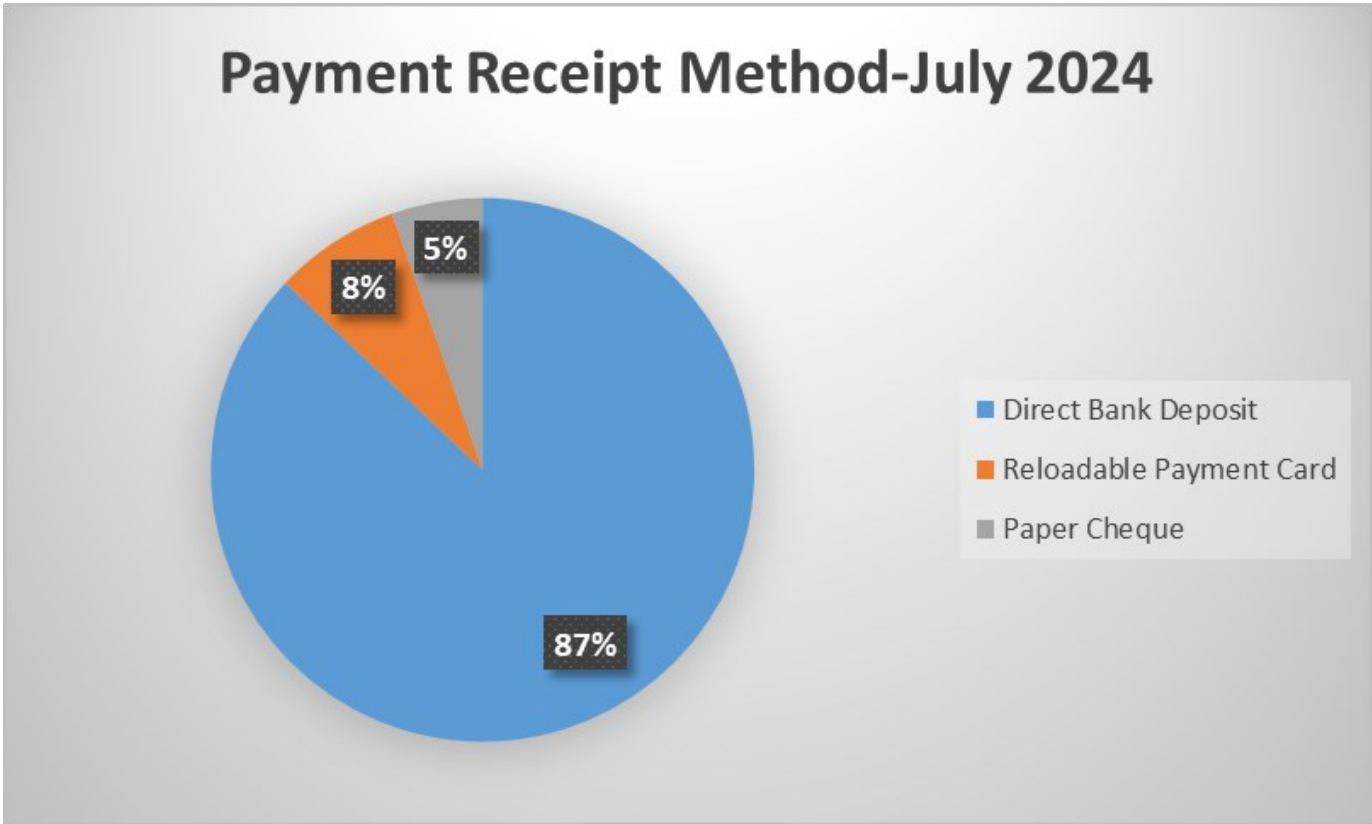


We continue to perform well in our Employment Outcomes. We remain at or near our 2023 levels and remain well above the provincial average.

**MyBenefits Enrollment 2024**



**DBD Enrollment**



## Housing Stability Program - Community Relations Workers

### Support

All services performed, provided, or arranged by the Homelessness Prevention Program staff to promote, improve, sustain, or restore appropriate housing for individuals active with the Homelessness Prevention Program, periodically within the month, not requiring intense case management.

July 2024 Income Source	East	West
Senior	12	14
ODSP	12	26
Ontario Works	5	20
Low Income	23	25

### Intense Case Management

Intense Case Management involves the coordination of appropriate services and the provision of consistent and on-going weekly supports, required by the individual to obtain, and sustain housing stability.

July 2024 Income Source	East	West
Senior	12	18
ODSP	18	14
Ontario Works	14	15
Low Income	9	35

### Contact/Referrals

July 2024	East	West	YTD
Homeless	0	3	29
At Risk	1	2	53
<b>Program Total</b> (Esprit In Shelter Clients calculated in Homelessness Numbers)			<b>82</b>
Esprit Outreach Homeless	0	0	0
Esprit Outreach at Risk	0	0	0
Esprit in Shelter	1		3

### Short Term Housing Allowance

	Active	YTD
July 2024	6	11

### Housing Stability: Household Income Sources and Issuance from HPP:

July 2024 Income Source	Total	HPP
Senior	1	\$1000.00
ODSP	9	\$2403.66
Ontario Works	1	\$5331.59
Low Income	5	\$1180.58

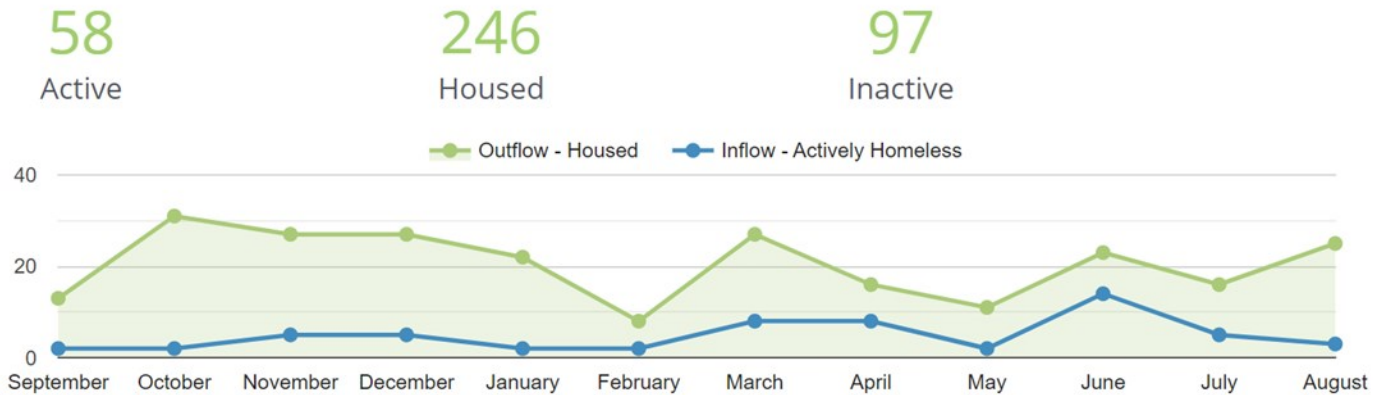
July 2024 Reason for Issue	Total
Rental Arrears	\$1500.00
Utilities/Firewood	\$2180.58
Transportation	\$115.00
Food/Household/Misc	\$6120.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9915.83</b>

**Ontario Works: Household Income Sources and Issuance from HPP**

July 2024 Income Source	Total	HPP
Senior	2	\$1047.04
ODSP	13	\$9098.89
Ontario Works	8	\$5787.59
Low Income	7	\$7040.28

July 2024 Reason for Issue	Total
Rental Arrears	\$4969.20
Utilities/Firewood	\$2227.62
Transportation	\$772.87
Food/Household/Misc.	\$14721.61
Emergency Housing	\$282.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,973.80</b>

**By-Name List Data  
September 1, 2021– July 31, 2024**



**Housing Programs**

**Social Housing Centralized Waitlist Report  
July 2024**

	East Parry Sound	West Parry Sound	Total
Seniors	53	146	199
Families	117	465	582
Individuals	551	183	734
Total	721	794	1515
Total Waitlist Unduplicated			445

**Social Housing Centralized Waitlist (CWL) 2023 - 2024 Comparison  
Applications and Households Housing from the CWL**

Month 2023	New App.	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housing	Month 2024	New App.	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housing
Jan	5	1	13			Jan	3		2	1	
Feb	5	1	10			Feb	5		11	1	
Mar	6		35			Mar	7		3	3	
Apr	11		17	6		Apr	10	1	7		
May	13	2	9	2		May	4	1	5	1	
June	9	1	2	1		June	1		15	3	
July	5	1	5	1		July	9	1	19		
Aug	14	1	3	1		Aug					
Sept	12		4			Sept					
Oct	8	1	1	4	2	Oct					
Nov	12		3			Nov					
Dec	1		2	3	3	Dec					
Total	101	8	104	18	5	Total	39	3	62	9	

SPP = Special Priority Applicant

- Housing Programs approved 9 new applications to the centralized waiting list in the month of July, with 1 application being approved Special Priority Placement.
- We are wrapping up our annual waitlist update and had 19 applications cancelled for varying reasons. Some of these reasons include: requested cancellations, arrears with housing providers, no contract, and income in excess.

**Parry Sound District Housing Corporation  
July 2024**

Activity for Tenant Services

	Current	YTD
Move outs	0	23
Move in	1	21
L1/L2 forms	0	4
N4 - notice of eviction for non payment of rent	1	3
N5 - notice of eviction disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the other occupants	1	3
N6 - notice of eviction for illegal acts or misrepresenting income for RGI housing	0	0
N7 - notice of eviction for willful damage to unit	0	1
Repayment agreements (formal & informal)	0	44
No Trespass Order	0	4
Tenant Home Visits	28	207
Mediation/Negotiation/Referrals	18	116
Tenant Engagements/Education	1	26



**Property Maintenance & Capital Projects  
July 2024**

Pest Control		3 buildings are currently being inspected monthly for bedbugs; 6 units have been treated for bedbugs
Vacant Units	13	one-bedroom (10); multiple bedroom (3) (asbestos abatement, and significant repair contributes to longer vacancy times)
Vacant Units - The Meadow View	6	5-one bedroom, 1-studio vacant
After Hours Calls		Fire Supervisory Signal trouble reset, partial power outage in unit, hot water tank trouble, bathroom light flickering, laundry door locked, smoke detector batteries, leak under sink, water in basement
Work Orders	92	Purchase Orders were created for maintenance work and related materials
DSSAB Ticket	44	DSSAB Tickets are logged for maintenance or repairs required for any of the DSSAB buildings (separate from the Housing Stock)
Annual Inspections	1	One apartment building

Capital information is captured in Quarterly Reports.

## Esprit Place Family Resource Centre

Emergency Shelter Services	July 2024	YTD
Number of women who stayed in shelter this month <i>This month's stats include women who were housed in a hotel</i>	1	31
Number of children who stayed in the shelter this month <i>This month's stats include women who were housed in a hotel</i>	0	14
Number of hours of direct service to women (shelter and counselling)	17	853
Number of days at capacity	0	0
Number of days over capacity	0	0
Overall capacity %	-	-
Resident bed nights (women & children)	-	-
Phone interactions (crisis/support)	32	209

- Please note: Esprit Place closed for renovations mid April, statistics are reflective of minimum occupancy during closure preparations, but accurately reflect outreach and business day crisis line management.
- We are also currently housing 2 families in transitional housing units.

Transitional Support	July 2024	YTD
Number of women served this month	3	7
Number of NEW women registered in the program	3	6
Number of public ed/groups offered	0	0

Child Witness Program	July 2024	YTD
Number of children/women served this month	3	7
Number of NEW clients (mothers and children) registered in the program	1	4
Number of public ed/groups offered	1	1

*To Support Ontario's Forest Industry in the 2025 Ontario Budget*

WHEREAS, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) recognizes how vital the Forestry Industry is to the Economy in Ontario;

WHEREAS, the success of the forest sector is critical to the economic and social prosperity of Ontario communities, employing 137,000 people;

WHEREAS, the forest industry has invested over \$3.8 billion in Ontario since 2018;

WHEREAS, Ontario has an opportunity to market global investment in the bioeconomy, similar to critical minerals and electric vehicle manufacturing, and become a leading international jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, the North American pulp and paper sector has seen a significant rationalization in production capacity, with investment dollars going to competing international jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, in the last year, Ontario has seen three pulp, paper, and containerboard mills idle or close, negatively impacting communities and the solid wood mills that depend on these facilities as markets for mill by-products and pulpwood;

WHEREAS, U.S. tariffs on softwood lumber are expected to double in 2025, to approximately 30%;

WHEREAS, Ontario should work with federal colleagues to pursue a softwood lumber settlement that works in the best interests of Ontario lumber producers and advocate for a financial backstop;

WHEREAS, Ontario has an opportunity to procure greater amounts of energy (i.e., electricity, heat, fuels, biochar, etc.) from forestry by-products and forests to assist in heavy industry decarbonization and Ontario's forecasted electricity demands;

WHEREAS, Ontario's successful and oversubscribed *Forest Biomass Program* should continue post-2027;

WHEREAS, Ontario will actively seek investment to restart idled softwood kraft lines in Ontario and Quebec to provide immediate relief for some sawmill producers;


WHEREAS, Ontario's \$10 million *Sawmill Chip Program*, ending March 25, 2025, will likely need to continue and expand in the absence of an immediate restart of a currently idled pulp mill to avoid curtailments at solid wood facilities;

WHEREAS, 5-year bilateral power purchase agreements (PPAs) with forest biomass-fired electrical generation facilities are insufficient and should be expanded both in terms of length and volume to provide communities, industry, and workers with a certain future;

WHEREAS, the public *Forest Access Roads Funding Program*, which provides for the public use of Ontario's forests, should be increased to \$75 million/year to reflect inflationary pressures and support legacy infrastructure upgrades (i.e., roads, bridges, and water crossings).

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) support the implementation of the Ontario Forest Industries Association's 2025 Ontario Budget Recommendations in support of attracting investment and maintaining forest operations and employment in Ontario.

FURTHER BE IIT RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Minister Vic Fedeli, Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Minister Graydon Smith, Natural Resources, Associate Minister Kevin Holland, Forestry and Forest Products, Minister Andrea Khanjin, Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister Todd McCarthy, Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister George Pirie, Mines, Minister Steven Lecce, Energy and Electrification, Associate Minister Sam Oosterhoff, Energy Intensive Industries, Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Finance, \_\_\_\_\_ local MPP \_\_\_\_, the leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA, and OFIA.



**2024-25**

**Provincial Budget  
Submission**

**Ontario Forest Industries Association**  
January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Ontario's Forest Industry By the Numbers

**\$21B**

total revenues

**72.6M**

trees planted

**\$4.4B**

contribution to the provincial GDP

**300M+**

seeds in aerial seeding

**142,000**

direct, indirect, and induced jobs

**\$60M**

renewal expenditures

**7.2B Tonnes**

Carbon Stored in Ontario's Public Forests

**25.5M Tonnes**

Carbon stored in wood products from Ontario's  
Managed Forest

## Introduction

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Since 2018, the forest industry has invested 3.6 billion dollars in Ontario. Autonomous vehicles, drones, robotics, advanced chemicals, machine learning, optimization, and artificial intelligence are commonplace across our industry's operations. The pace of change and innovation will only increase as our industry meets a rising global demand for green energy and sustainable, low-carbon forest products.

An ambitious growth plan, as outlined in *Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy* (the "Strategy"), a well-managed forest resource, and an "open for business" attitude have formed the groundwork for an incredible green economic growth opportunity in northern, rural, and Indigenous communities across the province. Released in 2020, the Strategy is committed to utilizing the full annual allowable cut (AAC) of 30 million m<sup>3</sup> by 2030, sustainably doubling the sector's current footprint.

Ontario, however, is not immune from global economic and market pressures. High inflation, rising interest rates, workforce shortages, protectionist trade policy, and declining or stagnant market segments represent significant and challenging headwinds. These are complex issues that require a whole-of-government approach. Attracting new investment, developing new products, and growing the sector are important, yet maintaining its existing footprint is essential.

Ensuring a thriving forest sector requires a fully integrated network of forest management planning, road infrastructure, competitive woodland and mill operations, a skilled workforce, and open market access. Above all else, Ontario must keep our public forests working for the people and meet the increasing global demand for sustainably sourced forest products.

To assist Ontario in navigating these complex issues, the Ontario Forest Industries Association (OFIA) has developed its 2024-25 Pre-Budget Submission to serve as a roadmap to success in Strategy implementation. Acting on the following recommendations will unlock the vast economic and environmental potential of Ontario's forest resources and contribute to a better Ontario.

## **Summary of OFIA's 2024-25 Recommendations**

Implement *Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy (the Strategy)*, focusing on key competitiveness measures:

- 1. Prioritize biomass and pulpwood market development to improve forest sector competitiveness and resiliency;**
- 2. Improve forest road infrastructure, leveraging private investments;**
- 3. Improve market access and maintain the effectiveness of Ontario's adaptive and sustainable forest management framework;**
- 4. Address the cumulative costs of carbon pricing;**
- 5. Position Ontario as a globally competitive jurisdiction through red tape and cost reduction;**
- 6. Develop the workforce of the future and enhance forest community livability.**

## **1. Prioritize biomass and pulpwood market development to improve forest sector competitiveness and resiliency.**

---

OFIA recommends:

- a. Ensure a multi-year commitment and expansion to the \$19.6 million *Forest Biomass Fund*;
- b. Modify provincial energy policy to procure greater amounts of forest biomass-fired electricity, supporting community energy and district heating projects;
- c. Prioritize the global competitiveness of Ontario's pulp and paper sector and potential commercialization of innovative products and advanced chemicals;
- d. Incentivize greater use of low-carbon forest biomass within industrial (e.g., steel, mining, chemical, and forestry facilities) processes through Ontario's Emission Performance Standard (EPS) program and innovation funding.

Every year, a sustainable yield of approximately 14 million m<sup>3</sup> of timber is harvested from Ontario's managed public forest. This material works through a highly integrated network of mills and facilities, producing a wide range of products, materials, and secondary products.

Market development within biomass and pulpwood markets is perhaps the greatest opportunity to enhance the supply chain and bolster competitiveness across Ontario's forest industry. Alternatively, a contraction within this market segment poses a significant threat to the future viability of the entire forest sector.

Canada used to be the largest market pulp-producing country in the world but continues to lose share to lower-cost mills in other regions. While Ontario's Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft (NBSK) remains highly sought after for its desirable technical properties, some facilities require significant capital investments to stay competitive. North America competes with low-cost international jurisdictions like Southeast Asia and South America, which have seen significant capital investment in new mills and intensively managed tree plantations over recent years.

The OFIA strongly supports initiatives such as Ontario's \$19.6 million *Forest Biomass Program* and *Forest Sector Investment and Innovation Program* that aim to maximize the use of wood residuals, reduce the need for carbon-intensive fuels, and avoid unnecessary pressures on landfills. Ensuring the success of these programs will help sustain the circular bioeconomy and the integration of Ontario's forest sector. Government support for existing pulp, paper, and biomass facilities is essential to the sector's long-term success.

Bioenergy production, the most deployable and scalable forest biomass technology currently available, presents an enormous opportunity to assist in this goal. Increasing volumes within existing power purchase agreement (PPA) generation facilities, developing community projects, supporting district heating projects, and incentivizing the use of forest biomass in other industrial processes are not only opportunities but are essential to the success of the industry.



## **2. Improve forest road infrastructure, leveraging private investments.**

The OFIA recommends the following to improve Ontario's *Forest Access Roads Funding Program*:

- a. Make an inflationary adjustment of \$15 million/year;
- b. Make a \$5.6 million/year increase to address end-of-life road, bridge, and water crossing infrastructure.

The forest industry builds and maintains public forest infrastructure on behalf of the people of Ontario. This public infrastructure provides essential social, cultural, wellness, and economic opportunities for First Nations and all citizens of Ontario by providing access to the Province's abundance of parks, natural spaces, working forests, critical minerals, and communities. Thousands of Ontario citizens, businesses, anglers, hunters, cottagers, and emergency services depend on a safe and well-maintained public forest road network.

The current funding envelope of \$54 million for the roads program is no longer adequate to meet the infrastructure needs of public and private users of Ontario's forest road infrastructure. Since 2018, the road building and maintenance sector has seen exceptionally high inflation – increased fuel, equipment, and wage costs have significantly weakened the program's purchasing power over the last six years.

Through a comprehensive survey of all forest managers in the province, we estimate a \$20.6 million/year funding deficit. This data reflects annual road maintenance, inflation, and replacing end-of-life bridges, water crossings, and roads.

Improving this program will provide an incredible economic development opportunity for all northern and rural communities, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, right across the province.

### **3. Improve market access and maintain the effectiveness of Ontario's adaptive and sustainable forest management framework.**

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OFIA recommends:

- a. Continue to defend Ontario softwood lumber producer's interests in the ongoing trade dispute with the United States;
- b. Work with industry to address non-tariff trade barriers, e.g., "deforestation-free" procurement bills and "forest degradation" initiatives;
- c. Continued implementation of the *Ontario-Canada Boreal Caribou Conservation Agreement*, focusing on caribou range-boundary review and other scientific methods to assess self-sustaining caribou populations;
- d. Work with the OFIA and forest managers to explore potential contributions to Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs);
- e. Work with the OFIA and forest managers to ensure forest management guidance supports the objectives of Ontario's *Forest Sector Strategy*.

Governments play an essential role in maintaining a positive reputation with customers and honouring commitments to reduce trade barriers within critical export markets. Over \$800 million of Ontario softwood lumber producer's money is on deposit in the U.S. Treasury due to the current iteration of the dispute. This is money that could be re-invested into Ontario facilities and communities. We ask Ontario to continue the rigorous legal defence of its programs and stumpage system, which is currently being investigated by the U.S. Department of Commerce. This issue needs to be raised at every opportunity with Canadian and American officials and viewed as a top diplomatic priority.

Members of the OFIA remain committed to upholding the highest standards of sustainable forest management to maintain ecological processes and conserve biological diversity. We strongly encourage the Ontario government to continue communicating our adaptive forest management framework's effectiveness to the federal government, stakeholders, and defending our industry in the face of misinformation and activist campaigns.

Ensuring our forests remain resilient under a changing climate requires human intervention through sustainable forest management. In pursuing a Federal protected area target, we are concerned that Ontario could erode the working forest landscape. Ontario must carefully consider how protected areas, OECMs, and ecological offsetting will impact the forest industry. We ask MECP and the MNRF to work with us to ensure the forest sector is fully recognized for its contributions to conservation and avoid unintended economic and environmental consequences.

Non-tariff trade barriers, such as "*deforestation-free*" procurement bills in New York and California, concern our industry. We ask that you continue working with your federal counterparts and state legislators to defend Ontario's world-class forest management system.

#### **4. Address the cumulative costs of carbon pricing**

OFIA recommends:

- a. Finalize the proposed approach to the redistribution of EPS proceeds to eligible facilities;
- b. Ensure projects beyond the property limits of facilities are eligible to receive EPS proceeds;
- c. Consider options to mitigate the impacts of the federal carbon fuel charge to the forest sector, evaluating the potential for a made-in-Ontario program.

The OFIA supports an Ontario-based carbon pricing program, and this long-term planning will provide stability for businesses looking to invest in Ontario. We believe that Ontario is better positioned to understand the needs and context of Ontario's emitters.

The world's leading carbon reduction jurisdictions have only achieved such significant progress due to massive increases in the use of forest biomass within industrial processes, combined heat and power, district heating, and electrical generation. Forest biomass is also a much more price-stable source of energy, something that has been highly beneficial to European countries. We view the EPS program as an incredible opportunity to position Ontario as one of these leaders and incentivize increased use of this valuable and sustainable material.

We strongly support using proceeds to create a fund to support research and development into decarbonization and implementing capital-intensive, low-carbon technologies. As an industry, we have made significant progress and investments in decarbonizing operations. Since 1990, Ontario's pulp and paper industry has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 56%. Addressing the remaining high-emitting processes will require new research, significant technological advancement, and large capital expenditures.

Re-injecting EPS proceeds into the industry will fast-track the adoption of new technologies and assist companies in making further investments in Ontario. Developing an Ontario fuel surcharge to replace the federal program would provide access to a larger pool of funds to help in this transition.

In parallel, we are concerned that the proposed federal *Clean Fuels Standard* will compound the impacts of the federal fuel surcharge on forestry operations and transportation. There presently are no viable alternatives to decarbonize the sector. We strongly encourage the government to consider ways to collaborate and support the industry through this transition.

## **5. Position Ontario as a globally competitive jurisdiction through red tape and cost reduction**

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OFIA recommends:

- a. Ensure government initiatives align with the goals and objectives of the *Forest Sector Strategy* to reduce cost and administrative burden to the sector;
- b. Establish service standards, improve service delivery, and remove the need for low-risk approvals;
- c. Adjust and make permanent the 'fixed' portion of Crown dues for poplar and white birch stumpage to ensure that the rate is consistent with other provincial jurisdictions;
- d. Reduce current electricity costs while maintaining and enhancing existing energy programs (e.g., the Northern Energy Advantage Program, the Industrial Conservation Initiative, the Interruptible Rate Pilot, and the Industrial Electricity Incentive Program).
- e. Lower costs and reduce carbon emissions by increasing payloads on tractor-trailer configuration.
- f. Make the current reduction in provincial fuel tax permanent.

The OFIA fully supports this government's focus on red tape reduction and working together to reduce barriers.

The OFIA has repeatedly flagged cost competitiveness, the speed with which we conduct business, and streamlined approval processes as themes that continue to inhibit global competitiveness and negatively impact wood supply access. Initiatives (the Strategy, provincial policy working groups (TAT, SID, FMPAG), and policy changes) have supported a provincial mandate to reduce red tape and administrative burden. More work on these projects is required for the Strategy to succeed.

Burdensome and lengthy approval processes are a problem for the industry across all business areas. The lack of enforceable service standards has been raised within the industry's mill environment, forest management planning and operations, transportation, and human resource departments. Approvals are either unnecessary (e.g., low-risk), duplicative, or take excessive time.

We look forward to working with various ministries to address these issues in upcoming red-tape reduction bills.

The OFIA is thankful for the continued extension of gas and fuel tax cuts, ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We hope to see this excellent initiative continue past the current expiration date.

## **6. Develop the workforce of the future and enhance forestry community livability**

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OFIA recommends:

- a. Establishing a new "*Forestry Truck Driver Experience Grant*" to offset high insurance costs preventing new drivers from entering the industry;
- b. Recognize and streamline foreign credentials and commercial truck driving licenses;
- c. Remove the *Non-Resident Speculation Tax* from northern, rural, and remote communities.
- d. Continued investments into northern, rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

Ontario's forest industry is hiring. Developing a sustainable workforce of the future will be essential for our industry's continued success and achieving the Strategy's goals. We ask the Ontario government to continue supporting the work being done with colleagues at the MNRF, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development to fast-track new workers and new Canadians with relevant skillsets into the forestry workforce.

Transportation costs have increased significantly over the last six years, and trucking capacity has decreased. Increased capital entry costs, insurance, tire and fuel costs, and an escalating carbon tax are contributing to the trucking crisis within the industry. Furthermore, increased driver training costs, underwriting barriers, and premiums restrict new entrants while we manage an ageing and retiring workforce. We ask the Ontario government to work with the industry, licensing, insurance, and training agencies to develop a comprehensive strategy to alleviate the current trucking shortage.

The OFIA has partnered with Forests Ontario on *Bridging the Gap Between Ontario's Youth & the Provincial Forest Sector*, an Employment Ontario research project. This project investigated job vacancies and training requirements within the sector and provided critical insights into youth perceptions of employment within the forest industry.

The livability of forestry-dependant communities is central to attracting a new workforce. Continued healthcare, education, affordable daycare, and housing investments are necessary to ensure that all Ontarians enjoy the same quality of life. For example, the Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST) was intended to deter non-resident investors from speculating on the province's housing market. However, the NRST acts as a barrier to foreign workers filling critical roles in Ontario's small, northern, rural, and remote communities. This was clearly never the program's intent, and we ask that it be corrected.

This government has already invested substantially in infrastructure across the north, including roads and improved internet and cellular coverage, and we look forward to seeing that investment continue. In an increasingly digital age, communities across the north must have

strong technological and built infrastructure. Forestry-dependent communities must become more competitive in drawing residents, particularly new Canadians, through programs such as the *Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot*. The Province needs to consider incentivizing living in the north and enhancing the quality of life for those already there.

## **Conclusion**

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The forest sector is integral to Ontario's history and critical to its economic, social and environmental prosperity. OFIA strongly believes we can create a better Ontario through working forests, leveraging visionary policies such as *Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy*. We look forward to continuing productive dialogue and supporting sustainable economic recovery initiatives with the Ontario government.

# Deputation to Township of Georgian Bay

Public Meeting to Inform Municipal Regulatory Strategy for Floating Accommodations  
October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Cheryl Elliot-Fraser  
Co-Chair

Steve Sprague  
Co-Chair



Floating  
Accommodations not  
Vessels Coalition

# Our Storyline for Today's Presentation

- Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition – Who We Are
- Our Purpose & What we've accomplished
- Definitions – Floating Homes / Floating Accommodation / Vessels
- What is the current regulatory patchwork – Gaps?
- What we hope ToGB can accomplish
- Questions & Discussion



# We are facing a Floating Cottage problem...

## Welcome to our “New Neighbours”



10/08/2024



Floating Accommodations not Vessels Coalition



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# Floating Accommodations not Vessels

## Who Are We

- We started life as a grass-roots organization from The Gloucester Pool Cottagers' Association
- We've merged with the Coastal Protection committee of the Georgian Bay Association
- We've been active for 4 years
- We speak for 35 Ontario Cottage Associations representing ~20,000 cottage property owners
- We are endorsed by FOCA, Cottage Life, several MP's and MPP's

# What We've Accomplished & Hope to Accomplish...

- We've created a multi-level working group consisting of
  - Parks Canada; MNR; OPP; Severn Township; ToGB; Tay Township
- This working group is focused on ensuring their regulatory frameworks are harmonized going forward and to keep all regulatory stakeholders aligned to continuing developments
- On the municipal front, Severn has created their regulatory framework; ToGB has pieces of their complete solution
- We strongly encourage Township of Georgian Bay to build a fulsome strategy to manage Floating Accommodations

# Definitions & how does Transport Canada fit into this story

- Definitions are important – consistency across all agencies is crucial in order to be onside and aligned with Transport Canada
- Floating Homes – per Transport Canada are floating residences that are permanently moored with fixed connections for sanitary, water and power and do not leave their mooring
- Floating Accommodations – per Transport Canada are vessels that have capability to navigate waterways
- Transport Canada has confirmed their primary interest regarding this issue is to manage “vessels” and vessel safety (per the Canadian Transport Act). TC has “reinforced” they do not want to be dragged into a discussion on how and where FA’s travel on waterways or where FA’s moor
- Floating Accommodations – per Ontario’s MNR is the emerging standard that has been referenced by Parks Canada, and Transport Canada as the most accurate and relatable definition (see next page)

# MNR's definition of Floating Accommodation

“Floating Accommodation” means a floating building, structure or thing, or a combination of floating buildings, structures or things, equipped or useable for overnight accommodation and not primarily designed to be used for navigation, and includes a floating building, structure or thing, or a combination of floating buildings, structures or things that,

- a) is primarily designed for or able to be used for residential purposes,
- b) is a raft, barge or floating platform that has on top of it a building, structure, vehicle or thing that may be used for overnight accommodation, for camping purposes or as an outdoor accommodation,
- c) would reasonably be expected to require towing to be placed on public lands or is placed on public lands by means of towing or any other type of assistance,
- d) is equipped with jack-up technology or a similar mechanism used to anchor or rise above the surface of the water, with or without spud cans, or
- e) has a floating foundation or a floatation platform which may include floats constructed of polystyrene, plastic, concrete or logs and stringers

# For further clarity... the definition of watercraft

“Watercraft equipped for overnight accommodation” means a watercraft that is,

- a) equipped for overnight accommodation,
- b) primarily designed for and able to be used for navigation, and
- c) self-propelled and steered independently

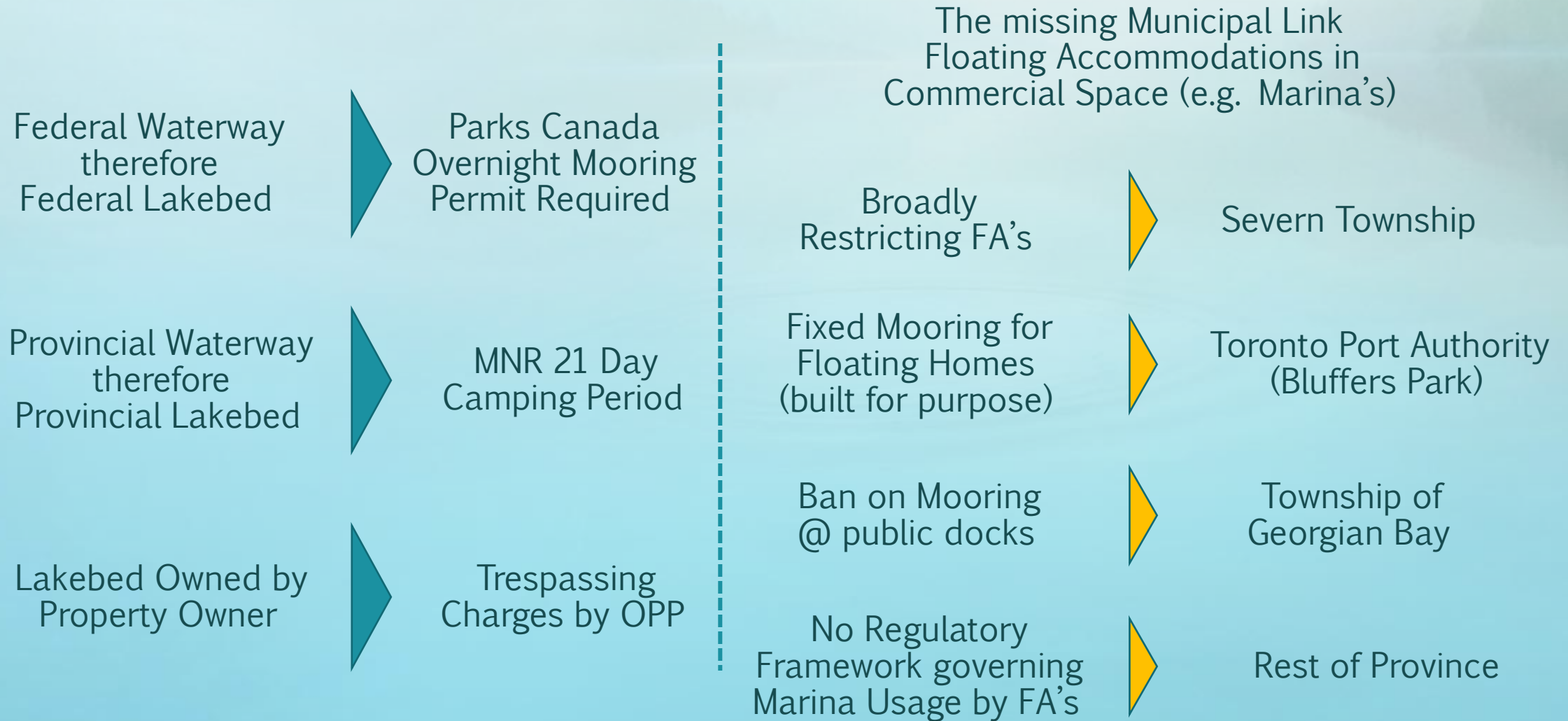


Floating Accommodations are viewed as vessels...  
but not watercraft

# The regulatory landscape is merging across governmental agencies and municipalities

- The three agencies that have leveraged their existing regulatory frameworks to regulate Floating Accommodations are:
  - Parks Canada; Minister of Natural Resources (Ontario); OPP
- Each of their strategies is grounded in an Ontario Supreme Court decision [Glaspell vs Crown 2015]
  - Lakebeds are owned by Federal or Provincial agencies, or they are private property
  - Federal and Provincial (PC & MNR) use a “shadow cast” over their lakebed property to regulate mooring permission and /or camping permission
  - OPP (currently) requires evidence of lakebed contact with private property to file a trespassing charge
- Municipalities up until now have remained on the sidelines with a few exceptions
  - ToGB’s By-laws 3.6 & 4.2 and their Public Docks By-law – FA’s are not permitted to moor at their public docks
  - Severn Township created their bylaw to restrict Floating Accommodations in Severn Township

# Municipally... what are the regulatory options





# Summarizing the issue

- 3 agencies (Parks Canada, MNR, and OPP) have created land based regulatory policies to govern mooring on water, using lakebed ownership to regulate floating accommodations
- Strategies by these agencies are onside with Transport Canada's vessel governance (TC's charter focuses on top of water)
- The missing link – municipalities need to regulate FA's in commercial space i.e. marinas
- Should a FA end up on land/ground, we would expect that municipal building codes and zoning already in place could be appropriately used to govern land-based container homes

# Our Support for ToGB...

- The Floating Accommodation not Vessels Coalition **STRONGLY** supports the direction that ToGB is headed
- We were extremely encouraged by zoning bylaw 3.2 and 4.6 and banning FA mooring at public docks
- We look forward to reviewing and enriching those bylaws to fill ToGB's municipal gap
- The Coalition would like the support of ToGB to broadcast to all relevant Ontario municipalities how to appropriately regulate Floating Accommodations in a municipal setting
- Thank you for your leadership!!!

# Q & A

# Deputation to Township of Georgian Bay

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## THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION *ONTARIO COMMAND*

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Our organization is Canada’s largest Veterans organization dedicated to serving them through advocacy, emergency assistance and providing free of charge assistance with pension applications. We are not affiliated with any level of government, nor do we receive funding from any level of government. Branches rely on membership dues, fundraising activities and donations. In Ontario we have over 390 branches with over 200 Ladies’ Auxiliaries made up of over 91,000 men and women. Together they support their communities through countless hours of volunteer work to support sponsorships of youth activities such as track and field, soccer, hockey, Cadets, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. Branches award over \$815,000 each year in grants from poppy funds to ex-service and still serving personnel and/or their dependents.

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**Please Note: The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command is a non-profit association, but not a registered charitable organization, therefore a tax receipt will not be issued.**

There will be over 10,000 hard copies of this book printed and distributed free of charge in our communities throughout Ontario. Copies will be given by branches to public schools and libraries which can be used as a teaching tool. Electronic versions of our publications are also posted on our website [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca). You may scan the QR Code below for easy access.

Again thank you for your sponsorship and support of this very worthwhile project.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Moore  
President  
Ontario Command



MSR Guide