

1. **C-2024-051**  
Correspondence dated February 14, 2024 from the City of Cambridge respecting a resolution opposing "Catch and Release" justice.
2. **C-2024-052**  
Correspondence dated February 13, 2024 from the Municipality of Calvin respecting a resolution of support for the AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Municipality Review.
3. **C-2024-053**  
Correspondence dated February 22, 2024 from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks respecting Ontario's environmental assessment (EA) program and modernizing EA processes.
4. **C-2024-054**  
Correspondence dated February 22, 2024 from Northumberland County to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing respecting a resolution of support for the own of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake correspondence regarding Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.
5. **C-2024-055**  
Correspondence dated February 22, 2024 from the Township of Puslinch to various Ministers and the Beareavement Authority of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Clearview Township and Tay Township correspondence regarding Cemetery Administration Management Support.
6. **C-2024-056**  
Correspondence dated February 23, 2024 from the Office of the Regional Clerk respecting Statutory Public Meeting for a Regional Official Plan Amendment Application – Proposed Law Quarry Expansion.
7. **C-2024-057**  
Correspondence dated February 23, 2024 from the Office of the Regional Clerk respecting the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommendation regarding the Tree and Forest Canopy Project.
8. **C-2024-058**  
Correspondence received February 23, 2024 from the Wainfleet Township Public Library respecting the March 2024 Newsletter.

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9. **C-2024-059**

Correspondence received February 23, 2024 from the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery respecting a response to the Wainfleet resolution of support for the Clearview Township and Tay Township correspondence regarding Cemetery Administration Management Support.

10. **C-2024-060**

Correspondence dated February 23, 2024 from the Township of Puslinch to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, various Ministers and MPPs respecting a resolution of support for the City of Greater Sudbury correspondence regarding Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

**The Corporation of the City of Cambridge**  
**Corporate Services Department**  
**Clerk's Division**  
**Tel: (519) 740-4680 ext. 4585**  
**[mantond@cambridge.ca](mailto:mantond@cambridge.ca)**

February 14, 2024

**Re: Catch and Release**

At its Council Meeting of February 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

**WHEREAS** this council believes that the safety of our community and its protection from crime in all its forms is of utmost importance.

**WHEREAS** our taxpayer-funded judicial system exists to protect the public, who in return for their tax dollars are entitled to a system that works.

**WHEREAS** the number of charges laid for failure to comply with court orders – primarily failure to comply with the terms of a promise to appear, undertaking, recognizance, probation order, or peace bond – are steadily on the rise in the province of Ontario.

**WHEREAS** there has been a notable increase in the number of violent offences committed in the province of Ontario by individuals who are concurrently subject to release orders.

**WHEREAS** the Ontario justice system is backlogged, court systems under strain, and police and prosecutors overwhelmed by their caseloads.

**WHEREAS** we have seen a dramatic lowering of the threshold for release, resulting in violent, serious, or repeat offenders who should by rights have been reasonably detained in custody, released on supervision plans that are increasingly deficient.

**WHEREAS** the general sense among the criminal population is that breaching bail conditions will not result in much by way of consequence for the offender, as evidenced by a clear pattern province-wide of unjustifiable release, a pattern which is bound to continue given insufficient resources to conduct Crown bail reviews, surety bond estreatment hearings, and ensure the subsequent collection of surety bond funds after judgment.

**WHEREAS** a 'catch and release' system constitutes a failure of government to perform a core function of its existence, that being the protection of public safety and that this failure constitutes a clear and present danger to the public.

**WHEREAS** the current hard drug crisis has contributed to a desperate criminal element that is exacting a significant financial and emotional toll on communities across Canada including Cambridge.

**WHEREAS** our police services are being demoralized by expending precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of these habitual criminal offenders within a system that limits their ability to effectively protect the public.

**AND WHEREAS** this ineffective follow-through by our judicial system unfairly erodes the public's trust in our police services, who consequently become the target of frustrated and angry residents who feel they are no longer being protected from crime.

**AND WHEREAS** the increasing erosion of public faith and trust in our judicial system ultimately brings the administration of justice in the province of Ontario into disrepute and leads to a growing feeling amongst residents that they are no longer protected by a system perceived to prioritize the rights and freedoms of the criminal over the rights and safety of themselves and their families.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge send a letter to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MP Bryan May, MP Valerie Bradford, MPP Jess Dixon, MPP Bryan Riddell, Police Chief Mark Crowell, Waterloo Regional Police Service, all Ontario Police Associations and Police Departments, Ontario Provincial Police, all Ontario MPPs and MPs, and all municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration, requesting additional funding in Ontario's legal system to support a meaningful resistance to the current "catch and release" practice, including hiring sufficient court staff, with a specific focus on additional assistant Crown Attorneys.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Danielle Manton  
City Clerk

Cc: (via email)

Hon. Prime Minister Trudeau

Hon. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

Attorney General of Ontario

Ontario Solicitor General

Hon. Premier Ford

Ontario Police Associations

Ontario Police Departments

Ontario MPPs and MPs

All Ontario Municipalities



# Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

## Council Resolution

**Date:** February 13, 2024

**Resolution Number:** 2024- 55

**9.1.2 AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Municipality Review**

**Moved By:** Councillor Moreton

**Seconded By:** Councillor Grant

### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**Whereas** current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

**Whereas** nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

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

**Whereas** unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

**Whereas** municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

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

**Whereas** property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

**Whereas** the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

**Whereas** municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

**Therefore, be it resolved that** the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; **And further that** a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

MPP Victor Fedeli

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Ontario Municipalities

**Results: Carried**

**Recorded Vote:**

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

February 22, 2024

Greetings,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks about recent decisions to move Ontario's environmental assessment (EA) program to a project list approach as part of the government's ongoing work to modernize environmental assessment processes.

Comprehensive Environmental Assessment Projects regulation and other regulations:

Over the past several years, we have consulted extensively on the government's proposal to move to a project list approach. Beginning in April 2019, the ministry consulted on a [discussion paper](#), which outlined a modern vision for the EA program.

Then in July 2020, through the [COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020](#), the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) was amended to provide the authority to make regulations to support EA modernization, including identifying projects that would be subject to EA requirements in a regulation. The move to a project list approach is a shift from the current framework, where projects are mainly subject to the EAA based on who is undertaking the project, rather than the projects potential impacts.

In fall 2020, the ministry consulted on a plain language [project list proposal](#), which identified the projects the ministry was proposing be subject to the EAA. In fall 2021 and spring 2023, the ministry then consulted on draft regulations, including a draft of the proposed [Comprehensive Environmental Assessment \(EA\) Projects Regulation](#) (Part II.3 Projects – Designations and Exemptions regulation) (2021) and a plain language update to that proposal (2023). The proposals also identified that the ministry would be updating relevant guidance and making certain related amendments to the Class EAs.

After considering the input received on the regulatory proposals and the discussion paper, a number of regulations have now been made and related actions taken to move Ontario to a project list approach. These changes came into effect on February 22, 2024 i.e., on the day that the revised provisions of the EAA providing the authority to make these regulations came into force.

The project types that are now subject to EA requirements in Ontario are those projects that are designated in the Comprehensive EA Projects regulation (i.e., significant waste projects, significant electricity generation facilities and large waterfront projects) and those project types to which a class environmental assessment (Class EA) applies. The

Comprehensive EA Projects regulation also designates projects that are exempt from the comprehensive EA requirements conditional on following a streamlined EA process (i.e. waste, electricity and transit and rail projects). There is no impact to projects that followed an individual EA and were approved. All projects which have started an individual EA application (i.e., a proposed Terms of Reference has been submitted to the Ministry) will continue in the comprehensive EA process.

We also wanted to note that these changes do not affect the continued authority under the Act to designate other projects or classes of projects as ones subject to a comprehensive EA or to enter into agreements with proponents to have the Act apply to projects that are not designated in the Comprehensive EA Projects regulation or otherwise.

Details of the decisions and changes made to move Ontario's EA program to a project list approach (the regulations, other instruments and related material) are on the Environmental Registry of Ontario at: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-4219>.

#### Complementary amendments to class environmental assessments:

To align Class EAs with the amendments to the EAA and the new and amending regulations made under the Act, including the Comprehensive EA Projects regulation, complementary amendments have been made to seven class EAs. Information on the amendments can be found on the Environmental Registry at: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-8081>.

#### Updates to guidance:

Similarly, we have updated the Guides to the EA requirements for waste and electricity projects and the guidance for transit and rail projects to align these with the Comprehensive EA Projects regulation and revised provisions of the EAA. These updated documents can be found on the Environmental Registry at: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-4219>.

#### Extension of expiry dates for certain approvals:

In November 2021, the ministry began consultation on a proposal to extend the statutory expiry date for *EAA* approvals by 10 years for certain projects.

A decision has now been made to extend the expiry date by 10 years for eight of those projects. The extensions will allow the projects to proceed instead of requiring a new environmental assessment to be completed. To ensure the protection of the environment, cultural heritage resources and source water, and to be responsive to comments received, including from Indigenous communities, the Minister made the extensions of the expiry date subject to conditions for seven of the eight projects. More information on the decision can be found on the Environmental Registry at: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-4428>.

The ministry carefully considered the nature and context of each of the projects. This included input from the proponents, the outcome of consultation undertaken in relation

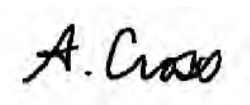


to the proposal to extend, including consultation with Indigenous communities, and the purpose of the Act.

We are committed to keeping you updated and working with you to build a strong EA program for Ontario. We value your perspectives on the EA program and look forward to your further participation.

Please do not hesitate to contact my team at: [EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca](mailto:EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca), or me directly at: [Annamaria.Cross@ontario.ca](mailto:Annamaria.Cross@ontario.ca), if you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Cross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Annamaria Cross  
Director, Environmental Assessment Modernization  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks



# Northumberland County

## Council Resolution

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**February 22, 2024**

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Northumberland County Resolution –  
'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify  
the Definition of Employer'**

At a meeting held on February 21, 2024 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109 adopting the below recommendation from the February 6, 2024 Corporate Support Committee meeting.

**Moved by:** Councillor Lucas Cleveland  
**Seconded by:** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

**Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109**

**Carried**

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at [matherm@northumberland.ca](mailto:matherm@northumberland.ca) or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.



**The Corporation of the  
County of Northumberland**

555 Courthouse Road  
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,  
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Mather", on a light blue background.

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk  
Northumberland County

## Council Resolution

Moved By L. Cleveland

Agenda  
Item 10

Resolution Number  
2024-02-21- 109

Seconded By O. Hinchey

Council Date: February 21, 2024

"**That** Council adopt all recommendations from the four Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held February 6 and 7), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
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- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| - |  | Social Services Committee, Item 7.a, 'Correspondence, '310 Division Street, Cobourg' – Held by Councillor Cleveland |  |
|---|--|---|--|

**And Further That** the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote  
Requested by

Councillor's Name

Deferred

Warden's Signature

Carried

Warden's Signature

Defeated

Warden's Signature

## Corporate Support Committee Resolution

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**Committee Meeting Date:** February 6, 2024

**Agenda Item:** 7.b

**Resolution Number:** 2024-02-06-071

**Moved by:** S. Dibb

**Seconded by:** B. Ostrander

**Council Meeting Date:** February 21, 2024

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"**That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

**Carried**   
Committee Chair's Signature

**Defeated** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**Deferred** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature



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The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
*DELIVERED VIA EMAIL*

January 15<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'**

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2024, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

***Motion 14***

*Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett*

*Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues*

*That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.*

***Carried.***

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca).

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak  
Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Bob Bailey, MPP – Sarnia-Lambton  
Association of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ontario's Big City Mayors  
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario  
Council of Ontario Construction Associations  
Ontario Chamber of Commerce  
All Ontario Municipalities



December 12, 2023

**\*Sent Via Email\***

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

*CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;*

*AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");*

*AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;*

*AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;*

*AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;*

*AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;*

*AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;*

PO BOX 5000 STN A  
200 BRADY STREET  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCC A  
200, RUE BRADY  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

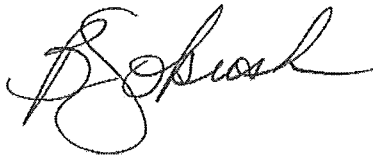
[www.greatersudbury.ca](http://www.greatersudbury.ca)  
[www.grandsudbury.ca](http://www.grandsudbury.ca)

*AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.*

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brigitte Sobush', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brigitte Sobush  
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council  
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk





**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE**  
**69 FOURTH AVENUE, P. O. BOX 40, LARDER LAKE, ON P0K 1L0**  
**PH: 705-643-2158 FAX: 705-643-2311**  
**LARDERLAKE.CA**

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

***\*Sent Via Email\****

**Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"**

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the following resolution of support was adopted:

**Resolution: 4**

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

**Carried**

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crystal Labbe', is written over a horizontal line.

**Crystal Labbe**  
**CAO/ Clerk Treasurer**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE**

**69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON**

Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

- ☐ Thomas Armstrong  
☐ Patricia Hull  
☒ Paul Kelly  
☐ Lynne Paquette

SECONDED BY:

- ☐ Thomas Armstrong  
☐ Patricia Hull  
☐ Paul Kelly  
☐ Lynne Paquette

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities OF Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Recorded vote requested: ☐

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull		
Paul Kelly		
Lynne Paquette		
Patty Quinn		

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest\***


I declare this motion

☒ Carried

☐ Lost / Defeated

☐ Deferred to: \_\_\_\_\_ (enter date)

Because:

☐ Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_ (enter body)

Expected response: \_\_\_\_\_ (enter date)

Chair:

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



Received February 22, 2024  
C-2024-055

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of Public and  
Business Service Delivery  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
VIA EMAIL:

[Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org)

MPP Jill Dunlop  
Unit 9

575 West St. S  
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6  
VIA EMAIL:

[Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org](mailto:Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org)

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim  
CEO/Registrar  
100 Sheppard Avenue East,  
Suite 500  
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5  
VIA EMAIL:

[info@thebao.ca](mailto:info@thebao.ca)

MPP Brian Saunderson  
Suite 28  
180 Parsons Rd.  
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8

VIA EMAIL:

[Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org](mailto:Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0  
[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-003:** Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

**CARRIED**



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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

CC: Ontario Municipalities



**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

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery  
777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

**RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support**

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Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

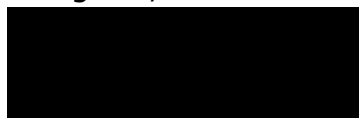
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



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

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar  
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson  
Ontario Municipalities



## Staff Report

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**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

**Date:** December 11, 2023

**Subject:** Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

---

### Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

## **Background**

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery



- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

### **Township Owned Cemeteries**

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

<b>Cemetery Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Status</b>
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

## Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

### Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

## **Operational Impact**

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

## **Support Request**

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

## **Clearview's Strategic Plan**

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

## **Financial Implications**

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

## **Report Appendices**

Not applicable.

## **Approvals**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
<b>Financial Implications Reviewed by:</b>	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
<b>Approved by:</b>	John Ferguson, CAO

# TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street  
PO Box 100  
Victoria Harbour, Ontario  
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email [Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org)

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

## **Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township**

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

# TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street  
PO Box 100  
Victoria Harbour, Ontario  
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

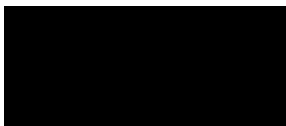
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,



Katelyn Johns, MPPA  
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

February 23, 2024

**CL 3-2024, February 22, 2024**  
**PEDC 2-2024, February 7, 2024**  
**PDS 3-2024, February 7, 2024**

***Township of Wainfleet***  
***Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority***

***SENT ELECTRONICALLY***

Statutory Public Meeting for a Regional Official Plan Amendment Application - Proposed Law Quarry Expansion, Township of Wainfleet  
PDS 3-2024

Regional Council, at its meeting held on February 22, 2024, passed the following recommendation of its Planning and Economic Development Committee:

That Report PDS 3-2024, dated February 7, 2024, respecting Statutory Public Meeting for a Regional Official Plan Amendment Application - Proposed Law Quarry Expansion, Township of Wainfleet, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township of Wainfleet and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

A copy of PDS 3-2024 is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann-Marie".

Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk

js

CLK-C 2024-15

cc: S. Norman, Senior Planner  
M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development  
N. Oakes, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development



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**Subject:** Statutory Public Meeting for a Regional Official Plan Amendment Application - Proposed Law Quarry Expansion, Township of Wainfleet

**Report to:** Planning and Economic Development Committee

**Report date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024

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## **Recommendations**

1. That this Report **BE RECEIVED** for information; and
2. That this Report **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township of Wainfleet and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

## **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to provide information for a Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) application Statutory Public Meeting, which is being held in accordance with the prescribed requirements of Section 17 of the Planning Act.
- The purpose of the statutory meeting is to receive comments from the public with respect to the ROPA application submitted by Waterford Sand and Gravel Ltd. for a proposed expansion of the Law Quarry in the Township of Wainfleet. A Location Map is included as Appendix 1.
- In addition to the ROPA, applications have also been submitted to amend the Township of Wainfleet Official Plan and Zoning By-Law. These applications are being reviewed concurrently.
- Staff are not making a recommendation, and no decision or approvals are sought from Council at this time.
- This Statutory Public Meeting was advertised by posting notices on the subject lands, mailing notice to residents within 120 metres of the subject lands, and e-mailing notice to agencies and utilities. In addition, notice was also posted on the Region's website and social media pages.
- The Township of Wainfleet will hold a separate Statutory Public Meeting for the Local Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment applications.

## **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial considerations arising from this report as the cost of work associated with application processing and review is recovered through planning fees in accordance with the Council-approved Schedule of Rates and Fees. Costs of advertising for open houses and public meetings are paid by the applicant, and the Region has entered into a Cost Acknowledgement Agreement with the applicant to cover other costs associated with the application (i.e., aggregate advisor and peer reviews).

## **Analysis**

### **Background**

An application for a Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) to permit the expansion of the Law Quarry operation was received on June 22, 2022. The application was deemed complete on July 22, 2022. To date no comments from the public have been received on the application.

### **Regional Official Plan Policies**

The Niagara Official Plan (NOP) was approved, with modifications, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and came into effect on November 4, 2022. Policy 7.12.2.5 of the NOP states that development applications deemed complete prior to the date of the NOP approval shall be permitted to be processed and a decision made under the 2014 Regional Official Plan (ROP) policies. As noted above the ROPA application was deemed complete on July 22, 2022, and is therefore being processed under the 2014 ROP. A Draft Regional Official Plan amendment is included as

### **Appendix 2.**

### **Site Location**

The subject lands are located within the Township of Wainfleet and described as Part of Lots 6 & 7, Concession 2, Part of Road Allowance between Lots 5 & 6, Concession 2 (Geographic Township of Wainfleet), and Township of Wainfleet in the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

These lands are bound by the existing Law Quarry operation (Aggregate Resources Act Licence #4464 & 607541) to east, Provincial Highway 3 to the south, Graybiel Road to

the West, and the Wainfleet Bog to the north. A Location Map is included as **Appendix 1**.

### **JART Process**

To coordinate the technical review of the applications, a Joint Agency Review Team (JART) was formed. The JART consists of planning staff from the Region, the Township, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA). The purpose of JART is to share information, resources, and expertise so that the application and the associated studies are reviewed in a streamlined and coordinated manner. Staff from applicable provincial ministries are being engaged through the JART process as well.

The JART does not make a recommendation on the application, rather the JART works to:

- ensure that the required range of studies and work is completed by the applicant;
- ensure that the studies are sufficient in terms of their technical content;
- coordinate the review of the studies and work of the applicant either by technical staff or by peer reviewers;
- ensure a coordinated public and stakeholder consultation and engagement process; and
- prepare a technical JART report on the application once all reviews are complete.

The JART report will be used independently by planning staff at the Region and the Township as the technical basis to develop their respective recommendation reports.

### **Material Submitted in Support of the Applications**

In support of the ROPA application the following technical studies have been submitted:

- Planning Justification Report and ARA Summary Statement
- Consultation Summary and Strategy
- Agricultural Impact Assessment
- Archaeological Assessments
- Acoustic (Noise) Assessment Report
- Blasting (Vibration) Impact Assessment
- Air Quality Impact Assessment
- Financial Impact Assessment & Economic Benefits Analysis

- Level 1 & 2 Water Resources Study
- Natural Environment Level 1 & 2 Report
- Visual Impact Assessment
- Traffic Impact Study
- Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report

The Region, on behalf of the Joint Agency Review Team (JART) has retained an Aggregate Advisor and consulting teams to assist with the review and peer review of many of the individual technical studies.

In addition, the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA) Site Plan drawings are being reviewed as part of the ROPA process. The ARA Site Plans outline the proposed operating conditions of the quarry and are the primary tool used by the Province for enforcement. All of the proposed mitigation measures for each of the individual technical studies are noted and included as part of the Site Plans.

An index of all technical material that have been submitted to date is included as **Appendix 3**, and can be accessed on the [Region's website](https://www.niagararegion.ca/official-plan/amendments.aspx):  
(<https://www.niagararegion.ca/official-plan/amendments.aspx>)

### **Associated Applications**

A separate Statutory Public Meeting regarding the Local Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment will be held by the Township of Wainfleet at a later date. Separate notice of this meeting will be distributed by the Township.

In addition, the applicant has also filed an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for a licence under the Aggregate Resources Act. The Aggregate Resources Act application process includes a separate public consultation and notification process. Any comments submitted to Niagara Region or Township of Wainfleet regarding the Planning Act applications should also be submitted in response to the Aggregate Resources Act notices.

### **Next Steps**

The review of the application and supporting technical information is ongoing. Regional staff, supported by other members of the JART, the Aggregate Advisor, and Peer Reviewers are analyzing the applications and supporting studies relative to Regional and Provincial planning documents. All comments submitted on this application,

including those received through this Statutory Public Meeting will be responded to by staff through a future recommendations report.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

The Planning Act (R.S.O. 1990) requires that all complete applications be processed and that public consultation be conducted as part of all proposed amendments to municipal official plans. Notice has been provided for this Statutory Public Meeting as required by the legislation.

As this report is for information, and the Public Meeting is a statutory requirement, there are no alternatives to review.

### **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

This report is not linked to strategic priorities. The review of applications to amend the Regional Official Plan is a legislative process under the Planning Act (1990).

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

PDS 22-2022	Initiation Report for the Proposed Law Crushed Stone Quarry Regional Official Plan Amendment
CWCD 2022-253	Notice of ARA Public Open House – Proposed Law Quarry Expansion (Wainfleet)

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#### **Prepared by:**

Sean Norman, PMP, MCIP, RPP  
Senior Planner  
Growth Strategy and Economic  
Development

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#### **Recommended by:**

Michelle Sergi, MCIP, RPP  
Commissioner  
Growth Strategy and Economic  
Development

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**Submitted by:**

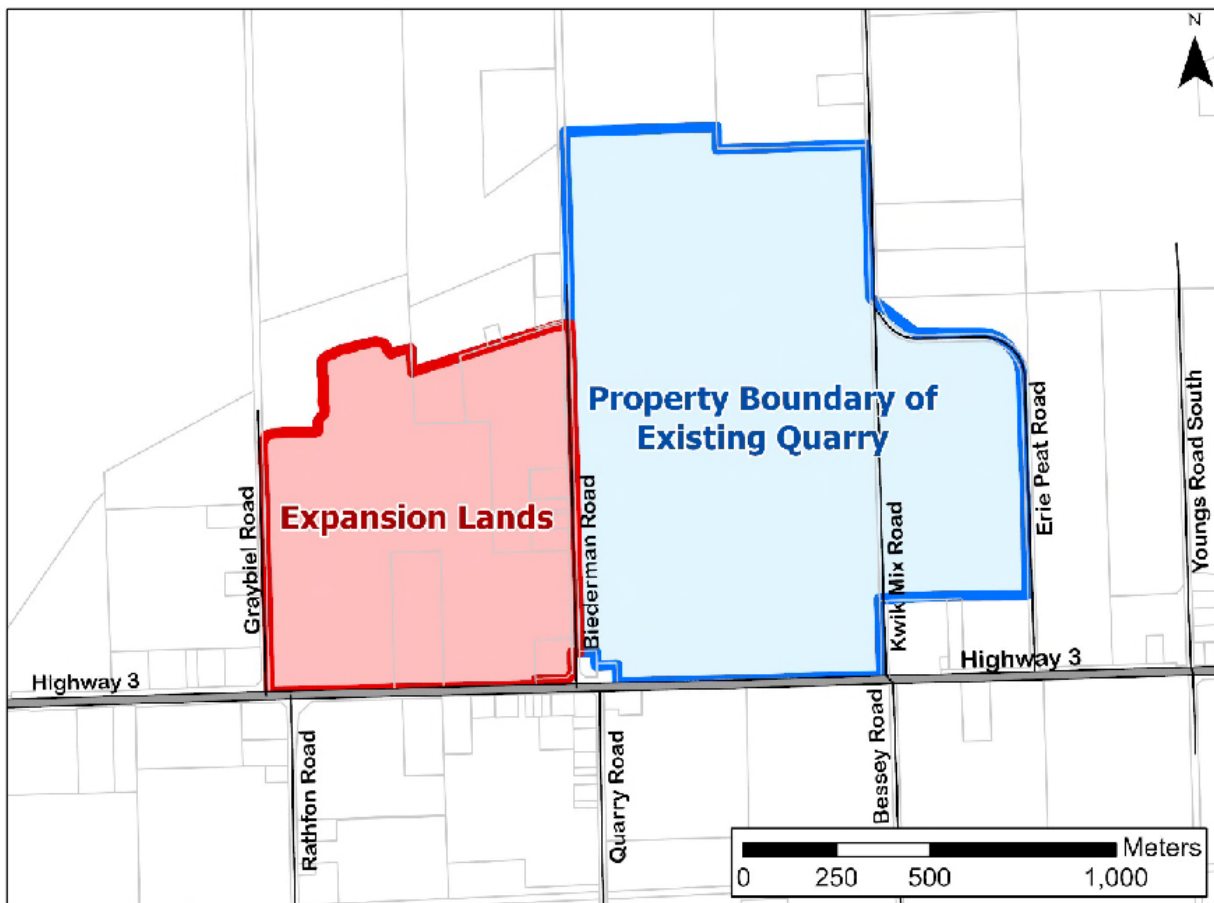
Ron Tripp, P.Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

This report was reviewed by Erik Acs, MCIP, RPP, Manager of Community Planning and Angela Stea, MCIP, RPP, Director of Corporate Strategy and Community Sustainability.

**Appendices**

Appendix 1	Site Location Map
Appendix 2	Draft Regional Official Plan Amendment
Appendix 3	List of Technical Materials Submitted in Support of the Application

Appendix 1  
PDS 3-2024  
Site Location Map  
Proposed Law Quarry Expansion  
Township of Wainfleet



**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

**BY-LAW NO. 2023-\_\_\_\_**

**A BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT \_\_\_\_**

**TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN FOR THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

**to permit the Law Quarry Expansion**

WHEREAS subsection 22 of the Planning Act, 1990 states when the requirements of subsections (15) to (21), as appropriate, have been met and Council is satisfied that the plan as prepared is suitable for adoption,

AND WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate to further amend the Official Plan as adopted by Niagara Region for the Regional Municipality of Niagara,

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Regional Municipality of Niagara enacts as follows:

1. That the text attached hereto as Part "B" is hereby approved as Amendment No. \_\_\_\_ to the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara.
2. That the Regional Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to give notice of Council's adoption in accordance with Section 17(23) of the Planning Act, 1990.
3. That this By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the day after the last day of appeal provided no appeals have been received.

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

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James Bradley, Regional Chair

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Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

Passed: [DATE]



**Amendment No. \_\_\_\_**

**To the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara**

**PART “A” – THE PREAMBLE**

The preamble provides an explanation of the Amendment including the purpose, location, background, and basis of the policies and implementation, but does not form part of this Amendment.

- Title and Components
- Purpose of the Amendment
- Location of the Amendment
- Background
- Basis for the Amendment
- Implementation

**PART “B” – THE AMENDMENT**

The Amendment describes the additions and/or modifications to the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara, which constitute Official Plan Amendment No. \_\_\_\_.

- Text Changes
- Schedule Changes

**PART “C” – THE APPENDICES**

The Appendices provide information regarding public comments relevant to the Amendment, but do not form part of this Amendment.

## **PART “A” – THE PREAMBLE**

### **TITLE AND COMPONENTS:**

This document, when approved in accordance with Section 17 of the Planning Act, 1990, shall be known as Amendment \_\_\_ to the Official Plan of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

- Part “A” – The Preamble, contains background information and does not constitute part of this Amendment.
- Part “B” – The Amendment, consisting of text and schedule changes constitutes Amendment \_\_\_ to the Official Plan of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.
- Part “C” – Does not constitute part of the Amendment. This Part is a list of all public comments received. A copy of all individual comments is available as part of the Joint Agency Review Team (JART) Report prepared as part of the Amendment review process.

### **PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT:**

The purpose of this Amendment is to permit the expansion of the existing Law Quarry in the Township of Wainfleet.

### **LOCATION OF THE AMENDMENT:**

The amendment area is within the Township of Wainfleet and on lands described as Part of Lots 6 & 7, Concession 2, Part of Road Allowance between Lots 5 & 6, Concession 2 (Geographic Township of Wainfleet), and Township of Wainfleet in the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

These lands are bound by the existing Law Quarry operation (Licence #4464 & 607541) to east, Provincial Highway 3 to the south, Graybiel Road to the West, and the Wainfleet Bog to the north.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The subject lands are identified by the Niagara Official Plan as being within a Stone Resource Area. The applicant (Waterford Sand and Gravel) participated in pre-submission consultation and subsequently submitted an application to amend the Regional Official Plan, which was received on June 22, 2022. The requested and prescribed material, including planning justification and technical reports to satisfy numerous planning instruments including the Provincial Policy Statement (2020), A

Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020), Regional Official Plan (2014), and the Township of Wainfleet Official Plan were submitted and the application was deemed complete by Niagara Region on July 22, 2022.

A new Niagara Official Plan was approved, with modifications, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and came into effect on November 4, 2022. Policy 7.12.2.5 of the new plan states that development applications deemed complete prior to the date of the approval shall be permitted to be processed and a decision made under the 2014 Regional Official Plan (ROP) policies. The application was deemed complete on July 22, 2022, and is therefore being processed under the policies of the 2014 ROP.

The site-specific policy to permit the Law Quarry expansion, site-specific maps, and all required updates to the schedules would be reflected in the new Niagara Official Plan.

#### BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT:

- a) Policy 6.C.13 of the 2014 Regional Official Plan requires an amendment to the plan for expansions of existing mineral aggregate operations outside of a “possible aggregate area”. Only a portion of the Law Quarry expansion lands are within a “possible aggregate area”, and therefore a Regional Official Plan amendment is required.
- b) The Amendment was the subject of a Statutory Public Meeting held under the Planning Act, 1990 on February 7, 2024. Public and agency comments were addressed as part of the preparation of this Amendment.
- c) The Amendment will allow for the proper conservation and management of source of high quality aggregate resource.
- d) The Amendment is consistent with provincial policy that aims to protect a long term supply of mineral aggregate resources by making available as much mineral aggregate resource as is realistically possible as close to markets as possible.
- e) The Regional Official Plan Amendment will allow the Township of Wainfleet Official Plan Amendment to be approved by Regional Council and the rezoning of the lands from Agriculture to Extractive Industrial to be approved. The rezoning of the lands will allow the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry to make a decision to issue a quarry licence under the Aggregate Resources Act.
- f) Based on the review of the application, planning analysis completed, and the consideration of all input received through public and agency consultation process. Regional staff is of the opinion that the ROPA has appropriate regard for matters of Provincial Interest as set out in Section 2 of the Planning Act; is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020; conforms, or does not conflict, with the A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020; conforms to the intent of the Regional Official Plan, 2014; represents good planning; and, is in the public interest.

#### IMPLEMENTATION:

Section 7, Implementation, of the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara, shall apply where applicable.

## **PART “B” – THE AMENDMENT**

### **Amendment \_\_**

#### **To the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara**

The Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Niagara is amended as follows:

#### **Text Changes:**

1. Add a new Policy 8.11.4 to the Township of Wainfleet site specific policies in Chapter 8 to permit the Law Quarry expansion:

Notwithstanding other policies in this Plan, a mineral aggregate operation (quarry) and ancillary uses and facilities are permitted west of the existing licensed area on an approximately 72.3 hectare site located on the lands bounded by Highway 3 to the south, Graybiel Road to the West, and the Wainfleet Bog to the north, on lands described as Part of Lots 6 & 7, Concession 2, Part of Road Allowance between Lots 5 & 6, Concession 2 (Geographic Township of Wainfleet).

The entirety of the total site area, 72.3 hectares, is proposed to be licensed under the Aggregate Resources Act of which 51.2 hectares is proposed to be extracted. The operation of the mineral aggregate operation shall be in accordance with any license issued under the Aggregate Resources Act by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

2. A site-specific location map will be added to Chapter 8 following the new Policy 8.11.4 showing the subject lands as follows:



**Schedule Changes:**

1. Schedule H – “Known Deposits of Mineral Aggregate Resources and Mineral Aggregate Operations” is amended to add and the subject lands as “Licensed Aggregate Operations” as per the corresponding legend.

**Appendix 3 to PDS 3-2024**  
**Proposed Law Quarry Expansion**  
**ROPA, LOPA, ZBLA Applications – List of Technical Material Submitted**

Materials can be accessed on the [Region's website](https://www.niagararegion.ca/official-plan/amendments.aspx):  
(<https://www.niagararegion.ca/official-plan/amendments.aspx>)

Item	Date Submitted
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Submission</b>	
1. Level 1 and 2 Water Study Report, prepared by WSP, dated March 2022	• March 9, 2022
2. Maximum Predicted Water Table Report, prepared by WSP, dated March 2022	• March 9, 2022
3. Submission Cover Letter, prepared by MHBC, dated June 22, 2022	• June 22, 2022
4. Planning Justification Report and ARA Summary Statement, prepared by MHBC, dated June 2022	• June 22, 2022
5. Regional Official Plan Amendment Application Form – June 2022	• June 22, 2022
6. Township Official Plan Amendment Application Form – June 2022	• June 22, 2022
7. Township Zoning By-Law Amendment Application Form – June 2022	• June 22, 2022
8. Consultation Summary & Strategy, prepared by MHBC, dated April 2022	• June 22, 2022
9. Aggregate Resource Act Site Plan Drawings (1-5), prepared by MHBC, dated June 2022	• June 22, 2022
10. Natural Environment Report – Level 1 & 2 Assessment, prepared by Riverstone Environmental Solutions, dated June 2022	• June 22, 2022

Item	Date Submitted
11. Scoped Agricultural Impact Assessment, prepared by MHBC, dated May 2022	• June 22, 2022
12. Noise Impact Study, prepared by Aercooustic, dated May 26, 2022	• June 22, 2022
13. Air Quality Assessment, prepared by RWDI, dated February 3, 2022	• June 22, 2022
14. Blast Impact Analysis, prepared by Explotech, dated June 20, 2022	• June 22, 2022
15. Blast Impact Analysis - Appendices, prepared by Explotech, dated June 20, 2022	• June 22, 2022
16. Traffic Impact Study, prepared JD Northcote Engineering, dated April 26, 2022	• June 22, 2022
17. Financial Impact Assessment & Economic Benefits Analysis, prepared by Colliers International Niagara Ltd., dated May 19, 2022	• June 22, 2022
18. Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension – Revised Report, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 21, 2020	• June 22, 2022
19. Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension – Revised Supplementary Documentation, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 21, 2020	• June 22, 2022
20. Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of Additional Lands at Waterford's Law Quarry Extension, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 6, 2021	• June 22, 2022
21. Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of Additional Lands at Waterford's Law Quarry Extension – Supplementary Documentation, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 6, 2021	• June 22, 2022
22. Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment of AfGt-289 and AfGt-290, Law Crushed Stone Extension, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 24, 2021	• June 22, 2022



Item	Date Submitted
23. Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment of AfGt-289 and AfGt-290, Law Crushed Stone Extension – Record of Indigenous Engagement, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 24, 2021	• June 22, 2022
24. Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment of AfGt-289 and AfGt-290, Law Crushed Stone Extension – Supplementary Documentation, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated August 24, 2021	• June 22, 2022
25. Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated June 22, 2022	• June 22, 2022
26. Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension – Supplementary Documentation, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated June 22, 2022	• June 22, 2022
27. Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated September 27, 2022	• October 6, 2022
28. Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Law Crushed Stone Quarry Extension – Supplementary Documentation: Indigenous Engagement, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., dated September 8, 2022	• October 6, 2022
29. Letter re: Commitment to Avoidance and Protection of 25 Archaeological Sites, prepared by Ed Lamb – Waterford Sand and Gravel Ltd., dated October 4, 2022	• October 6, 2022
30. Letter re: Commitment to Interim Protection of 12 Archaeological Sites, prepared by Ed Lamb – Waterford Sand and Gravel Ltd., dated October 4, 2022	• October 6, 2022
31. Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (20642 Biederman Road), prepared by MHBC, dated May 2022	• July 18, 2022
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Submission</b>	

Item	Date Submitted
32. Cover Letter to JART, prepared by MHBC (dated September 6, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
33. PJR and ARA Summary Statement Response Matrix, prepared by MHBC (dated July 11, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
34. PJR Addendum, prepared by MHBC (dated July 2023)	• September 7, 2023
35. Updated ARA Site Plans, prepared by MHBC (dated June 2023)	• September 7, 2023
36. Water Study Response Letter, prepared by WSP (dated April 18, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
37. Natural Environment Response Table, prepared by Riverstone (dated August 25, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
38. Revised Natural Environment Report, prepared by Riverstone (dated August 28, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
39. Noise Study Response Letter, prepared by Aercoustics (dated July 6, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
40. Updated Noise Impact Study, prepared by Aercoustics (dated July 6, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
41. Air Quality Response Letter, prepared by RWDI (dated April 4, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
42. Air Quality – Updated Figure 1	• September 7, 2023
43. Air Quality – Updated Table 5	• September 7, 2023
44. Blasting Response, prepared by Explotech (dated February 2, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
45. Updated Draft Blasting Impact Assessment, prepared by Explotech (dated March 2023)	• September 7, 2023
46. Financial Impact Assessment Response Letter, prepared by Colliers (dated August 31, 2023)	• September 7, 2023

Item	Date Submitted
47. Updated Financial Impact Assessment, prepared Colliers (dated August 31, 2023)	• September 7, 2023
48. Response to MNRF, prepared by MHBC (dated July 17, 2023)	• October 13, 2023
49. WSP Response to MNRF Comments (dated January 24, 2023)	• October 13, 2023
50. E-mail from MECP to MHBC (dated June 8, 2023)	• October 13, 2023
51. E-mail from OMAFRA to MHBC (dated January 27, 2023)	• October 13, 2023

February 23, 2024

**CL 3-2024, February 22, 2024**  
**PEDC 2-2024, February 7, 2024**  
**PDS 4-2024, February 7, 2024**

***Local Area Municipalities******Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority******SENT ELECTRONICALLY***Tree and Forest Canopy Project

PDS 4-2024

Regional Council, at its meeting held on February 22, 2024, passed the following recommendation of its Planning and Economic Development Committee:

That Report PDS 4-2024, dated February 7, 2024, respecting Tree and Forest Canopy Project, **BE RECEIVED** and **CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA).

A copy of PDS 4-2024 is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann-Marie Norio".

Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

js

CLK-C 2024-17

cc: K. Costantini, Senior Planner  
M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development  
N. Oakes, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development

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**Subject:** Tree and Forest Canopy Project

**Report to:** Planning and Economic Development Committee

**Report date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024

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## **Recommendations**

1. That Report PDS 4-2024 **BE RECEIVED** for information; and
2. That a copy of Report PDS 4-2024 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA).

## **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the recently completed Niagara Tree and Forest Canopy Assessment project.
- Tree and forest canopy is an increasingly important topic across municipalities, this project provides baseline tree and forest canopy and land classification data for the Niagara Region.
- The tree and forest canopy assessment will inform future direction and implementation of environmental projects, including the Regional Greening Initiative and support decision making for a variety of environmental planning responsibilities.
- Final land classification results indicate that overall, Niagara Region has a 25.4% tree and forestry cover.
- The data and findings from the project will be shared with the local area municipalities to support local initiatives.

## **Financial Considerations**

The costs associated with the Tree and Forest Canopy Assessment project were accommodated within the Council approved project budget for the Niagara Official Plan.

## **Analysis**

This report provides an overview and results of the recently completed Niagara Region tree and forest canopy (TFC) project. The main outcome of the project is a quantified

assessment of the complete regional TFC cover (Figure 1 – Appendix 1). The project also produced a land use classification spatial dataset for the extent of the Niagara Region, which has been used to generate additional information and statistics on ecosystem services, theoretical planting opportunities, and additional study avenues. The results of the project provide baseline data for the Region's current TFC, will continue to be used to identify and carry out plantings on regional properties through the Greening Initiative, and will inform future direction and implementation of environmental projects and support decision making for a variety of environmental planning responsibilities at both the regional and local levels.

TFC coverage can impact the environmental, economic, and social aspects of our everyday lives. The TFC coverage of an area has a direct relationship to the water quality of surrounding watercourses, helps prevent erosion of soil, improves air quality, lessens UV exposure through shade provision, and enhances the health and prevalence of flora and fauna ecosystems in an area, among other benefits. Residents in a well-treed area benefit from an economic perspective, by requiring less energy resources to cool their homes in summer and heat them in winter when trees provide shade and wind blocks. Municipally, trees are the least costly approach to stormwater management by reducing the amount of run-off that enters storm systems and can also act as effective buffers to urban noise levels.

TFC coverage refers to the proportion of fixed area on the ground covered by tree crowns. Coverage is inclusive of larger forested areas, as well as small tree stand areas such as hedgerows, and individual trees, such as boulevard and yard trees. A few of Niagara's local municipalities have completed work to determine local urban canopy coverage or have conducted municipal tree inventories. This project provides a consistent approach across the entire Region, allowing results and analysis to be completed on a standardized dataset. This project represents data at a 'point-in-time' with consideration of several factors which will continue to influence and have direct effects on the composition and coverage of trees across the Region, including but not limited to climate change, invasive species and tree diseases, and land-use changes.

A consultant was retained to carry out this project and commenced work in Q1 2023. The scope of the project included creating a 1 metre raster-based dataset identifying landcover classifications across Niagara Region. Six land cover classes were identified: TFC, Grass and non-treed Vegetation, Soil and Bareland, Impervious Cover, Buildings, and Water. TFC was further analyzed and a subclass identifying orchard canopy was produced to quantify where orchard canopy is a contributor to overall canopy. The land cover classes represented the landscape from a top-down perspective, i.e., in areas

where two classes overlap, such as tree canopy overhanging a roadway, only the tree canopy was represented in the land cover classification. Figure 2 (Appendix 1) shows an example of a mapped area in St. Catharines.

Various data sources were used for the project including: Ontario Road Network (2023), Hamilton-Niagara LiDAR DSM (2021), Hamilton-Niagara LiDAR DTM (2021), Bing imagery (2021), Southwestern Ontario Orthophotography Project (2020), and Niagara Region Building Footprints (2018). Using GIS based software, classification techniques were employed to generate each land cover class including segmentation of a LiDAR based height model, random forest machine learning image classification of orthoimagery, and a manual digitization of features using orthoimagery. Additionally, a QA/QC process was carried out to validate the accuracy of the classifications using random ortho-imagery point interpretation. A total of 2,163 points were manually classified to create the ground truth dataset with accuracy results indicating a 90% confidence in the land cover classification.

The final land cover classification raster covers an area of 188,188 hectares and comprises 1.88 billion pixels at a 1-meter spatial resolution.

## Results and Analysis

This report provides baseline data findings and examples of types of analysis that can be completed using the data.

Final land classification results indicate that overall, Niagara Region has a 25.4% TFC cover. The full breakdown of land classifications across the Region is as follows:

**Table 1:** Land Classification by Type across Niagara Region

Land Classification	Total Hectares	% of Total Land
Tree and Forest Canopy	46789	25.4
Grass and non-treed Vegetation	49205	26.7
Soil and Bareland	72550	39.3
Buildings	4591	2.5
Impervious Cover	11314	6.1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>184449</b>	<b>100%</b>

Land classification data was further disaggregated by the 12 municipality boundaries (Table 2).

**Table 2:** Land Classification by Type by Municipality

Municipality	Land Area (ha)	TFC	Grass and non-treed Vegetation	Soil and Bareland	Buildings	Impervious Cover
Fort Erie	16,535	34.8%	31.8%	24.8%	2.2%	6.5%
Pelham	12,580	31.4%	31.2%	31.5%	1.9%	4.0%
Niagara Falls	20,833	30.5%	35.0%	20.9%	3.7%	10.0%
Port Colborne	12,069	28.4%	29.1%	35.7%	1.8%	5.1%
Thorold	8,332	26.6%	32.1%	31.7%	2.3%	7.3%
Wainfleet	21,626	25.9%	19.3%	52.2%	0.6%	2.0%
Grimsby	6,854	23.9%	29.7%	34.5%	3.5%	8.4%
St. Catharines	9,598	22.4%	30.3%	15.7%	10.6%	21%
Welland	8,112	22.1%	43.3%	16.2%	5.5%	12.9%
Lincoln	16,217	21.9%	22.6%	48.1%	2.4%	5.0%
West Lincoln	38,628	20.7%	18.6%	58.1%	0.6%	1.9%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	13,108	18.0%	23.4%	49.5%	2.8%	6.2%
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>184,492</b>	<b>25.4%</b> <b>(46789 ha)</b>	<b>26.7%</b> <b>(49205 ha)</b>	<b>39.3%</b> <b>(72550 ha)</b>	<b>2.5%</b> <b>(4591 ha)</b>	<b>6.1%</b> <b>(11314 ha)</b>



To gain a better understanding of the overall TFC in urbanized areas, where most of Niagara's population reside, the data was additionally assessed using the boundaries of the 27 urban areas (Table 3). Overall, the average TFC coverage across all urban areas was 23.8%.

**Table 3:** TFC by Urban Areas

Municipality	Urban Area	TFC
Pelham	Fenwick	36.2%
	Fonthill	29.7%
Fort Erie	Crystal Beach	31.8%
	Fort Erie	36.8%
	Douglstown	21.4%
	Stevensville	25.0%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	Queenston	46.2%
	Niagara-on-the-Lake	34.5%
	Virgil	19.3%
	St. David's	23.8%
	Glendale	13.6%
Niagara Falls	Niagara Falls	25.5%
St. Catharines	St. Catharines	23.1%
Lincoln	Vineland South	31.2%
	Jordan	26.9%
	Vineland	19.9%
	Jordan Station	24.6%
	Campden	17.8%
	Beamsville	15.6%
	Prudhomes	11.9%
Thorold	Thorold North	13.1%

Municipality	Urban Area	TFC
	Thorold South	12.8%
	Port Robinson	34.0%
Port Colborne	Port Colborne	20.6%
Welland	Welland	18.7%
Grimsby	Grimsby	17.4%
West Lincoln	Smithville	10.4%
	<b>Urban Area Average:</b>	<b>23.8%</b>

Additional high-level analysis was completed using the TFC data. Analysis included intersecting various Statistics Canada levels of geography and population data with the TFC data, as well as using the grass and non-treed vegetation classification layer to determine potential planting area (PPA). The total TFC and PPA of Region owned properties was also investigated. Full results are available in Appendix 2 of this report.

## Agricultural TFC

The northern extent of the region, bordering the shoreline of Lake Ontario is predominantly specialty crop agriculture. Vineyards and orchards are numerous outside of settlement areas. Orchard trees aid in the reduction of carbon dioxide alongside other tree species found in Niagara and are an important contributor to the reduction of greenhouse gases. Total TFC as reported in this project is inclusive of orchard canopy, however, additional analysis was conducted to measure the contribution of orchard canopy in areas where tender fruit agriculture is prevalent. Results indicate, total TFC coverage in the Greenbelt Plan area is 23.6%, with orchards accounting for 9.9% of this coverage (i.e., 1,165 ha of the total 11,724 ha of TFC is generated from orchard canopy). Municipalities where orchard canopy is a major contributor to overall canopy, include Niagara-on-the-Lake (23% of total canopy coverage) and Lincoln (13% of total canopy coverage). Figure 3 (Appendix 1) shows a mapped representation of the location of orchard canopy in the Greenbelt Plan area.

## Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services are the ecological benefits that tree canopy provides to humans. Results of the land classification assessment were used to gauge the ecosystem services of the existing TFC at a high level. Ecosystem services of TFC in Niagara were

quantified using i-tree Eco v6 software, produced by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service. Ecosystem Services considered in this study include carbon storage and sequestration, air quality, hydrology, and oxygen production. Full results can be found in Appendix 3 of this report.

## **Health Impacts**

Tree Canopy can have many widespread impacts, not only on the local environment, but also on the social determinants of health of individuals in the community. Environmental, economic and social factors that are impacted by tree canopy affect the health of populations. Environmental factors can include the urban heat island effect, air quality, access to greenspace and resilience to the effects of climate change. The health outcomes impacted by tree canopy end up influencing economics related to healthcare services as increased use of services can be influenced by environmental factors. A detailed literature review on health impacts related to TFC is provided in Appendix 4 of this report.

## **Challenges**

The current replacement value of all the trees in Niagara Region, where the replacement value is the estimated local cost of replacing a tree with a similar tree, is estimated to be \$11 billion. Significant threats to Niagara's TFC include susceptibility to pests and disease, stresses associated with climate change, invasive plant species and land-use change.

Climate change poses a number of potential impacts to TFC, affecting structure, health, distribution, and ecological function. The overall impacts of climate change are highly dependent on geography, existing species compositions, and the added presence of pests and disease.

Urban forest mortality rates have been recorded in some areas across North America, with studies suggesting the annual mortality rate of mature canopy in a forest typically ranges from 1% to 3%. In urban settings, urban tree mortality is highly variable depending on planting locations and general tree maintenance and upkeep. An aim to increase the overall regional TFC would need to account for not only identifying areas where additional tree plantings could occur, but also accommodating replacing trees lost to varying threats, land use changes and other circumstances.

## **Opportunities**

As identified, Niagara's current TFC is estimated to be 25.4%. This baseline provides a reference point to support strategies, targets, and directions aimed at improving the overall canopy across Niagara Region. Section 3.1.25.2 of the Niagara Official Plan supports opportunities for enhancement of woodland cover, including the implementation of the Regional Greening Initiative, private land stewardship, land acquisition or dedication of private land to the Region, Local Area Municipalities, Conservation Authority, or other public or private organizations for tree planting and reforestation efforts; identification of woodland enhancement areas through the completion of watershed plans, subwatershed studies, or similar plans; or required tree and woodland protection and planting through the planning application process.

In the short term, this data quantifies the spatial distribution of TFC throughout the Region and will assist in identifying opportunities for increasing sustainable tree cover on regional properties as part of the Greening Initiative, as well as provide detailed data necessary to support targeting of future initiatives. Additionally, the Region will share the results of this study and the associated data with the local municipalities, to assist with an increased understanding of the coverage across specific areas and enable use of the information to support local initiatives.

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

This report is for information purposes only. No alternatives were reviewed.

## **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

This report supports the following Council Strategic Priorities 2023-2026:

- Green and Resilient Region: Through identification and protection of the natural environment and facilitating the development of climate-resilient communities.

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**Prepared by:**

Karen Costantini, MCIP, RPP  
Senior Planner  
Growth Strategy and Economic  
Development

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**Recommended by:**

Michelle Sergi, MCIP, RPP  
Commissioner  
Growth Strategy and Economic  
Development

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**Submitted by:**

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Susan McPetrie, Planner, Growth Strategy and Economic Development and Jessica Knot, Municipal Health Impacts Advisor, Public Health and Emergency Services, and reviewed by Erik Acs, MCIP, RPP, Manager of Community Planning and Angela Stea, MCIP, RPP, Director of Corporate Strategy and Community Sustainability.

**Appendices**

Appendix 1	Report PDS 4-2024 Figures
Appendix 2	Additional Analysis
Appendix 3	Ecosystem Services
Appendix 4	Health Impacts Review

Appendix 1  
PDS 4-2024  
Report Figures



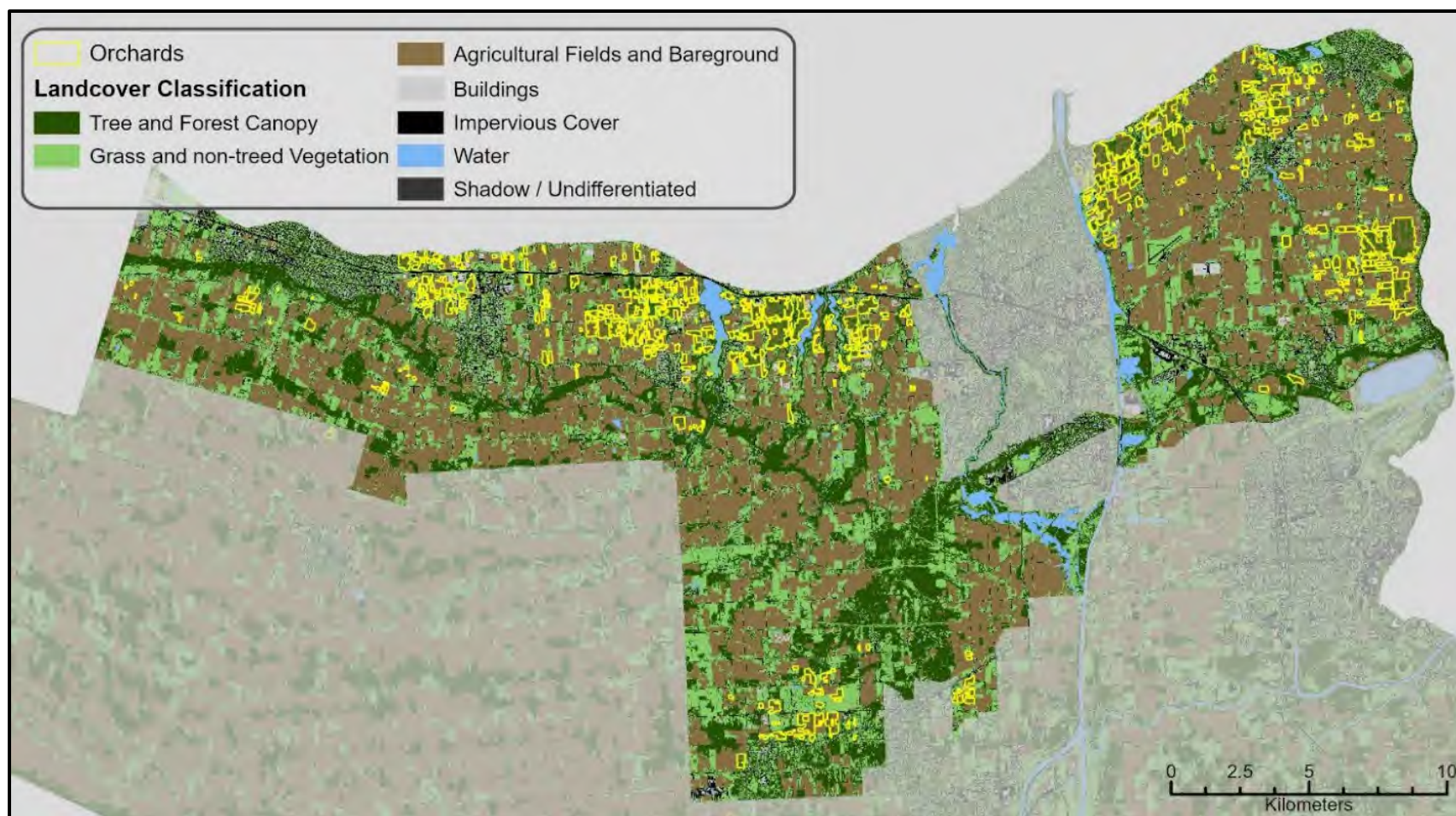
**Figure 1:** An area mapped with land classification data and an aerial photograph of the same area





**Figure 2:** Example of the land classification data overlaid on aerial photography





**Figure 3:** Orchard Canopy in the Greenbelt Plan Area

Appendix 2  
PDS 4-2024  
Additional Analysis

## Additional Analysis

### *Geographic Areas*

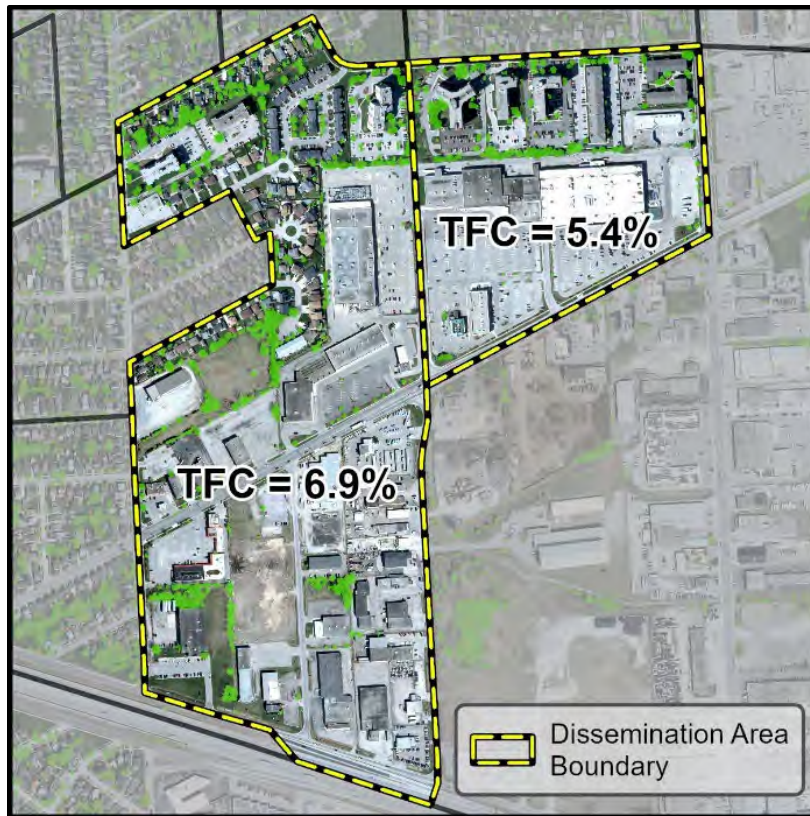
TFC distribution within urban areas was analyzed using Census based dissemination areas (DA's) as the geographical unit for analysis. Results indicate several DA's where "newer" built out residential areas had been recently established, exhibited lower overall TFC rates. This was not an unexpected result as most street and backyard trees were established post construction and have not matured enough to provide a large canopy. Older established neighbourhoods, especially those characterized by larger lots were generally found to have the highest ratios of TFC coverages (e.g., Figure 1 – the first map is a newly built neighbourhood and the second location is north St. Catharines).



**Figure 1:** Newly developed neighbourhood area with limited canopy coverage contrasted with an older developed neighbourhood with mature canopy coverage

DAs with a mix of commercial and residential development typically had low TFC, as the impervious surface class was very high due to parking areas (Figure 2). Rates of TFC across DAs in urban areas varied greatly (i.e., between 3.5% and 69.2% TFC), however this level of geography is valuable for providing an analysis scale appropriate for specific TFC analysis, targeting and goal setting.





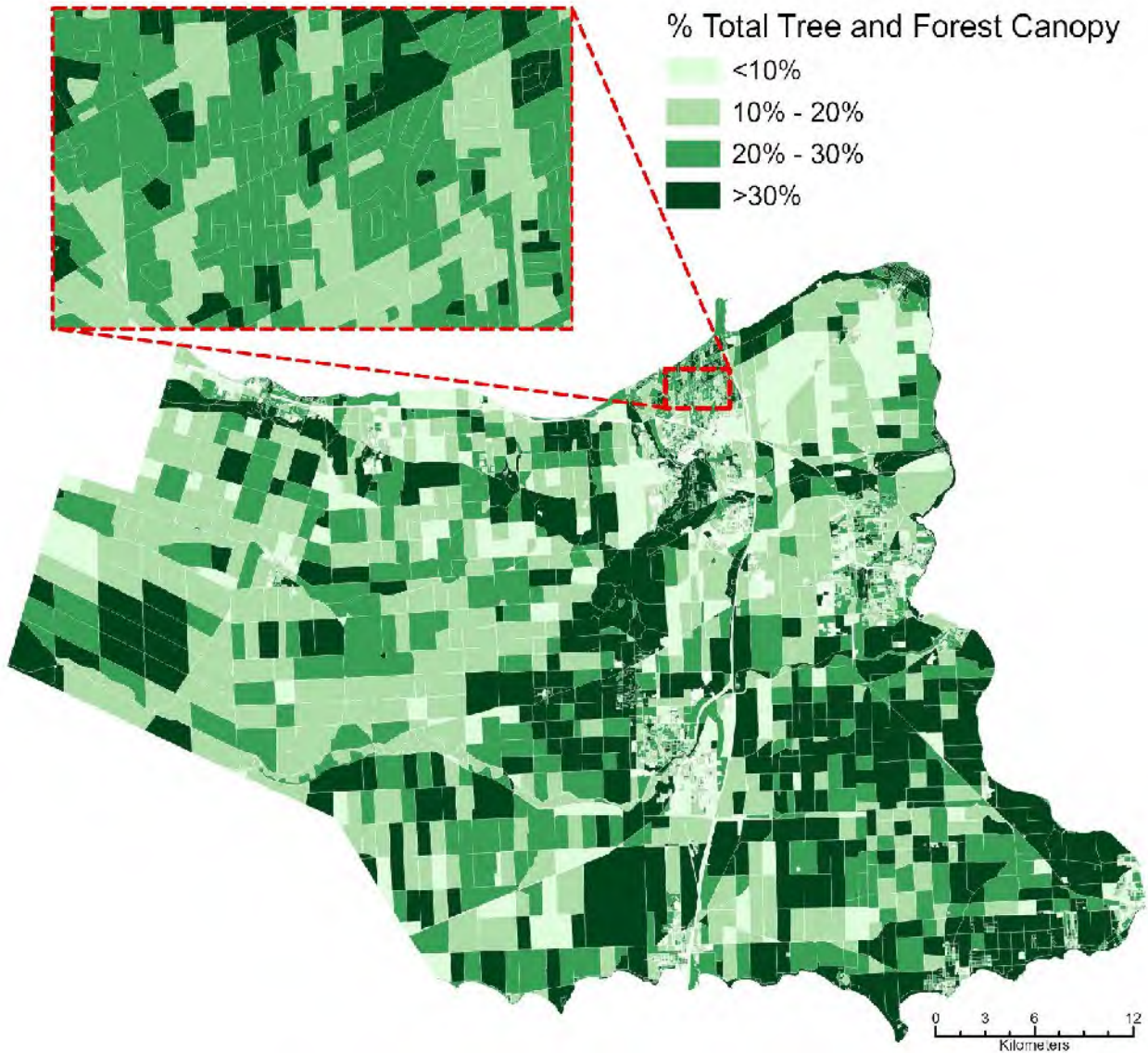
**Figure 2:** DAs characterized by high instances of commercial uses and impervious surfaces, resulting in low TFC rates

To characterize the relationship between population density and areas of high TFC within urban areas, the top 20 most densely populated DA's (persons/hectare – 2021 Census data) were selected. The DA's had an average 17.8% TFC cover, well below the overall regional canopy average. However, there were a few individual examples throughout the data, of areas with high population densities and strong canopy coverages, demonstrating that in some cases high canopy rates can co-exist in areas of high population densities (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** High population density and strong TFC coverage

Dissemination blocks (i.e., the smallest geographic area for which population and dwelling counts are shared by Statistics Canada) were also populated with TFC coverage statistics, and qualitatively mapped with a graduated colour scheme to show an increased level of information on TFC rates across urbanized areas (Figure 4). This type of information is valuable for very specific area targeting or analysis and provides greater detail on the level of cohesive coverage across an area.



**Figure 4:** TFC by dissemination block

#### *Potential Planting Area*

A general approach to determining potential planting area (PPA) estimates is to examine the TFC of an area in relationship with the total grass and non-treed vegetation classification layer. Grass and non-treed vegetation areas represent land where theoretical tree planting opportunities may exist. The soil and bareland layer is typically comprised of agricultural fields, disturbed areas and gravel lots, thus it is not used in this analysis.



To accurately determine possible planting areas, grass and non-treed area data is selected and then certain lands excluded from the classification, including soccer fields, baseball diamonds and other recreational areas, railway and hydro right-of-ways, community gardens and golf courses, etc. The residual coverage is an estimated hectareage of land area that could possibly be converted to TFC. This data can be further assessed by land ownership (i.e., private land or public land) to determine where opportunities should be targeted. An example of this analysis was completed for the urban areas of Fenwick and Beamsville.

### Potential planting area analysis for Fenwick and Beamsville

Urban Area	Fenwick	Beamsville
TFC	36.2%	15.6%
Total Area of UA	250.4ha	674.1 ha
PPA	95.1 ha	229.6 ha
% UA area that is PPA	38.0 %	34.1%
PPA on Private Lands	85.4 ha (89.9%)	167.1 ha (72.8%)
PPA on Public Lands (Including road ROWs)	9.7 ha (10.1%)	62.5 ha (27.2%)

### *Regional Property Analysis*

Individual properties owned by the Niagara Region were assessed for overall TFC. This analysis is beneficial to inform the ongoing planting strategies in support of the Regional Greening initiative. The resulting overall average TFC across all Region-owned parcels was 30.5%. PPA was also determined for each property. Properties were grouped by general type with results shown below. Staff anticipate assessing this data in more detail to determine future areas of opportunity for targeted TFC increases.

### Regionally Owned Properties – TFC and PPA

Niagara Region Property Type	TFC	Grass and non-Treed Vegetation (PPA)
Niagara Region Housing	26.7 %	30.1 %
Pumping stations/Water treatment plants	23.4%	41.5 %
Offices, Police Station, Ambulance Bays, Daycares	13.2 %	38.5 %

Niagara Region Property Type	TFC	Grass and non-Treed Vegetation (PPA)
Vacant lands	42.0 %	38.5 %
Other	19.2 %	43.4 %
Overall Average	30.5 %	39.2 %



Appendix 3  
PDS 4-2024  
Ecosystem Services

## Ecosystem Services Analysis

### *Carbon Storage and Sequestration*

Carbon sequestration is the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide. Trees act as natural carbon stores by capturing carbon dioxide and storing it in their biomass and in the soil as organic carbon compounds. The region's TFC carbon storage and gross sequestration rates are estimated as follows:

- Carbon Storage: 4,265.2 metric kilotons
- CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent: 15,639.2 metric kilotons
- Gross Carbon sequestration: 90.2 metric kilotons/yr
- CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent: 330.9 metric kilotons/yr

The overall valuation of the carbon storage and sequestration ecosystem services from TFC is estimated to be \$489.9 million + \$10.4 million/yr. These valuation estimates are based on carbon pricing of \$114.87/metric ton.

### *Air Quality*

TFC absorbs carbon dioxide, volatile organic compounds, nitrogen dioxide, and particulate matter, therefore improving air quality. The region's TFC is estimated to remove 2,757.7 metric tons/yr of pollution:

- CO: 15.15 metric tons/yr Carbon Monoxide
- NO<sub>2</sub>: 257.91 metric tons/yr Nitrogen Dioxide
- O<sub>3</sub>: 1,933.98 metric tons/yr Ozone
- PM<sub>2.5</sub>: 107.36 metric tons/yr Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size
- SO<sub>2</sub>: 443.31 metric tons/yr Sulphur Dioxide

### *Hydrology*

Surface runoff from storm events is often amplified in urban areas where impervious surfaces are prevalent. Runoff can gather surface pollutants which can end up deposited in surrounding aquatic ecosystems. TFC has the ability to intercept varying degrees of rainfall. Run off avoidance also contributes to substantial cost reductions to stormwater management controls. The total avoided surface runoff from Niagara Region's TFC is estimated to be 598,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr.

### *Oxygen Production*

*The amount of oxygen produced is directly related to the amount of carbon sequestered by trees. The region's TFC is estimated to produce 240.6 metric kilotons/yr of oxygen.*

Appendix 4  
PDS 4-2024  
Health Impacts Assessment

Logic Model

Environmental, economic and social factors that can be impacted by tree canopy and the associated health outcomes are outlined below in Figure 1. A brief summary of recent literature on tree canopy as it relates to the identified health impacts is included below.

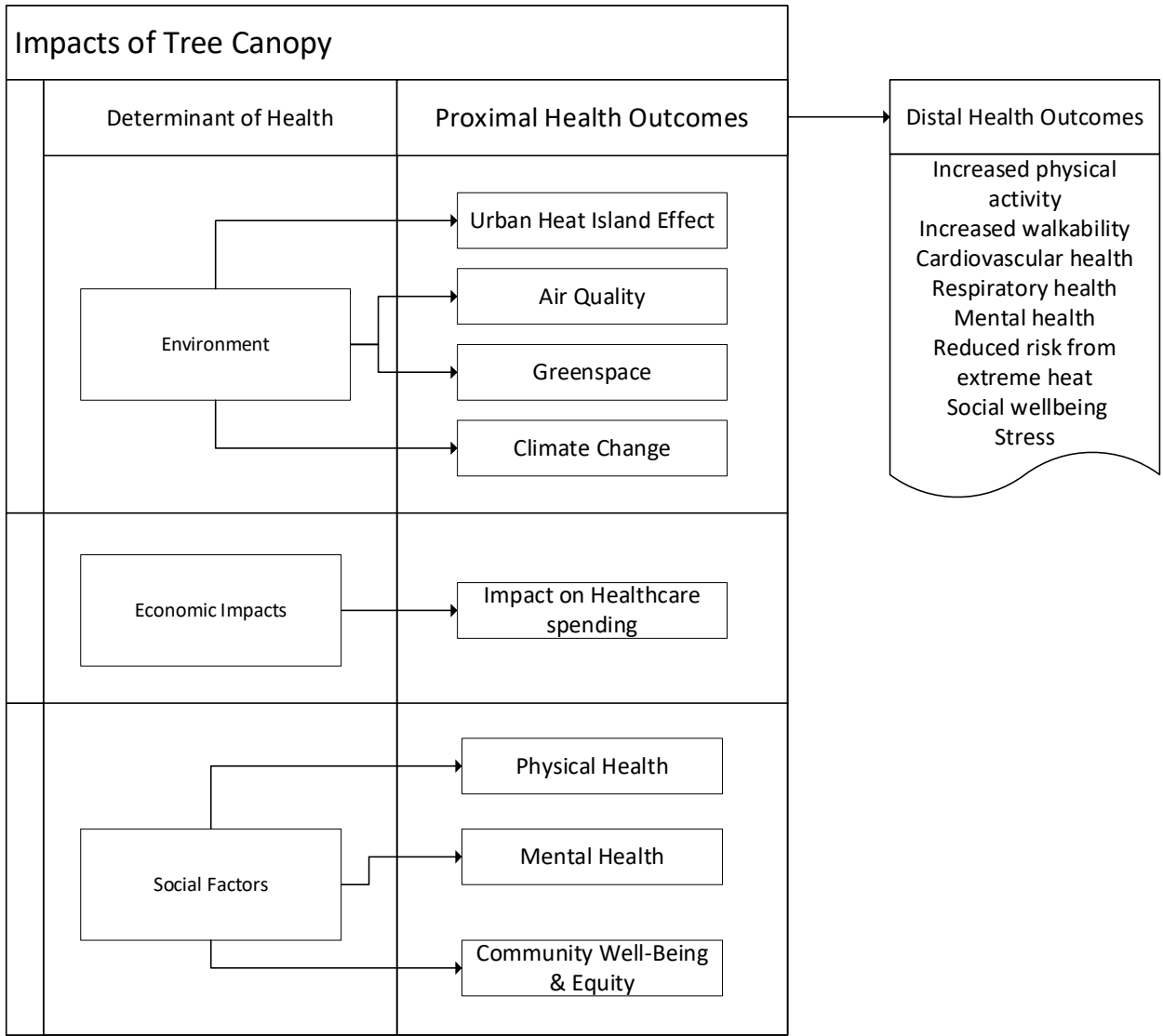


Figure 1: Logic Model

Assessment of Literature

Urban Heat Island Effect and Climate Change

The Urban Heat Island Effect is when areas in urban centres experience higher temperatures for longer periods of time, due to the lack of trees and vegetation to cool the areas, additionally these areas are often built with heat-absorbing materials.<sup>i</sup> This

results in cities becoming hotter than rural areas and can magnify the impacts of warmer temperatures, especially during extreme heat events.<sup>ii</sup> Temperature increases caused by the urban heat island effect can be counteracted by having a developed tree canopy present.<sup>iii</sup> Increased canopy cover can reduce overall temperatures in the summer as well as reduce humidex values during a heat wave.<sup>iv</sup>

Serious health hazards can result from an inability to cool down or as a result of continued exposure of extreme temperatures. Swelling, heat rash, fainting and heat stroke can be caused by a heat wave, additionally, pre-existing conditions such as heart disease, kidney disease, asthma, COPD and other lung conditions can be exacerbated by extreme temperatures.<sup>v</sup> Higher mortality rates and increased use of healthcare services can be seen even during short-term rises in outdoor temperatures.<sup>vi</sup> Through a heat wave in Quebec in 2018, 86 heat-related deaths occurred.<sup>vii</sup> Studies have estimated that an increase in temperature of 2 – 3 degrees Celsius can translate into an increase in mortalities due to heat of 4 – 7 percent.<sup>viii</sup> During periods of extreme heat, increased tree canopy cover can reduce heat stress within neighbourhoods at the street level, this can result in fewer heat-related emergency room visits and heat-related mortalities.<sup>ix,x</sup>

Certain populations are more vulnerable to the impacts of heat waves and may be more likely to experience heat-related illness. Populations including young children, older populations, individuals with pre-existing health conditions, socially isolated populations, individuals with mobility issues, individuals working outdoors or homeless populations are disproportionately affected by heat-related illnesses.<sup>xi</sup> As well, lower income populations may live in areas that lack green space, air conditioning and are without access to a pool, further impacting the health effects of extreme heat.<sup>xii</sup> Individuals facing mobility challenges or who are socially isolated may have a harder time accessing help or moving somewhere cooler. A higher risk may also be experienced by individuals who may have limited access or understanding of information provided by public health such as a heat warning if it is only provided in English and no additional languages.<sup>xiii</sup>

Urban heat islands can be reduced by expanding vegetation cover, increasing surface reflectivity of buildings and paving materials and retrofitting buildings to be more energy efficient.<sup>xiv</sup> Building temperature can be reduced by having large shade trees planted beside them, reducing the need for air conditioning as well as blocking cold winds and lowering the cost of heating.<sup>xv</sup> A recent study on suburban neighbourhoods in Peel Region found that during a heat wave urban trees could make it feel up to eleven degrees Celsius cooler.<sup>xvi</sup> Increasing vegetative or grassy surfaces and reducing the amount of pavement or other impervious surfaces can also support decreases in temperatures.<sup>xvii</sup>

A study in Toronto found that neighbourhood canopy cover had a negative correlation with the number of heat-related ambulance calls.<sup>xviii</sup> Five times as many heat-related calls were seen from neighbourhoods with less than five percent canopy cover

compared to neighbourhoods with greater than five percent canopy cover.<sup>xix</sup> Fifteen times as many heat-related calls were seen compared to neighbourhoods with over seventy percent tree canopy cover.<sup>xx</sup> Increased canopy cover could therefore result in reduced heat-related ambulance calls.

Canada will continue to see an increase in the number of heat waves that are experienced as temperatures continue to rise due to climate change. Canada will see substantial increases in daily extreme temperatures and an increase in 'hot days' where the maximum temperature is over thirty degrees Celsius.<sup>xxi</sup> By 2051-2080, Canadian urban centres are estimated to experience longer extreme heat events with four times as many days over thirty degrees Celsius.<sup>xxii</sup> Climate predictions have flagged Niagara Falls – St. Catharines as one of the top ten metropolitan areas that will be at the highest risk for average length of heat waves, highest maximum temperatures and number of very hot days.<sup>xxiii</sup> Communities need to build climate change resilience into their environments and tree canopy can mitigate the urban heat island effect, providing cooling and protecting people from the heat.<sup>xxiv</sup>

### *Impact on Healthcare Spending*

The relationship of tree canopy and extreme heat events has also been shown to impact the usage of health care services or systems. Studies controlling for economic status and demographics have seen lower rates of utilizing mental health services and treatments in communities with higher levels of tree cover and green space.<sup>xxv</sup> Extreme heat events also cause health system strain through increased number of ambulance calls, increased number of visits to emergency departments and increased usage of telephone helplines.<sup>xxvi</sup>

Tree canopy can also support long term health impacts of populations through the positive effect it has on air quality, with urban tree cover acting as a buffer to airborne pollution.<sup>xxvii</sup> Increased canopy cover can filter pollutants and improve air quality, positively impacting respiratory health.<sup>xxviii</sup> This impact is significant as it is estimated that in Canada each year there are approximately 21,000 premature deaths related to air pollution.<sup>xxix</sup>

A study done on the tree canopy in Brampton, Ontario quantified the health benefits of canopy cover by determining their healthcare savings associated with reduced heat, lower levels of air pollutants, increased physical activity and improved mental health, which are all impacted by tree canopy levels.<sup>xxx</sup> It was estimated that a scenario with a 50 % increase in tree canopy cover (current baseline canopy cover at 18.4% increasing to 27.6% cover) could equal \$2,437,363 in healthcare savings and with an 80% increase in canopy cover, savings of \$3,175,826.<sup>xxxi</sup>

### *Physical Health, Mental Health & Greenspace*

Urban forests have demonstrated positive effects on individual's health by improving mental health and encouraging the use of greenspace, increasing physical activity and

reducing stress which are associated with preventing chronic diseases.<sup>xxxii</sup> Studies have demonstrated that a 30% canopy cover can provide health benefits including improved mental health, decreased incidence of heart disease, diabetes and hypertension and reduced feelings of loneliness.<sup>xxxiii</sup> Mood and stress have been found to be positively impacted by exposure to natural areas including community gardens, forests or parks.<sup>xxxiv</sup> Green space can impact individual's social well-being by providing space for individuals to join together and socialize as well as providing opportunities for building community networks through social activities. Higher levels of reported health and well-being, mental well-being and self-reported happiness is positively associated with spending time in a green space.<sup>xxxv</sup>

Additionally, the impact tree canopy has on extreme heat events can also impact health through the mitigation of negative health effects experienced during extreme heat exposure. Increased mood and behavioural distress and exacerbated mental illnesses have been documented from experiencing extreme heat.<sup>xxxvi</sup> Heat related mental health impacts are more likely to affect seniors, individuals with existing mental health conditions or individuals with chronic diseases.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

### *Community Well-Being and Equity*

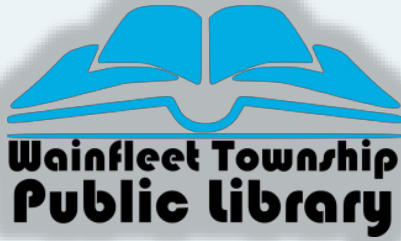
Health impacts associated with tree canopy may hit certain populations disproportionately. Individuals living on lower incomes are often impacted more significantly during extreme heat events, this can be due to many reasons such as living somewhere without air conditioning, not having access to green space in their neighbourhood or not being able to access a pool.<sup>xxxviii</sup> The urban heat island effect will also disproportionately magnify health impacts of heat for populations living in urban areas. Social isolation and low-income were identified risk factors for individuals who died during the heat wave in Montreal in 2018.<sup>xxxix</sup> Public green spaces and tree canopy cover are less accessible to low-income and racialized communities in Toronto, meaning they experience less mitigation of the urban heat island effect.<sup>xl</sup> These inequities in the availability of tree canopy and greenspace resulting because there is increased access found in affluent areas exacerbates the negative health outcomes experienced by marginalized communities without the protective factors tree canopy provides against heat and air pollution.<sup>xli</sup> The ability to adapt and be resilient to the effects of climate change on health is also connected to how accessible and available emergency management and public health services are to various communities.<sup>xlii</sup>

With this knowledge of how different communities could be impacted by tree canopy cover, equity can be used as a factor to identify neighbourhoods that may be especially vulnerable to extreme heat. By assessing factors such as income, age, existing canopy and access to supportive community resources such as a pool, identified communities can then be prioritized for future urban tree plantings, and/or protecting of existing canopy.<sup>xliii</sup>

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## MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

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Phone: 905-899-1277 | Fax: 905-899-2495 | Website: [www.wainfleetlibrary.ca](http://www.wainfleetlibrary.ca)



### Hours:

Monday & Thursday:  
10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday:  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday:  
Closed

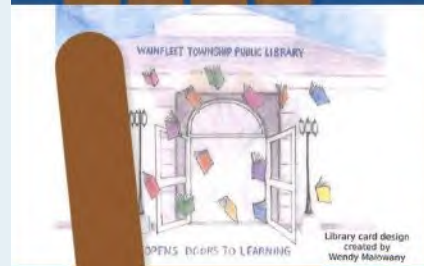
### Notice:

*The Library will be closed  
Good Friday - March 29 and  
Easter Monday - April 1.*



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

## FREE WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD...



- ▶ Books, magazines & newspapers
- ▶ DVDs & Blu-rays
- ▶ Large print books & audiobooks on CD
- ▶ 24/7 online access to e-books, audiobooks, magazines & more
- ▶ Internet access, Wi-Fi & computers
- ▶ Online databases & research material
- ▶ Expert reading recommendations & reference service



- ▶ Local history & genealogy
- ▶ Board games & puzzles
- ▶ Learning manipulatives
- ▶ Decodable books
- ▶ LINC collections
- ▶ Adult & kid's programs
- ▶ Book clubs
- ▶ Literacy computers
- ▶ And much more!

Printing, copying, scanning,  
faxing and laminating services  
available for a fee.

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*New and exciting things are happening at the Wainfleet Township Public Library!*



## Wainfleet Township Public Library book bags only \$7 each!



*They make great gifts!  
These bags are made of cotton  
canvas and are washable.  
Bags measure 16 x 15"*



- \* Wearing of CSA-approved helmets is strongly recommended.
- \* No hockey pucks allowed on ice during these skating times.

### Free Skating for Tots and Seniors \*NEW TIMES\*

Wednesdays and Fridays

Seniors from 9 - 10 a.m. and Tots from 10 - 11 a.m.  
(5 years and under with caregiver)

### Public Skating \$4/person (under 6 free)

Saturdays from 2 - 3 p.m.

### Free March Break Skating

March 12 from 5 - 7 p.m.

March 13 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

March 14 from 5 - 7 p.m.

March 15 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



## VISITING LIBRARY SERVICE

Are you or someone you know unable to visit the Library due to health reasons and/or physical limitations?

The Library offers a visiting Library service designed specifically for those who cannot come to the Library. For further information or to schedule deliveries to your home, please call the Library at 905-899-1277.



## One-on-One Computer Training



**First hour FREE!**

**\$10.00 per hour thereafter.**

1 hour training sessions  
can be tailored to a program  
or topic of your choice.

Contact library staff for more information!



## Wainfleet Township Public Library is part of Libraries in Niagara Cooperative (LiNC)

LiNC is a partnership of many Niagara public library systems to share resources and a catalogue system called Evergreen.

LiNC Public Libraries include: Lincoln Pelham, Fort Erie, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Thorold, Grimsby, Welland, Port Colborne, West Lincoln and Wainfleet.

If you have a Wainfleet Township Public Library Card you are automatically a LiNC cardholder. You can visit any LiNC library and borrow in person, or you can place holds and have items sent to Wainfleet for pick up. Items can be returned to any of the LiNC Libraries. Books and audiobooks can be borrowed for 3 weeks; magazines and DVDs can be borrowed for 1 week.

The Library catalogue allows you to search our Library or the entire LiNC catalogue. You can place holds, renew items, create reading lists and track your reading history.

To access the catalogue, go to [www.wainfleetlibrary.ca](http://www.wainfleetlibrary.ca) and click on Catalogue in the upper right corner. To sign in, enter your library card number and your password is either the last 4 digits or last 7 digits of your phone number.

Sign In

CARD NUMBER

Library Card Number

PASSWORD

Last 4 or 7 digits of phone #

☐ Stay signed in

Sign in

# PROGRAMS

To sign up for programs that require registration, please visit <https://wainfleetlibrary.ca/programs/current-programs>.

## Canada Revenue Agency in Your Community - Monday, March 4 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Canada Revenue Agency's Benefits and Outreach will be on site to discuss government benefits, credits and tax deductions that you may be eligible for. Find out about ways you can get your taxes done and money you may be eligible for from the Government of Canada. Service is first come, first served.



## Time for Tots and Craft - Thursday, March 7, 21 & 28 from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Join us for stories, songs, activities and crafts for tots ages 4 months to 4 years and their caregivers. Spaces are limited, please register by Monday, March 4.



## Homeschool Craft - Friday, March 8 at 2:15 p.m. and Monday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Join us for one or all of these crafting programs just for our homeschool families. Registration required. Project details can be found in the registration form.



## DIY Bunny Painting - Monday, March 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us as we lead you step-by-step in creating a beautiful spring bunny painting. This program is for everyone ages 8+. Registration required by Friday, March 15.



## Service Canada in Your Community - Thursday, March 21 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Canada Pension, Old Age Security and Employment Insurance help is available. A Service Canada representative will be on site to help you with your questions, update your address or banking information and to accept your applications. Valid government issued photo identification and your Social Insurance Number is required for all services. If you need a Social Insurance Number this service is also available. Please check the Canada.ca website for required documentation before you come. Service is first come, first served. Passport service is not available at this clinic.



## Monday Evening Book Club - Monday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m.

This month's book is *In the Upper Country* by Kai Thomas. Each participant will be loaned a copy of the current book. This month's club is full.



## Thursday Afternoon Book Club - Thursday, March 28 at 2:00 p.m.

This month's book is *The Long Way Home* by Louise Penny. Each participant will be loaned a copy of the current book. Registration is required.

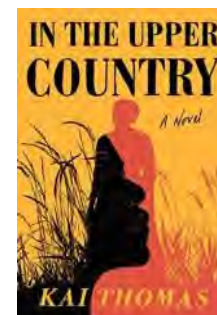


## One Book, One Niagara 2nd Annual Event



The libraries of Niagara are thrilled to announce the second annual One Book, One Niagara event will be held on Tuesday, April 23. We're so happy to have award winning author Kai Thomas with us to discuss his debut novel *In the Upper Country*.

Tickets will once again be free and will be available soon. Visit <https://onebookoneniagara.ca/> for more details.



## March Break Program Registration Information

Registration is required by Wednesday, March 6 for all library programs that do not indicate “drop-in” as spaces are limited and items need to be purchased based on participation numbers. All programs are free of charge and intended for all ages. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. (Unless stated otherwise.) The Babysitting and Stay Safe programs require payment and you must register for those two programs in library. All other registration forms can be filled out online at <https://wainfleetlibrary.ca/programs/current-programs>

## MARCH BREAK @ YOUR LIBRARY

*and Arena!*

Monday 11	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday 14	Friday 15	Saturday 16
<p>Library Egg Hunts</p> <p>10:15 - 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 2:15 - 3:00 p.m. 3:15 - 4:00 p.m. 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.</p> 	<p>Yoga <i>with Amanda</i> for Tots &amp; Caregivers 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.</p>  <p>for Big Kids ages 6+ 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Scoop McCoy Magic Show 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.</p>  <p>Free Public Skating 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Free Seniors Skate 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Free Skating for Tots under 5 &amp; Caregivers 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Free Public Skating 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Hot Chocolate Storytime for Tots and Caregivers 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</p>  <p>Diamond Painting 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p> 	<p>Trolls Storytime &amp; Craft for Tots and Caregivers 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.</p>  <p>Trolls Storytime &amp; Headband Craft For Big Kids 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.</p>  <p>Free Public Skating 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Drop-In Lego 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.</p> 	<p>Stay Safe 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Babysitting 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Free Seniors Skate 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Free Skating for Tots under 5 &amp; Caregivers 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Free Public Skating 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Hot Chocolate Storytime for Tots and Caregivers 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</p>  <p>Drop-In Egg Necklaces 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p> 	<p>Drop-In Lego 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Public Skating \$4/person 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.</p> 



# MARCH BREAK PROGRAM DETAILS

## Library Egg Hunts - Monday, March 11 - Various times throughout the day

Spring is coming early this year. Join us at your registered time to decorate a spring bag, go on a hunt and receive some spring treats. This program is for kids of all ages.



## Yoga with Amanda - Tuesday, March 12 from 10:15 - 11:00 a.m. (Tots & Caregivers) and from 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Big Kids ages 6+)

Join us for a Yoga Session with our local Yoga Instructor Amanda. Please bring your own yoga mat, blanket or towel.

## Scoop McCoy Magic Show - Tuesday, March 12 from 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Join Scoop McCoy as he brings Wainfleet some March Break fun and magic! You can expect a lot of laughs and audience participation. Best suited for ages 5+.



## Hot Chocolate Storytime for Tots and Caregivers -

### Wednesday, March 13 and Friday, March 15 from 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Tots and caregivers are welcome to enjoy some Hot Chocolate while joining us for a storytime and craft just for them.



## Diamond Painting - Wednesday, March 13 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. or 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

You may have heard of paint by numbers and paint by sticker but have you ever tried to paint with diamonds? Well here's your chance. Join us as we show you how to diamond paint.



## Trolls Storytime & Craft for Tots and Caregivers - Thursday, March 14 from 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

Join us for a storytime filled with everything Trolls and a craft just for our youngest friends.



## Trolls Storytime & Headband Craft For Big Kids (5+) - Thursday, March 14 from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a storytime intended for older children. We will share stories about trolls, draw trolls related pictures and make our very own trolls hair headbands.



## Drop-In Lego - Thursday, March 14 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. and

### Saturday, March 16 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Come to the library with your friends and family and discover our amazing Lego collection. This program will run on a drop in basis (children must be supervised by their parents / caregivers).

## Babysitting & Stay Safe Training - Friday, March 15 at 9:00 a.m.

The library will be hosting two training sessions on Friday, March 15. Both programs cost \$75 each.

- Stay Safe (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) is intended for children ages 9 to 11
- Babysitting (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) is intended for children ages 11+ (they must be 11 within 30 days of the course date)

Your registration is confirmed once payment is received (cash or cheque ONLY payable in person at the library.)

Registration forms can be downloaded below or picked up at the library.

<https://www.wainfleetlibrary.ca/images/files/misc/babysittingstaysaferegistration2024.pdf>



## Drop-In Egg Necklaces - Friday, March 15 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Drop-in, in the afternoon to make a beautiful spring egg necklace (children must be supervised by their parents / caregivers).



## PRINTING, COPYING, LAMINATING AND FAXING

New pricing effective January 2024

### PRINTING & COPYING

We offer black and white or colour printing and copying. Black and white starts at \$0.30 and colour starts at \$0.60. Quantities of 25+ and 100+ are discounted. We can copy and print up to 11 x 17" size.



### LAMINATING

We laminate from card-size up to 11 x 17". The cost ranges from \$0.65 to \$2.65 per sheet depending on the size.



### FAXING

The cost to send or receive faxes is \$2.50 plus long distance charges if applicable. There is no limit on the amount of pages per fax.



## BOARD GAMES @ YOUR LIBRARY

The library now has **more** board games, puzzles, card games and flash cards for you to borrow!  
Come see what we have available!

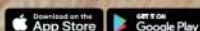


# Borrow magazines, ebooks & audiobooks, all in one app!

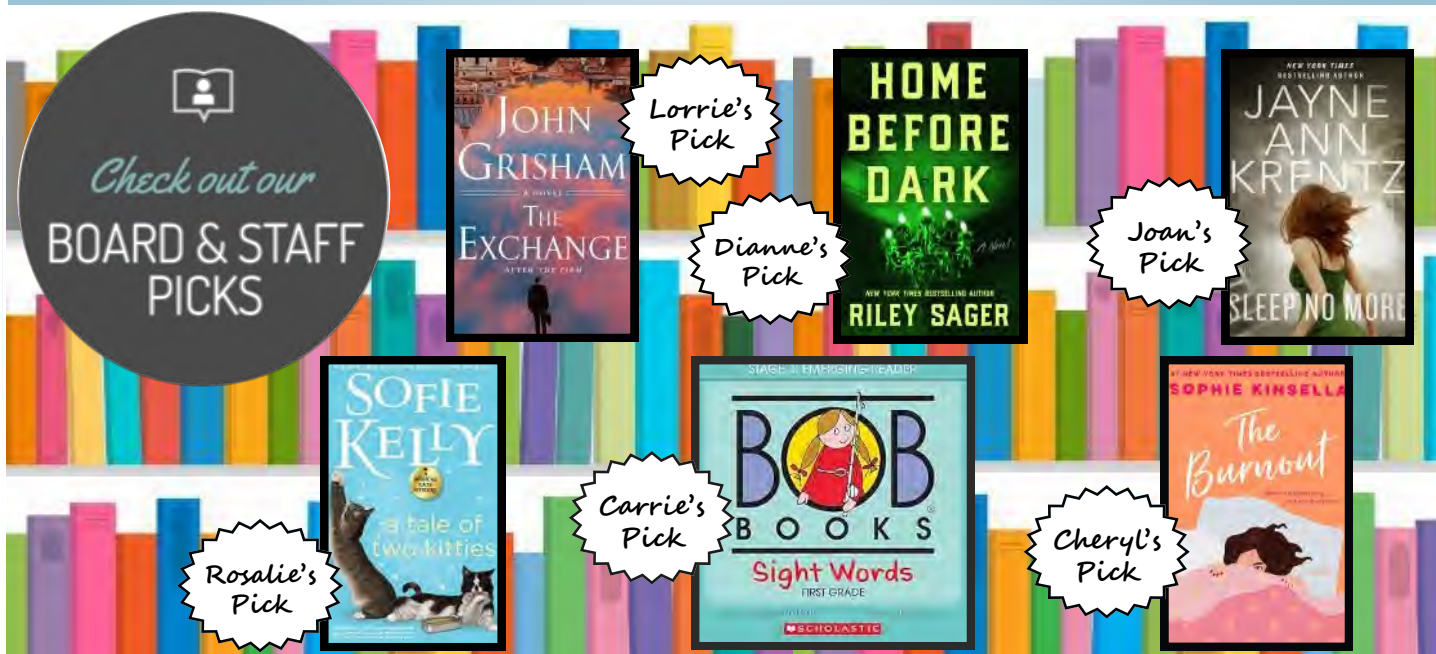


### Read on Libby.

The one-tap reading app from our library.







## NEW LIBRARY MATERIALS

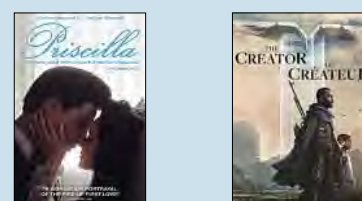
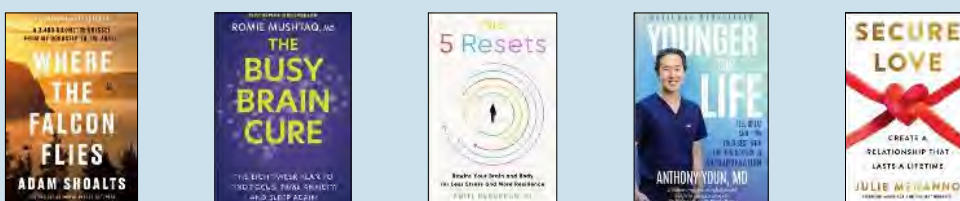
### Adult Fiction Books



### DVDs



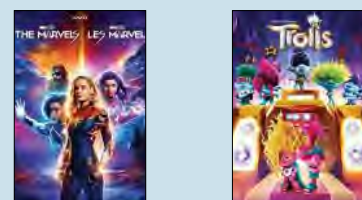
### Adult Non-Fiction Books



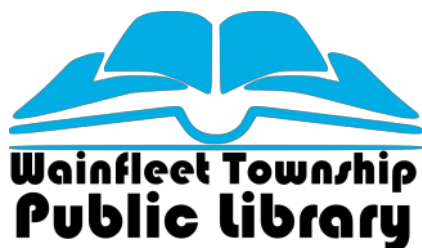
### Juvenile & YP Fiction Books



### Juvenile Picture Books







## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Wainfleet Township Public Library Board guarantees equitable access to all with diverse opportunities for personal enrichment and lifelong learning.*

### LIBRARY STAFF

**Lorrie Atkinson, CEO/Chief Librarian**

latkinson@wainfleetlibrary.ca

**Carrie Mayr, Library Programmer**

cmayr@wainfleetlibrary.ca

**Cheryl Davis-Catchpaw,**

**Secretary/Library Clerk**

cdavis-catchpaw@wainfleetlibrary.ca

**Dianne Boru, Library Clerk**

dboru@wainfleetlibrary.ca

**Rosalie Kasm, Library Clerk**

rkasm@wainfleetlibrary.ca

**Kayla Spark, Student Page**

**Dariusz Zelichowski, IT Specialist**

darius@wainfleet.ca



### LIBRARY BOARD

**Lynn J. Hunt**

*Chairperson*

**Lynn Gibson**

*Vice-Chairperson*

**Joan Anderson**

*Council Representative*

**Lois Johnson**

*Trustee*

**Chris Summerhayes**

*Trustee*

Library Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of February, April, May, June, September, October, November and December and are open to the public.

## March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 2 p.m. Canada Revenue Agency	5 Class Visit	6 March Break Program Registration ends at 5 p.m.	7 10:30 a.m. Time for Tots & Craft Class Visit	8 2:15 p.m. Homeschool Craft	9
10 	11 Library Egg Hunts (Registration required)	12 10:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Yoga with Amanda 2 p.m. Scoop McCoy Magic Show 5 p.m. Free Public Skate	13 9 a.m. Free Seniors Skate 10 a.m. Free Skate under 5 & Caregivers 11 a.m. Free Public Skate 11:15 a.m. Hot Chocolate Storytime 1:30 p.m. & 3 p.m. Diamond Painting	14 10:15 a.m. Trolls Storytime for Tots & Caregivers 2 p.m. Trolls Storytime for Big Kids 5 p.m. Free Public Skate 6 p.m. Drop-in Lego	15 9 a.m. Stay Safe & Babysitting Courses 9 a.m. Free Seniors Skate 10 a.m. Free Skate under 5 & Caregivers 11 a.m. Free Public Skate 11:15 a.m. Hot Chocolate Storytime 1 p.m. Drop-in Egg Necklaces	16 10:30 a.m. Drop-in Lego 2 p.m. Public Skate (\$4)
17	18 1 p.m. Homeschool Craft 6 p.m. DIY Bunny Painting	19 Class Visits	20 Class Visits	21 10:30 a.m. Time for Tots & Craft 1 p.m. Service Canada Class Visit	22 Class Visit	23
24 31	25 Class Visit 6:30 p.m. Evening Book Club	26 Class Visit	27 Class Visit	28 10:30 a.m. Time for Tots & Craft 2 p.m. Afternoon Book Club Class Visit	29 Library Closed - Good Friday 	30

**Subject:** Response from the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery - 996-2024-95

**From:** CPLB-Admin Asst (MPBSD) <CPLB-Admin@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** February 23, 2024 12:37 PM

**To:** Amber Chrastina <AChrastina@wainfleet.ca>

**Subject:** Response from the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery - 996-2024-95

*Sent on behalf of Kelly Houston-Routley, Director of the Consumer Policy and Liaison Branch, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery*

---

Date: February 23, 2024

Name: Amber Chrastina

Email: [AChrastina@wainfleet.ca](mailto:AChrastina@wainfleet.ca)

Dear Amber Chrastina,

Thank you for writing to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, expressing support for the Township of Clearview and Township of Tay's resolutions about cemetery transfer/abandonment administration and management support. As the Director responsible for policy related to the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) and its regulations, and for oversight of the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery (ministry).

The Government of Ontario is committed to a strong bereavement sector – one that protects consumers and serves them with integrity. The FBSCA, and its regulations, set out certain requirements for Ontario's bereavement sector, including cemetery operators. The requirements in the FBSCA help to protect consumers and to promote high standards for cemeteries.

The ministry acknowledges your request for the Ontario government to provide financial and legislative relief for municipalities that are required to assume ownership of and maintenance responsibilities for cemeteries that have been abandoned within their geographic boundaries. The ministry also recognizes your request for other resources to support municipal cemetery operators.

The ministry is aware of the challenges that municipalities have raised about funding the ongoing maintenance of abandoned cemeteries. The ministry acknowledges abandoned cemeteries can pose a burden on some municipalities, particularly when an abandoned cemetery has a depleted cemetery care and maintenance fund/account.

While the ministry recognizes your concerns, at this time it is not considering providing municipalities with financial assistance for assuming responsibility for abandoned cemeteries. However, between 2019 and 2021, the ministry consulted with the bereavement sector and municipalities to understand their concerns with the framework for cemetery care and maintenance funds/accounts and to identify solutions.

You may know that regulatory changes took effect on January 1, 2022 – including increases to the minimum care and maintenance fund/account contribution amounts – to help generate more income for ongoing cemetery maintenance.

In addition, as of January 1, 2022, non-commercial cemetery operators, such as municipalities, are permitted to apply for the BAO Registrar's approval to use the capital portion of care and maintenance funds/accounts to increase the capacity of a cemetery.

These changes aim to respond to municipal cemetery operator requests for more flexibility in the framework for care and maintenance funds/ accounts. The ministry is closely monitoring the impact of these changes and will continue to note all feedback from municipalities.

Once again, thank you for writing. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Houston-Routley  
Director, Consumer Policy and Liaison Branch  
Policy Planning and Oversight Division  
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery



Received February 23, 2024  
C-2024-060

Hon. Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
823 Albion Road  
Etobicoke, ON  
M9V 1A3

VIA EMAIL:

[doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

Hon. David Piccini  
Minister of Labour,  
Immigration, Training and Skills  
Development  
117 Peter St.

Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5

VIA EMAIL:

[David.Piccini@pc.ola.org](mailto:David.Piccini@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road  
34

Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

February 23, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and  
Housing

VIA EMAIL:

[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

MPP France Gelinas  
MPP for Nickel Belt  
Suite 15

5085 Hwy. 69 N

Hanmer, ON P3P 1P7

VIA EMAIL: [Fgelinas-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:Fgelinas-co@ndp.on.ca)

MPP Jamie West  
MPP for Sudbury  
Unit 4B  
555 Barrydowne Rd.

VIA EMAIL: [JWest-](mailto:JWest-CO@ndp.on.ca)

[CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:CO@ndp.on.ca)

RE: 6.5 City of Greater Sudbury Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-004:**

Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.5 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and



Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

**CARRIED**

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

CC: Association of Municipalities Ontario, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, Council of Ontario Construction Association, Ontario Chamber of Commerce

December 12, 2023

**\*Sent Via Email\***

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

PO BOX 5000 STN A  
200 BRADY STREET  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

CP 5000 SUCCA  
200, RUE BRADY  
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

*CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;*

*AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");*

*AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;*

*AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;*

*AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;*

*AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;*

*AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;*

705.671.2489

[www.greatersudbury.ca](http://www.greatersudbury.ca)  
[www.grandsudbury.ca](http://www.grandsudbury.ca)

*AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelin, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.*

Yours truly,



Brigitte Sobush  
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council  
Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk