

1. **C-2024-281**
Correspondence dated June 7, 2024 from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. respecting an Assessment of Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024.
2. **C-2024-282**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the City of Pembroke correspondence regarding funding for mental health and addictions in the County of Renfrew.
3. **C-2024-283**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of Calvin correspondence regarding a review of the National Firefighting Strategy.
4. **C-2024-284**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Township of Archipelago correspondence regarding Public Health Ontario's proposed phasing out of free water testing for private wells.
5. **C-2024-285**
Correspondence dated June 7, 2024 from the Town of Cochrane to the Town of Goderich respecting a resolution of support for their correspondence regarding Public Health Ontario's proposed phasing out of free water testing for private wells.
6. **C-2024-286**
Correspondence dated June 9, 2024 from the West Lincoln Public Library Board respecting the need for review of the funding formula for libraries in Ontario.
7. **C-2024-287**
Correspondence dated May 30, 2024 from the Town of Kearney respecting a resolution supporting correspondence opposing Public Health Ontario's proposed phasing out of free water testing for private wells.
8. **C-2024-288**
Correspondence dated June 11, 2024 from the Town of Saugeen Shores to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Township of Clearview correspondence regarding Cemetery Administration Management.

9. **C-2024-289**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for Public Health Sudbury & Districts correspondence regarding Household Food Insecurity.
10. **C-2024-290**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing respecting a resolution of support for the City of Peterborough correspondence requesting a Bill to amend the Ombudsman Act.
11. **C-2024-291**
Correspondence dated June 6, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health respecting a resolution of support for the Loyalist Township correspondence regarding Public Health Ontario's proposed phasing out of free water testing for private wells.
12. **C-2024-292**
Correspondence dated April 29, 2024 from the Office of the Regional Clerk respecting the 2023 Niagara Employment Inventory Results.
13. **C-2024-293**
Correspondence dated June 13, 2024 from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan to The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health respecting a resolution of support for the Loyalist Township correspondence regarding Infrastructure Funding for Small Rural Municipalities.
14. **C-2024-294**
Correspondence dated June 13, 2024 from the Township of Larder Lake respecting a resolution calling upon the Province of Ontario to provide financial assistance to municipalities to complete Asset Retirement Obligations.
15. **C-2024-295**
Correspondence dated June 13, 2024 from the Township of Larder Lake respecting a resolution calling on the Provincial and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities.
16. **C-2024-296**
Correspondence dated June 13, 2024 from the Township of Larder Lake respecting a resolution opposing Public Health Ontario's proposed phasing out of free water testing for private wells.
17. **C-2024-297**
Correspondence dated June 13, 2024 from the Municipality of Mattawan respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of Callander correspondence regarding resumption of the property tax assessment cycle.

From: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. <info@watsonecon.ca>
Sent: June 7, 2024 3:09 PM
Subject: Bill 185 Changes to the Development Charges Act (and various other Acts)
Attachments: Assessment of Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024.pdf

Importance: High

To our Municipal Clients,

In our continued efforts to keep you informed of the ongoing legislative changes regarding Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act (2024)*, we are writing to inform you that **the Bill has now received Royal Assent**.

The changes to the the *Development Charges Act (D.C.A.)* and to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the D.C.A. include:

- The inclusion of studies within the eligible capital costs;
- The removal of the mandatory phase-in of charges;
- The process for minor amendments to development charge (D.C.) by-laws;
- A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications; and
- Modernizing public notice requirements.

Additionally, please note that the Affordable Residential Unit exemptions are now in effect as of June 1, 2024 as per section 4.1 of the D.C.A, which also apply to community benefits charges and parkland dedication by-laws. Please note that exemptions for Attainable Units included within section 4.1 of the D.C.A. are not in effect until prescribed.

We have re-attached our earlier correspondence on Bill 185. There has only been one change to the initial Bill with respect to a special rule that was added for the City of Ottawa related to the freeze in D.C.s at planning application submission.

Please note the following immediate impacts of these changes:

1. The inclusion of studies within the eligible capital costs

With the re-introduction of studies as an eligible cost and the streamlined process for D.C. amendments, municipalities that passed a new D.C. by-law between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 are allowed to amend their D.C. by-law to include eligible study costs without preparing a D.C. background study or undertaking the statutory public process. Municipalities have six months from the date of Royal Assent (i.e., until December 6, 2024) to make an amendment under this streamlined process.

Furthermore, the amendment would not be subject to Ontario Land Tribunal appeal. For by-laws passed after June 6, 2024, if studies have not been included in the background study and by-law, the streamlined process for D.C. amendments does not apply.

2. The removal of the mandatory phase-in

The mandatory phase-in that applied to all by-laws passed after January 1, 2022 has been removed. This will generally apply to municipalities as follows:

- For by-laws passed between January 1, 2022 and November 27, 2022, the phase-in of the charges can be removed with immediate effect.
- For by-laws passed between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 that did not specifically reference the mandatory phase-in within the by-law, the phase-in of the charges can be removed with immediate effect.
- For by-laws passed between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 that did include provisions for the mandatory phase-in of the charge, this policy can be removed through the streamlined amendment process within six months of Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent (i.e., by December 6, 2024).

3. A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications

The period of time for which a charge is frozen at the rate calculated when the planning application is made has been reduced from two years between application approval and building permit issuance to 18 months. Bill 185 does not include provisions for addressing this change through the streamlined amendment process. As such, to enact this change in a municipal D.C. by-law, an amendment would be required, including the preparation of a background study and following the statutory public process.

There were additional changes made to Bill 185 at the Standing Committee with regard to the *Planning Act*. Further correspondence on these changes will follow.

If you have any questions regarding the implications of these changes for your municipality and next steps that may be required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Andrew Grunda, MBA, CPA, CMA, Principal
Jamie Cook, MCIP, RPP, PLE, Managing Partner
Jack Ammendolia, BES, PLE, Managing Partner
Peter Simcisko, BA (Hons), MBE, Managing Partner
Sean-Michael Stephen, MBA, Managing Partner
Daryl Abbs, MBE, PLE, Managing Partner

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April 11, 2024

To Our Municipal Clients:

Re: Assessment of Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*

On behalf of our many municipal clients, we are writing to inform you of the Ontario Legislature's proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act* (D.C.A.) under Bill 185 (*Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act*) and to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the D.C.A. These proposed changes are with respect to:

- The definition of eligible capital costs (to include certain studies);
- The removal of the mandatory phase-in of charges;
- The process for minor amendments to development charge (D.C.) by-laws;
- A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications;
- Modernizing public notice requirements; and
- Implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemptions.

Further details with respect to these proposed changes are provided below.

With respect to changes to the *Planning Act* arising from Bill 185, Watson will be preparing a subsequent letter summarizing the changes.

1. Revised Definition of Capital Costs

On November 28, 2022, the Province enacted Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act*, which included a number of discounts, exemptions, and reductions to D.C.s. As part of this legislation, the definition of capital costs (subsection 5 (3) of the D.C.A.) was amended to remove studies, including D.C. background studies.

Bill 185 proposes to reverse the capital cost amendments of the *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23) by reinstating studies as an eligible capital cost. The following paragraphs are proposed to be added to subsection 5 (3) of the D.C.A.:

5. *Costs to undertake studies in connection with any of the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4.*
6. *Costs of the development charge background study required under section 10.*



The proposed amendment will allow municipalities to fund studies, consistent with by-laws passed prior to the *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23). This will allow for the funding of master plans, D.C. background studies, and similar studies that inform the capital costs of the D.C. background study.

2. Removal of the Mandatory Phase-in

The *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23) required the phase-in of charges imposed in a D.C. by-law over a five-year term. D.C. by-laws passed after January 1, 2022, were required to phase-in the calculated charges as follows:

- Year 1 of the by-law – 80% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 2 of the by-law – 85% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 3 of the by-law – 90% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 4 of the by-law – 95% of the charges could be imposed; and
- Years 5 to 10 of the by-law – 100% of the charges could be imposed.

Bill 185 proposes to remove the mandatory phase-in of the charges. It is proposed that this change would be effective for D.C. by-laws passed after Bill 185 comes into effect.

For site plan and zoning by-law amendment applications that were made prior to Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent, the charges payable will be the charges that were in place on the day the planning application was made (i.e., including the applicable mandatory phase-in).

Note, the Bill also proposes to allow minor amendments to D.C. by-laws that include these phase-in provisions. As provided in further detail below, these amendments would not require the preparation of a D.C. background study or undertake the statutory public process, and the amendments would not be subject to Ontario Land Tribunal appeal. This provision will only be available for a period of six months after Bill 185 takes effect.

3. Process for Minor Amendments to D.C. By-laws

Section 19 of the D.C.A. requires that a municipality must follow sections 10 through 18 of the D.C.A. (with necessary modifications) when amending D.C. by-laws. Sections 10 through 18 of the D.C.A. generally require the following:

- Completion of a D.C. background study, including the requirement to post the background study 60 days prior to passage of the D.C. by-law;
- Passage of a D.C. by-law within one year of the completion of the D.C. background study;
- A public meeting, including notice requirements; and
- The ability to appeal the by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal.



Bill 185 proposes to allow municipalities to undertake minor amendments to D.C. by-laws for the following purposes without adherence to the requirements noted above (with the exception of the notice requirements):

1. To repeal a provision of the D.C. by-law specifying the date the by-law expires or to amend the provision to extend the expiry date (subject to the 10-year limitations provided in the D.C.A.);
2. To impose D.C.s for studies, including the D.C. background study; and
3. To remove the provisions related to the mandatory phase-in of D.C.s as discussed in section 2 of this letter.

Minor amendments related to items 2 and 3 noted above may be undertaken only if the D.C. by-law being amended was passed after November 28, 2022, and before Bill 185 takes effect. Moreover, the amending by-law must be passed within six months of Bill 185 taking effect.

Notice requirements for these minor amending by-laws are similar to the typical notice requirements, with the exception of the requirement to identify the last day for appealing the by-law (as these provisions do not apply).

4. Reduction of D.C. Rate Freeze Timeframe

Bill 108, *More Homes, More Choices Act, 2019*, which received Royal Assent on June 6, 2019, provided several changes to the D.C.A. including the requirement to freeze the D.C.s imposed on certain developments. This applied to developments that were subject to a site plan and/or a zoning by-law amendment application. The D.C. rate for these developments is “frozen” at the rates that were in effect at the time the site plan and/or a zoning by-law amendment application was submitted (subject to applicable interest). Once the application is approved by the municipality, if the date the D.C. is payable^[1] is more than two years from the approval date, the D.C. rate freeze would no longer apply.

Bill 185 proposes to reduce the two-year timeframe to 18 months and move this timeframe from being identified in O. Reg. 82/98 to being identified in the D.C.A. Transition provisions are included that require the two-year D.C. “freeze” for site plan and zoning by-law amendment applications that were approved prior to Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent to remain in effect.

^[1] In the case of Rental Housing and Institutional development, once the application is approved by the municipality, if the date the first building permit is issued is more than two years after the date of approval, the D.C. rate freeze would no longer apply.



Note that the streamlined process for minor amending by-laws does not appear to include the ability to amend D.C. by-laws to meet this legislative change.

5. Other Proposed Changes

Along with the proposed legislative changes outlined in Bill 185, the Province has identified related proposed regulatory changes regarding modernization of the public notice requirements. In addition, the Province has noted that implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemption will occur on June 1, 2024.

5.1 Modernizing Public Notice Requirements

The D.C.A. sets out the requirements for municipalities to give notice of public meetings and of by-law passage. These requirements are prescribed in sections 9 and 10 of O. Reg. 82/98 and include giving notice in a newspaper of sufficiently general circulation in the area to which the by-law would apply. The proposed regulatory changes would modernize public notice requirements by allowing municipalities to provide notice on a municipal website if a local newspaper is not available.

5.2 Implementing the Affordable Residential Unit Exemption

The More Homes Built Faster Act (Bill 23) identified an exemption for Affordable Residential Units. This exemption was subsequently revised through Bill 134, *Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, 2023*, which received Royal Assent on December 4, 2023. The exemption is summarized as follows:

- Affordable Rental: Where the rent is no greater than the lesser of the income based affordable rent^[1] set out in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin and the average market rent identified in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin.
- Affordable Owned Unit: Where the price of the residential unit is no greater than the lesser of the income-based affordable purchase price^[2] set out in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin and 90% of the average purchase price identified in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin.

^[1] Based on the 60th percentile of gross annual incomes for renter households in the applicable local municipality and where the rent is equal to 30% of the income of the household.

^[2] Based on the 60th percentile of gross annual incomes for households in the applicable local municipality and where the purchase price would result in annual accommodation costs equal to 30 per cent of the income of the household.



The Provincial Backgrounder has indicated that this exemption will come into force on June 1, 2024, and that the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin will be posted on Ontario.ca.

Note, no commentary has been provided on the Attainable Unit exemption at this time.

6. Summary Comments on the Proposed Amendments

Many of these changes to the D.C.A. appear positive for municipalities by assisting in ensuring that growth pays for growth to the extent possible. This is achieved by allowing for the inclusion of growth-related studies that will allow municipalities to appropriately plan for additional development. Furthermore, the removal of the mandatory phase-in provisions ensures discounts to D.C.s are not provided to development and redevelopment that municipalities do not aim to incentivize. The reduction in the D.C. rate freeze timeline helps to ensure development that is not proceeding quickly does not receive D.C. discounts. Additionally, the ability to make minor amendments to D.C. by-laws to align with the legislative changes without onerous administrative requirements will assist municipalities in aligning policies with the amended legislation quickly. Modernizing the public notice requirements further assists municipalities in areas where there is no local newspaper.

With respect to the implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemption on June 1, 2024, as stated in previous correspondence, while it is an admirable goal to create additional affordable housing units, further D.C., community benefits charge, and parkland exemptions will continue to provide further financial burdens on municipalities to fund these exemptions.

Watson will be providing a submission through the Environmental Registry of Ontario on these legislative changes. Watson will also be seeking an opportunity to speak as a delegation to the Standing Committee, if possible, to provide our comments on behalf of our municipal clients. We will continue to monitor the progress of Bill 185 through the legislature and will continue to keep our clients informed of any changes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Daryl Abbs, MBE, PLE, Managing Partner
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Received June 7, 2024
C-2024-282

TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
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June 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Mental Health and Addictions

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-06
Moved By: Councillor Kauffeldt
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be It resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the request from the City of Pembroke calling upon the Province of Ontario to allocate funding specifically for the establishment of a mental health, addiction, and residential drug treatment rehabilitation facility serving the County of Renfrew.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions; Robin Martin, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health; the Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus; Eastern Ontario Mayor's Caucus; Peter Emon, Warden, for the County of Renfrew; and all neighbouring County of Renfrew lower-tier municipalities."

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk



April 8, 2024

CITY OF PEMBROKE
1 Pembroke Street East
Pembroke, Ontario
K8A 3J5
Tel. 613-735-6821

Honourable Doug Ford
Via email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**Chief Administrative
Officer & Human
Resources**
Extension 1330
Fax: 613-735-3660

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke passed the following resolution at its meeting of April 2, 2024:

Resolution #011 (April 2, 2024)

Finance
Extension 1320
Fax: 613-735-3660

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brian Abdallah
Seconded by Councillor Troy Purcell

Fire
Extension 1201
Fax: 613-732-7673

Whereas the well-being of our community members is of paramount importance, and addressing mental health and substance use disorder is crucial for the overall health and safety of all our residents; and
Whereas the County of Renfrew, like many other regions, faces significant challenges related to mental health and addiction, with individuals and families grappling with the devastating impact of these conditions; and
Whereas timely access to specialized treatment and residential rehabilitation services and transitional housing is essential for those struggling with mental health issues and substance use disorders; and
Whereas we need to address the urgent need for additional treatment beds, especially for adults requiring intensive supports, and to improve access to care in rural, Northern, and Indigenous communities; and
Whereas the number of drug-related deaths in the County of Renfrew, as a whole, is on the rise underscoring the critical importance of accessible treatment options for those at risk of negative impacts including overdose and death; and

OPP Administration
613-732-3332

**Economic Development
Culture, & Tourism**
Extension 1303
Fax: 613-735-3660

Whereas the establishment of a mental health, drug addiction treatment and residential rehabilitation facility serving the County of Renfrew would provide the following benefits:

Operations
Extension 1409
Fax: 613-732-1421

**Planning, Building &
By-Law Enforcement**
Extension 1304
Fax: 613-735-3660

1. **Local Accessibility:** Residents would have access to specialized services without the burden of traveling long distances, ensuring timely intervention and continuity of care.
2. **Holistic Approach:** The facility could offer integrated care, addressing both mental health and substance use disorders concurrently, thereby improving outcomes for clients.
3. **Community Support:** By providing a safe and supportive environment, the facility would contribute to reducing stigma and fostering community understanding of mental health and addiction.
4. **Collaboration with Existing Services:** The facility could collaborate with existing community organizations, healthcare and social service

Purchasing
Extension 1409
Fax: 613-732-1421

Parks & Recreation
Extension 1501
Fax: 613-635-7709

general email:
pembroke@pembroke.ca

www.pembroke.ca



CITY OF PEMBROKE

1 Pembroke Street East
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**Chief Administrative
Officer & Human
Resources**

Extension 1330
Fax: 613-735-3660

Finance

Extension 1320
Fax: 613-735-3660

Fire

Extension 1201
Fax: 613-732-7673

OPP Administration
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**Economic Development
Culture, & Tourism**

Extension 1303
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Operations

Extension 1409
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**Planning, Building &
By-Law Enforcement**

Extension 1304
Fax: 613-735-3660

Purchasing

Extension 1409
Fax: 613-732-1421

Parks & Recreation

Extension 1501
Fax: 613-635-7709

general email:

pembroke@pembroke.ca

www.pembroke.ca

providers, and law enforcement agencies to create a comprehensive network of support (i.e. County of Renfrew MESA program).

Now Therefore, be it resolved that Council of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke:

1. Urgently requests the Province of Ontario to allocate funding specifically for the establishment of a mental health, addiction, and residential drug treatment rehabilitation facility serving the County of Renfrew.
2. Advocates for a facility that offers evidence-based, trauma-informed care, addressing both addiction and concurrent mental health issues.
3. Commits to working collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities, all community stakeholders, and provincial authorities to ensure the successful implementation of this vital facility.

Furthermore, the City of Pembroke Council encourages all residents to support this resolution and join the collective effort to enhance mental health and addiction services in our region.

Be It Further Resolved that copies of this motion be distributed to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions; Robin Martin, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health; the Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus; Eastern Ontario Mayor's Caucus; Peter Emon, Warden, for the County of Renfrew; and all neighbouring County of Renfrew lower-tier municipalities.
Carried

Sincerely,

David Unrau
Chief Administrative Officer

/nr



Received June 10, 2024
C-2024-283

**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

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

June 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: National Fire Fighting Strategy

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-11
Moved By: Councillor Banks
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the resolution from the Council of the Municipality of Calvin regarding a review of the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defense; the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario; the Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario; the Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke; the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities."

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: *"But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland*

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity." He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, "We're really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet."

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, "It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector."

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fidell, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

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"/>



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

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

June 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Public Health Ontario proposes phasing out free water testing for private wells.

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-07
Moved By: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the request from the Township of Archipelago for the Province to reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing-out of free private drinking water testing services.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks; the Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke; the Renfrew County District Health Unit; and all Ontario Municipalities."

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 15.8.

Resolution Number 24-082

Title: Public Health Ontario proposes phasing out free water testing for private wells

Date: Friday, April 19, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Manners

Seconded by: Councillor MacLeod

WHEREAS the Ontario Auditor General's annual report on public health from December 2023 indicates that Public Health Ontario is proposing the phasing-out of free provincial water testing services for private drinking water; and

WHEREAS free private drinking water testing services has played a pivotal role in safeguarding public health, particularly in rural communities, including the entire Township of The Archipelago, that rely predominantly on private drinking water; and

WHEREAS the removal of free private drinking water testing could lead to a reduction in testing, potentially increasing the risk of waterborne diseases in these vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the tragic events in Walkerton, Ontario underscored the critical importance of safe drinking water.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Township of The Archipelago hereby requests that the Province reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing-out of free private drinking water testing services.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks, Minister of Health, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka.

Carried

“Via Email: afisher@goderich.ca”

June 7th, 2024

Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5

Received June 10, 2024
C-2024-285

Attention: Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Dear Mrs. Fisher

Re: Recommended Phase-Out of Free Well Water Testing in the 2023 Auditor General’s Report

This will acknowledge receipt of your email and resolution dated April 10th, pertaining to the above noted.

This will also serve to advise you that your correspondence was received by Council at its regular meeting held Tuesday, May 28th, 2024, and the following resolution was passed:

“Resolution No. 296-2024

Moved by: Councillor Sylvie Charron-Lemieux

Seconded by: Councillor Daniel Brunet

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cochrane endorses and supports the resolution from the Town of Goderich pertaining to requesting that the province not proceed with the recommended Phase-Out of Free Private Well Testing in Ontario.

CARRIED.”

Trusting that this action of Council will be of assistance, I remain,

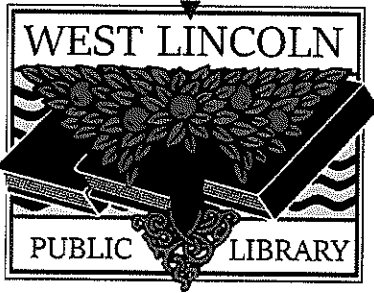
Yours truly,

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COCHRANE


Alice Mercier
Clerk

/ed





Received June 11, 2024
C-2024-286

West Lincoln Public Library Board
177 West Street, Box 28
Smithville, ON L0R 2A0

June 9, 2024

Amber Chrastina,
Deputy Clerk/Executive Assistant to Mayor and CAO
AChrastina@wainfleet.ca

Dear Ms Chrastina,

The West Lincoln Library Board has directed me to send you a note to advise you that they received and discussed, at their May meeting, the motions from your Council dated April 30 and sent electronically by you on May 1st.

Our Board supported our Municipality and Mayor with their presentation at ROMA asking the Ontario Government to review the funding formula for libraries. This formula has not changed since 1996.

Libraries are vital in all communities, to all residents and especially to our older adults.

Our Board thanks your Council for advocating to Minister Lumsden and our Ministry in support of library service and appropriate funding.

Regards,


Cindy Weir
CEO, Board Secretary,
West Lincoln Public Library



COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2024- 176

Date: May 30, 2024

MOVED BY:

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

SECONDED BY:

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

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney received Discussion Item 7.10 regarding the Town of Puslinch recommendation to stop the Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing; and

WHEREAS the Town of Kearney is in receipt of the February 26, 2024 letter from the Ausable Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee (via the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee Meeting of March 28, 2024) to Honourable Lisa Thompson, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs concerned Public Health Ontario's recommended phase out of free well water testing; and

WHEREAS the residents of the Town of Kearney do not have access to a municipal water supply and rely exclusively on well water; and

WHEREAS the phasing of free well water testing will impose an additional barrier to ensuring safe drinking water when it is already difficult to encourage residents to test their water;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Kearney supports the letter from the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee to Minister Lisa Thompson and requests staff to send a similar letter of concern Minister Lisa Thompson, Honourable Sylvia Jones Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Honourable Andrea Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all Ontario Municipalities, AMO, Hon. Ted Arnott, and MPP Graydon Smith.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

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



Rainbow
Registered
Arc-en-ciel
Officiel

Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

June 11, 2024

Received June 11, 2024
C-2024-288

Sent via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Township of Clearview Support Resolution
Cemetery Administration Management**

At the March 11, 2024, Regular Council meeting for the Town of Saugeen Shores, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Huber, Seconded by: Vice Deputy Mayor M. Myatt

Whereas at the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 12, 2024, a motion was passed to direct staff to prepare a resolution based on the Township of Clearview's circulated resolution on Cemetery Administration Management but with the added reference to Pioneer Cemetery's unique situation; and

Whereas the Pioneer Cemetery in Southampton is a historical marker for the Town that holds significant information about its past, not to mention the emotional connection for residents whose ancestors are buried in its boundary area; and

Whereas the Cemetery is located along a steep slope adjacent to the Saugeen River. Closed in 1902, the annual slope erosion (.78 meters) is impacting burial plots and has resulted in the exposure of human remains. The Town of Saugeen Shores has diligently worked with all applicable authorities to date and has projected the full cost of the required remediation at \$800,000; and

Whereas this work requires the execution of a sensitive multi-year remediation project potentially lasting between five and ten years. The Town would like to ensure this is done with care and respect; however, it is outside of the Town's area of expertise and capacity to undertake this project without multiple disciplinary subject matter experts, as well as Provincial financial support to remediate existing damage and prevent further deterioration of the site; and

Whereas this is a complex situation requiring a solid understanding of the erosion rate along the Saugeen Riverbank near the Southampton Pioneer Cemetery. There are both complexities in the history of the site and changing river dynamics due to climate change. The work also requires identifying at-risk burial site(s) and then creating a plan to relocate those sites, while ensuring all artifacts and human remains are intact and appropriately relocated; and

T 519.832.2008
F 519.832.2140

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Rainbow
Registered
Arc-en-ciel
Officiel

Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

Whereas cemeteries are not only symbols of respect, they also serve as the reservation of family memories, prominent citizens, and local history, in addition to some being local landmarks themselves and hold great historical and cultural value nationally; and

Whereas remediation and preservation repairs to older cemeteries are very costly and may require specialized services like archaeologists or anthropologists; and

Whereas the care, remediation costs, and ongoing maintenance funds of cemeteries are generally non-existent and continue to rise; 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 revenue earned from the care and maintenance funds(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 the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores support other municipalities recommendations, including the Township of Clearview, and request that the Province of Ontario immediately provide a funding stream to municipalities for the preservation, repair, and ongoing maintenance of active and inactive cemeteries; and

Further that this resolution be forwarded to Jim Cassimatis, Interim CEO/Registrar, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario, the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, the Honourable Lisa Thompson, MPP Huron-Bruce, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bonderud,
Deputy Clerk

Encl.

CC: Jim Cassimatis, Interim CEO/Registrar, Bereavement Authority of Ontario
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
MPP Lisa Thompson
Association of Municipalities Ontario
All Municipalities in Ontario

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saugeenshores.ca
@SaugeenShoresON





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

June 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Household Food Insecurity.

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-09
Moved By: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the resolution passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding household food insecurity.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsaco; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke; the Association of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities."

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk



**Public Health
Santé publique**
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

January 24, 2024

VIA **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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

Dear Recipient:

Re: Household Food Insecurity

At its meeting on January 18, 2024, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #06-24:

WHEREAS food security is a chronic and worsening health issue as documented by annual local data on food affordability and as recognized by multiple Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) resolutions: AO5-18 (Adequate Nutrition for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), A18-02 (Minimum Wage that is a Living Wage), A15-04 (Basic Income Guarantee), and A23-05 (Monitoring Food Affordability in Ontario and the Inadequacy of Social Assistance Rates)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts call on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

THAT in the context of the Public Health Strengthening roles and responsibilities deliberations, the Board of Health urge all health system partners to remain committed to population health assessment and surveillance as it relates to monitoring food environments and, specifically, to monitoring food affordability; and share this motion broadly with local and provincial stakeholders.

Sudbury

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

Elm Place

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

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

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

Espanola

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

Île Manitoulin Island

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

Chapleau

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

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phad.ca



Letter
Re: Household Food Insecurity
January 24, 2024
Page 2

Household food insecurity is one of the strongest predictors of poor health, making it a serious public health issue (PROOF, 2023). Individuals who are food insecure are at higher risk of diet-related diseases like diabetes and are at higher risk for a wide range of chronic conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders, arthritis, and chronic pain. Household food insecurity leaves an indelible mark on children's health and well-being (PROOF, 2023). The experience of food insecurity in childhood is associated with mental health concerns throughout childhood and into early adulthood (PROOF, 2023). In Ontario, the healthcare costs of individuals who are the most food insecure can be more than double that of individuals who are food secure (PROOF, 2023, Tarasuk et al., 2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – the solutions for which will not only help many Ontarians in need but also protect the sustainability of our critical health and social services resources.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Honourable Peter Bthlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Jacqueline Edwards and Jennifer Babin-Fenske, Co-chairs, Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council
Richard Lathwell, Local Food Manitoulin
Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources
All Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Letter

Re: Household Food Insecurity

January 24, 2024

Page 2

PROOF (2023). What are the implications of food insecurity for health and health care? Identifying Policy Options to Reduce Household Food Insecurity in Canada. Retrieved from: <https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/what-are-the-implications-of-food-insecurity-for-health-andhealth-care/>

Tarasuk, V., Cheng, J., de Oliveira, C., Dachner, N., Gundersen, C., Kurdyak, P. (2015). Association between household food insecurity and annual healthcare costs. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 1 87 (14) E429-E436. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.150234>



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

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

June 6, 2024

The Honourable Paul Calandra,
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Hon. Calandra,

Re: Jurisdiction of Ontario's Ombudsman

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-08
Moved By: Councillor Kauffeldt
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the request from the City of Peterborough that the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to introduce a Bill to amend the Ombudsmen Act.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario Municipalities."

CARRIED.

Sincerely,


Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk



April 11, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
via Email:
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Jurisdiction of Ontario's Ombudsman

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at their meeting on April 8, 2024, is forwarded for your information and necessary action.

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report LSOCS24-005, dated April 2, 2024 of the Commissioner, Legislative Services, as follows:

- a) That the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, be requested to introduce a Bill to amend the Ombudsman Act to require the Ontario Ombudsman to provide to each municipality, if requested by the municipality, sufficient particulars of each investigation, matter or case respecting the municipality that is referred to in each of the Ombudsman's Annual Reports to permit the municipality to fully understand and address the subject matter of each such investigation, matter or case including:
 - i) a copy of each complaint, as applicable, redacted only to the extent of individuals' personal information contained therein;
 - ii) the identities of the municipality's employees, officers and members of Council with whom the Ombudsman was consulting in respect of the investigation, matter or case; and
 - iii) particulars of the outcome of the investigation, matter or case including the Ombudsman's findings, conclusions and recommendations, if any.
- b) That the City Clerk forward Council's resolutions resulting from Council's approval of these recommendations to Minister Calandra, MPP David Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities.

Sincerely,

J. Kennedy

John Kennedy, City Clerk

cc: David Smith, MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

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

June 6, 2024

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Ministry of Health
5th Floor – 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister,

Re: Motion Regarding Public Health Labs.

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday June 5th, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supported the following resolution:

Resolution # 2024-06-05-10
Moved By: Councillor Kauffeldt
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

“Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan hereby supports the resolution passed by Loyalist Township urging the provincial government to take caution against acting on the recommendations stated in the audit report.

And further that Council directs staff to provide a copy of this resolution to Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Honourable John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke; Honourable Cheryl Gallant, Member of Parliament for Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke; the Association of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk

April 24, 2024

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Ministry of Health
5th Floor - 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Minister,

Re: Motion regarding Public Health Ontario Labs

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 23, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution 2024-94

Moved by Deputy Mayor Townend
Seconded by Councillor Willis

WHEREAS the mission of Public Health Ontario (PHO) is to "enable informed decisions and get actions that protect and promote health and contribute to reducing health inequities", there are grave concerns that the closure of six community-based PHO labs will increase health inequities, especially for rural communities; and

WHEREAS combined these labs collect and process thousands of water samples and time sensitive medical tests each day; and

WHEREAS there are grave concerns about the integrity of samples being compromised if travel time is increased by centralizing all tests to a few locations; and

WHEREAS these labs already process overflow tests and samples when labs such as Toronto and Ottawa cannot keep up to demand and many scaled up to meet demand during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS frequent drinking water testing services is vital for Ontarians who draw their water from private drinking water systems (i.e. wells) and protecting groundwater quality and quantity is a shared responsibility.



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT As stewards of care for the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2022, Council of Loyalist Township urges the provincial government to take caution against acting on the recommendations stated in the aforementioned audit report.

AND FURTHER THAT this motion be circulated to Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington, Ric Bresee MPP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington and all municipalities, for their support.
Motion carried.

Sincerely,

Anne Kantharajah

Anne Kantharajah
Township Clerk
akantharajah@loyalist.ca
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP - Hastings-Lennox & Addington
Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings - Lennox & Addington
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township
Deputy Mayor Townend, Loyalist Township
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township
Ontario Municipalities

April 29, 2024

CL 6-2024, April 25, 2024
PEDC 4-2024, April 10, 2024
PDS 13-2024, April 10, 2024

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

2023 Niagara Employment Inventory Results

PDS 13-2024

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 25, 2024, passed the following recommendation of its Planning and Economic Development Committee:

That Report PDS 13-2024, dated April 10, 2024, respecting 2023 Niagara Employment Inventory Results, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to Local Area Municipalities, Local Economic Development Offices, Workforce Collective, Niagara Chambers of Commerce, Brock University and Niagara College.

A copy of PDS 13-2024 is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

js

CLK-C 2024-045

cc: C. Tia, Planner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development
M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development
N. Oakes, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Growth, Strategy and Economic Development

Distribution List:

Local Area Municipalities
Local Economic Development Offices
Workforce Collective
Niagara Chambers of Commerce
Brock University
Niagara College

Subject: 2023 Niagara Employment Inventory Results

Report To: Planning and Economic Development Committee

Report date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Recommendations

1. That this report **BE RECEIVED** for information; and
2. That PDS 13-2024 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities, Local Economic Development Offices, Workforce Collective, the Niagara Chambers of Commerce, Brock University and Niagara College.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to highlight the key results of the data collected during the 2023 Niagara Employment Inventory (NEI).
- The NEI is an annual direct data collection exercise (inventory and questionnaire) where a team of post-secondary students inventory publicly accessible businesses across Niagara.
- The Region began conducting the NEI in 2016, other than a two year pause during the pandemic, the survey has been carried out consistently each year, with 2024 survey preparations underway.
- The 2023 NEI team inventoried a total of 12,860 businesses throughout Niagara and received 10,318 completed responses, which captured the location of 146,128 full and part-time jobs and the associated data about the jobs reported by businesses who chose to participate in the questionnaire.
- Data captured through the NEI is shared with and is a key asset for internal Regional departments, local area municipalities and other organizations. A subset of the data collected is also published to Open Data to make it available to the public.

Financial Considerations

The NEI was funded through the Council-approved 2023 operating budget within Growth Strategy and Economic Development's base budget.

Analysis

Niagara Region is among several municipalities in Ontario that collect workplace and employment data. Since 2016, the Growth Strategy and Economic Development department has collected primary data on the types and sizes of businesses operating in Niagara.

The NEI is conducted annually by a small team of post-secondary students between the months of May and September. The primary data collection method is through door-to-door, in-person interviews with local business owners, with additional follow-up engagement conducted through email and telephone communication.

The data collected has become vital to monitoring the region's economic health, as well as aiding in decision and policy making. The information collected over the years has culminated into a comprehensive dataset of business information that provides the ability to analyze the regional employment landscape over time. The inventory is a geo-coded, spatially enabled dataset that facilitates analysis at a street-address level.

The business questionnaire was developed based on best practices from other municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area, as well as through consultation with the following stakeholders and experience gained over the years from administering the project:

- Internal Regional departments;
- Local area municipalities;
- Local economic development offices; and
- Brock University.

Each year, the NEI questionnaire features a core set of questions that are tailored to gain fundamental insight into the local business community. These questions remain unchanged each year accurately compare results over time. The core questions are in alignment with employment questionnaires administered by our municipal counterparts in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

In 2022, two new categories were added to the questionnaire focused on (1) diversity, equity and inclusion and (2) work from home. These questions were added to gain an understanding of the demographic characteristics of the business community, and to provide insight into the number of businesses with employees working from home.

These questions remained in the 2023 survey and are expected to remain in 2024.

In 2023, the NEI team inventoried 12,860 businesses and received 10,318 completed questionnaires, which captured the physical location of 146,128 full and part time jobs. Compared to 2022 results, there is an increase of 33,627 jobs identified. It is important to note that the number of jobs reported is not a reflection of the local job market, but rather is the result of a higher participation rate in 2023 compared to 2022, and that the total number of businesses inventoried includes businesses observed to no longer be in operation or vacant.

Participation in the NEI is voluntary. Despite best efforts, the project team is unable to make direct contact with all business owners or, occasionally, a business declines to participate.

Results

Table 1 in Appendix 1 illustrates the proportion of complete and partially complete inventory records from 2016-2019, and 2022-2023. A complete inventory record indicates that a business provided responses to the inventory questionnaire from beginning to end (“complete questionnaire”), or the business was confirmed to be permanently closed or vacant.

Partially complete records indicate the inventory team was not able to make direct contact with a business representative. In these cases, the project team still captures several key attributes, such as verifying the physical location of the data point and associated sector and industry codes. The NEI continues to see a low rate (less than 1%) of businesses, who when contacted, decline to participate.

In 2023, a completion rate of 80% was achieved. The completion rate in 2023 is strong with a 5% increase since 2022. A steady increase in the completion rate year-over-year can be attributed to greater familiarity with the survey and project team, a streamlined data entry methodology, and joint communication outreach conducted by our local Chambers of Commerce and other interest groups.

Job Type Results

Table 2 in Appendix 1 illustrates the number of businesses inventoried and jobs captured within complete questionnaires in the 2023 NEI by sector based on the 2-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The NAICS was established by

statistical agencies of Canada, Mexico and the United States. It is a standardized industry classification system used to categorize business establishments based on the type of economic activity of the business.

Based on the number of businesses inventoried, the top three sectors observed in 2023 were: retail trade (22.0%), accommodation and food services (14.8%) and other services (except public administration) ¹(13.2%). When combined, these sectors make up 50% of all the businesses captured in the inventory.

Based on the number of jobs captured in complete questionnaires, the top three sectors observed in 2023 were: accommodation and food services (17.4%), retail trade (17.0%), and health care and social assistance (12.6%). Together, these sectors make up 47% of the total jobs captured in complete questionnaires.

Business Closures and Openings

Since 2022, approximately 797 businesses inventoried have been identified as no longer being in operation or vacant. The top three sectors that experienced business closures were retail trade; accommodation and food services; and other services (except public administration).

Over the same period, approximately 1,269 new businesses were identified and added to the inventory in 2023. The top three sectors that new businesses were observed in are: retail trade; accommodation and food services; and health care and social assistance.

Distribution of Inventoried Businesses and Number of Jobs by Municipality

Table 3 in Appendix 1 illustrates the municipal breakdown of the number of businesses and jobs reported over the six years inventory period. As mentioned above, the total businesses inventoried includes businesses observed to no longer be in operation or vacant, and total jobs reported are only for complete questionnaires.

Work from Home

In total, 1,021 businesses reported having staff working from home, representing approximately 7,023 employees. The majority of employees working from home were in the professional, scientific and technical services (34.9%), education (15.8%), and

¹ Other Services includes repair shops, personal care facilities and laundry services, among other industries.

manufacturing (10.4%).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Niagara Region is the first municipal employment questionnaire in the Golden Horseshoe to include questions pertaining to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). These questions were added in 2022 and asked again in 2023 to gain a baseline understanding of demographic characteristics of the leadership teams in the Niagara business community.

Table 4 in Appendix 1 provides the responses to the questions in the newly added DEI section. Businesses were asked whether the majority of the business (+50%) are owned or led by:

- Person who identifies as a woman
- Person who identifies as a member of the 2SLGBTQQA+² community
- Person who identifies as being disabled
- First Nations, Inuit or Métis person
- Person who identifies as a visible minority
- Youth (Less than 18 years old)
- Person who is a new immigrant (in Canada less than 5 years)

Respondents were given the option to complete the DEI section in person or online. In total, 1,457 business owners responded to the questions in the DEI section. Respondents could also choose to decline to answer the DEI section of the questionnaire. Staff in the DEI and Indigenous Relations team are reviewing the responses to develop strategies to continue to increase response rates in the future. This data will also be used to inform ongoing DEI initiatives at the Region.

Utilizing NEI Data

The data collected each year through the NEI provides detailed local business information that is not available through Statistics Canada data. In most cases, Statistics Canada data is updated once every five years providing high level data. Whereas the NEI is updated on a yearly basis to capture the current locational information, excluding the two-year data gap prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Statistics Canada data remains the authoritative data source for performing analysis at

² Two spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and all other sexual orientations and genders.

regional and municipal level geographies; but lacks the ability to analyze raw business data at the street address level. Collecting annual business data at the street address level allows for detailed analysis to be carried out at custom geographies and time series.

The NEI results are used in conjunction with Statistics Canada data and other data sources to accurately monitor the regional economy. This allows for a better understanding of where the Region can take action to help facilitate economic growth and understand the changes that have taken place since the two-year reporting gap.

Reliable business data is an integral resource to better understand the region's employment context. This dataset plays a significant role in supporting decisions related to population and employment growth, infrastructure investment (including public transit), economic development inquiries, and the ongoing monitoring of economic conditions and trends.

In addition to supporting decision making, the data collected over the years has been used by the Region to facilitate analysis to support and add value to various projects. Below are examples of projects that the NEI data has been used for:

- South Niagara Hospital Project Business Directory;
- Niagara Official Plan Land Needs Assessment;
- Niagara Region Waste Collection Contract Review; and,
- Brock University Active Economy and Sport Tourism Research.

Economic Development also uses the NEI data to connect businesses to supply chain opportunities, support international promotion through the Niagara Canadian Business Directory, and to assist in analyzing the regional economy.

Building Relationships

The NEI also provides key opportunities for the Region to personally connect with local businesses to further develop partnerships, foster an environment for innovation and development within the Niagara business community, and the ability to listen and address any comments or concerns. Staff turnover and changing business operations can become an obstacle when trying to engage businesses, largely because the contact information in the NEI database became outdated. Following the two year reporting gap, the project team continued to focus on building relationships with the business

community in 2022 and 2023. To do so, the project team sought to educate business representatives on the value of the data relative to how it is used by the Region and local municipalities.

Addressing concerns of business owners continues to be an important step in building and maintaining strong working relationships with the community. On occasion, concerns were expressed by business owners, which were addressed immediately by the project team. Where the project team could not address the concern, the business owner was referred to resources available at the Region, such as the Waste Management Info-Line or local business support services.

Table 5 in Appendix 1 highlights the responses received when business owners were asked, “Is there anything Niagara Region could do to help support your business?” For reporting purposes, the responses have been categorized into themes only. The top three themes for 2023 are business exposure (14.9%), infrastructure/traffic issues/construction (12.4%), and incentives/grants/contracts (11.7%). The raw comments are shared with applicable internal departments, and with local municipal partners.

Open Data

Each year, a subset of the NEI results is released to the public through the Niagara Region Open Data Portal. Open Data places information in the hands of the public, promoting innovation and fostering greater transparency and accountability. The following attributes from the Employment Inventory dataset are made available to the public including, business name, location information, 6-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, and employee size categories.

Alternatives Reviewed

Council could opt not to receive and share this report. However, as the results of the NEI contribute to projects and initiatives which are actions of Council’s Strategic Priorities, this option is not recommended.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The NEI is a key tool that the Niagara Region uses to strengthen its economic competitiveness by better understanding its current employment landscape and workforce composition.

The NEI project supports Council’s strategic priorities of Prosperous Region, Equitable Region, and Effective Region. Data collected through engaging the business community is used to inform decision-making related to population and employment growth, infrastructure investment, public transit planning, economic development, and the ongoing monitoring of economic conditions.

The Niagara Region and local area municipalities rely on this dataset as a valuable asset when developing robust business cases designed to attract investment, innovation, and entrepreneurship to Niagara and strengthen the Region’s position globally.

Other Pertinent Reports

- PDS 13-2016 Niagara Region Employment Survey
- PDS 1-2017 Niagara Region Employment Inventory Preliminary Results
- PDS 5-2018 Niagara Region 2017 Employment Inventory Results
- PDS 6-2019 Niagara Region 2018 Employment Inventory Results
- PDS 5-2020 Niagara Region 2019 Employment Inventory Results
- PDS 12-2021 2021 Niagara Employment Inventory Status Update
- PDS 6–2023 2022 Niagara Employment Inventory Result

Prepared by:
Cynthia Tia
Planner
Growth Strategy and Economic
Development

Recommended by:
Michelle Sergi, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner
Growth Strategy and Economic
Development

Submitted by:

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.

Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Julianna Vanderlinde, Grants and Incentives Program Manager, Erik Acs, Manager of Community Sustainability, Blake Landry, Economic Research and Analysis Manager, Susan White, Program Financial Specialist, and reviewed by Angela Stea, Director, Corporate Strategy and Community Sustainability.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Data Tables

APPENDIX 1

Data Tables

Table 1 – Inventory Completion Rate

Year	Complete Inventory Record	Partially Complete Record	Declined to Participate
2016	68%	30%	2%
2017	76%	22%	2%
2018	87%	12%	1%
2019	90%	9%	<1%
2022	75%	24%	<1%
2023	80%	19%	<1%

Table 2 – Number of Businesses and Jobs by NAICS Sector

NAICS Industry Sector (2-Digit)	Number of Jobs 2023	Number of Jobs Proportion of Region	Number of Businesses 2023	Number of Businesses Proportion of Region
Accommodation and food services	25,374	17.4%	1,902	14.8%
Retail trade	24,910	17.0%	2,832	22.0%
Health Care and social assistance	18,430	12.6%	1,362	10.6%
Manufacturing	17,823	12.2%	859	6.7%
Educational services	14,100	9.6%	250	1.9%
Public administration	7,693	5.3%	227	1.8%
Other services (except public administration)	5,163	3.5%	1,703	13.2%
Construction	5,010	3.4%	425	3.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	4,110	2.8%	855	6.6%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3,914	2.7%	459	3.6%
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	3,542	2.4%	314	2.4%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	3,487	2.4%	170	1.3%
Wholesale trade	3,236	2.2%	275	2.1%
Finance and Insurance	3,002	2.0%	475	3.7%
Transportation and warehousing	2,882	2.0%	227	1.8%
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,042	1.4%	333	2.6%
Information and Cultural Industries	826	0.6%	144	1.1%
Utilities	475	0.3%	33	0.3%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	68	0.0%	7	0.0%
Management of companies and enterprises	41	0.0%	8	0.0%
Total	146,128	100%	12,860	100%

Table 3 – Distribution of Inventoried Businesses and Jobs by Municipality

Municipality	2016		2017		2018		2019		2022		2023	
	Total Businesses	Total Jobs	Total Businesses	Total Jobs	Total Businesses	Total Jobs	Total Businesses	Total Jobs	Total Businesses	Total Jobs	Total Businesses	Total Jobs
Fort Erie	709	6,351	719	6,867	763	8,414	775	8,301	844	5,547	786	5,689
Grimsby	443	4,009	455	4,750	465	5,204	479	6,682	512	4,210	526	6,509
Lincoln	440	4,198	543	6,650	564	6,964	571	8,108	604	6,772	627	8,249
Niagara Falls	2,514	22,929	2,553	32,982	2,642	32,687	2,715	33,473	2,982	24,415	2,973	33,828
NOTL	456	7,082	513	9,707	560	11,238	596	10,926	636	7,999	669	10,072
Pelham	271	1,743	301	2,275	318	2,677	334	3,202	372	2,865	393	3,724
Port Colborne	461	2,912	465	3,917	468	4,176	478	4,682	518	3,405	484	4,076
St.Catharines	3,657	43,045	3,771	44,254	3,966	48,130	4,051	48,726	4,396	40,107	4,292	46,594
Thorold	460	4,980	491	5,307	523	5,674	538	6,693	582	5,425	593	7,337
Wainfleet	43	179	58	402	60	507	61	479	72	497	83	576
Welland	1,161	11,221	1,158	12,122	1,188	14,149	1,214	14,010	1,299	9,274	1,212	16,519
West Lincoln	128	1,489	175	1,911	203	2,364	204	2,677	216	1,985	222	2,955
Niagara Region	10,743	110,138	11,202	131,144	11,720	142,184	12,016	147,959	13,033	112,501	12,860	146,128

Table 4 –Diversity Equity and Inclusion Responses

Response	Women Led	2SLGBTQQIA+ Led	Disability Led	First Nations, Inuit, Metis Led	Visible Minority Led	Youth Led	New Immigrant Led
Yes	731	62	61	33	160	16	54
No	703	1,328	1,339	1,414	1,222	1,419	1,355
Decline	114	126	103	87	112	63	92

Table 5 - “Is there anything Niagara Region could do to help support your business?”

Response Themes	Responses Received 2023	Proportion 2022	Proportion 2023
Business Exposure	288	11.5%	14.9%
Infrastructure/Traffic Issues/Construction	240	17.3%	12.4%
Incentives/Grants/Contracts	225	6.2%	11.7%
Taxes and Utilities	219	12.5%	11.3%
Skills and Labour Force	164	6.2%	8.5%
Social Support Programs/Programs	136	6.5%	7.0%
Health and Safety	136	5.5%	7.0%
Parking Issues	95	5.5%	4.9%
Waste Management	90	15.8%	4.7%
Awareness and Education	90	2.3%	4.7%
Development Process/Zoning/Land Use	79	2.7%	4.1%
Transit	55	1.6%	2.9%
Governance	45	1.2%	2.3%
Beautification	42	1.7%	2.2%
Impact of COVID-19	12	3.0%	0.6%
Development Charges	11	0.4%	0.6%
Other	3	0.0%	0.2%
Total	1,930	100%	100%



Received June 13, 2024
C-2024-293

Thursday June 13, 2024

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

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Re: Infrastructure Small Rural Municipalities

Please be advised that at their last Regular Meeting of Council on Thursday, June 6, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of North Dundas supported the following resolution:

Resolution #2024-138

Moved By: Councillor Uhrig

Seconded By: Councillor Lennox

THAT the Council of the Township of North Dundas supports resolution number C-2024-165 from the Township of Georgian Bay dated May 13, 2024 regarding the implementation of sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities and actions to address the impending debt dilemma facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Eric Duncan, Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry; MPP Nolan Quinn, Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities of Ontario.

Result: Carried.

A copy of the resolution from the Township of Georgian Bay is attached.

Yours Sincerely,

Nancy Johnston, MBA
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk
Encl. (2)



**The Township of Georgian Bay
Resolutions
Council - 13 May 2024**

Item 12.(a)

Date: May 13, 2024

C-2024-165

Moved by Councillor Stephen Jarvis
Seconded by Councillor Peter Cooper

WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries ;

WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

WHEREAS the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario's large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

WHEREAS small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

WHEREAS it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Georgian Bay call on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities;

AND THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group that includes a member of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma;

AND FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington; MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried Defeated Recorded Vote Referred Deferred

Recorded Vote:

	For	Against	Absent
Councillor Brian Bocek			
Councillor Peter Cooper			
Councillor Kristian Graziano			
Councillor Allan Hazelton			
Councillor Stephen Jarvis			
Councillor Steven Predko			
Mayor Peter Koetsier			

Peter Koetsier, Mayor

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 #: 12

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

Received June 13, 2024

C-2024-294

WHEREAS, the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) establishes accounting standards for the public sector which must be followed by all Ontario municipalities; And

WHEREAS, the Municipal Act, 2001 section 294.1 states that a municipality shall, for each fiscal year, prepare annual financial statements for the municipality in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local governments as recommended, from time to time, by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada; And

WHEREAS, PS 3280 is a new accounting standard covering asset retirement obligations (ARO) that was approved by PSAB in March 2018; And

WHEREAS, the standard must be applied by all public sector entities who prepare their financial statements under PSAB, including all Canadian municipalities; And

WHEREAS, many small municipalities do not have accountants or engineers on staff to complete the ARO obligations and this major accounting change will force small municipalities to hire consultants to complete this work and cause a significant financial burden to municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Township of Larder Lake hereby calls upon the province of Ontario to provide financial assistance to municipalities to complete the ARO; And

FINALLY, THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers

Recorded vote requested:

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

I declare this motion

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair: _____

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

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 #: 13

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

of Ontario (AMCTO), the Timiskaming Municipal Association (TMA), the Federation of Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all municipalities within the District of Timiskaming.

Recorded vote requested:

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

I declare this motion

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair:

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

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 #: 9

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

Received June 13, 2024

C-2024-295

WHEREAS, the Ontario Auditor General's annual report on public health from December 2023 indicates that Public Health Ontario is proposing the phasing-out of free provincial water testing services for private drinking water; And

WHEREAS, free private drinking water testing services has played a pivotal role in safeguarding public health, particularly in rural communities, that rely predominantly on private drinking water; And

WHEREAS, the removal of free private drinking water testing could lead to a reduction in testing, potentially increasing the risk of waterborne diseases in these vulnerable populations; And

WHEREAS, the tragic events in Walkerton, Ontario underscored the critical importance of safe drinking water.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Township of Larder Lake hereby requests that the province reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing- out of free private drinking water testing services.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks, Minister of Health, Temiskaming Public Health Unit, and Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP.

Recorded vote requested:

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

I declare this motion

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair: 

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

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 #: 10

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

Received June 13, 2024

C-2024-296

WHEREAS, Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries;

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

WHEREAS, small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

WHEREAS, the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario's large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

WHEREAS, the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

WHEREAS, small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

WHEREAS, it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

Recorded vote requested:

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

I declare this motion

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair: _____

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

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 #: 11

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Larder Lake call on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities; And

THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding; And

THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities; And

THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group that includes a member of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma; And

FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Recorded vote requested:

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

I declare this motion

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair:

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

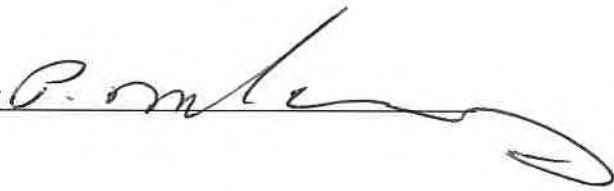
THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATTAWAN

DATE June 13, 2024 Resolution No. 2024 - 078

MOVED BY Councillor LEMAIRE

SECONDED BY Councillor LAHAYE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan, supports Resolution No. 2024/05/184 received from the Municipality of Callander, which calls on Premier Doug Ford to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure the stability and predictability of property taxes while the Ontario Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or responds with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to achieve fair taxation.

CARRIED Mayor Peter Murphy 

DIVISION VOTE

NAME OF MEMBER OF COUNCIL	YEAS	NAYS
<u>Councillor Bell</u>	_____	_____
<u>Councillor Edwards</u>	_____	_____
<u>Councillor Lahaye</u>	_____	_____
<u>Councillor Lemaire</u>	_____	_____

31 May 2024

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

RE: Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Callander passed the following resolution at its Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

Resolution No. 2024/05/184:

7.4(c) WHEREAS the assessment cycle is an essential process for maintaining the fairness and predictability of property taxes in our province;

AND WHEREAS the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

AND WHEREAS the government has delayed an assessment update again in 2024, resulting in Ontario's municipalities continuing to calculate property taxes using 2016 property values;

AND WHEREAS both current and outdated assessments are inaccurate, increase volatility, and are not transparent;

AND WHEREAS frequent and accurate reassessments are necessary to stabilize property taxes and provide predictability for property owners, residents, and businesses alike;

AND WHEREAS the staff at the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation would benefit from further skills enhancement and training in assessments, recognizing the importance of ensuring accurate evaluations for 100% of our municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Government has announced a review of the property assessment and taxation system with a focus on fairness, equity, and economic competitiveness, and therefore further deferring new property assessment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Callander hereby calls upon the Premier to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure the stability and predictability of property taxes while the Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or respond with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to achieve fair taxation;

AND THAT all Municipalities in Ontario and their constituents are encouraged to apply pressure to the Premier, daily, weekly, and monthly, to resolve the situation before it causes undo stress to everyone in the Municipality;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the relevant provincial authorities, the Association of Municipality in Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, and all municipalities in Ontario for their consideration, to make proper changes as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Thank you,



Cindy Pigeau
Municipal Clerk

Copy to: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
All Ontario Municipalities