

1. **C-2025-179**
Correspondence dated September 22, 2025 from the Town of Grimsby to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the City of Thorold correspondence regarding the publication of the sexual offender registry.
2. **C-2025-180**
Correspondence dated September 24, 2025 from the City of Port Colborne to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Town of Grimsby correspondence regarding Niagara GTA Corridor.
3. **C-2025-181**
Correspondence dated September 16, 2025 from the City of Niagara Falls respecting a resolution of support for City of Welland correspondence regarding a call for reforms following a heinous crime in Welland.
4. **C-2025-182**
Correspondence dated September 29, 2025 from Mark Garner respecting a proposal to restore a commemorative plaque located in Oakwood Cemetery.
5. **C-2025-183**
Correspondence dated September 25, 2025 from the Office of the Regional Clerk respecting a resolution calling to strengthen laws, sentencing and parole restrictions.



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vssteel@grimsby.ca

Received September 25, 2025
C-2025-179

September 22, 2025

SENT VIA E-MAIL
premier@ontario.ca

Attention: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

**RE: Resolution – Endorse City of Thorold Resolution Re: Publication of the
Sexual Offender Registry**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on September 22, 2025, passed the following resolution:

C-25-191

Moved: Councillor Baradziej

Seconded: Councillor Charrois

Resolved that Council vote to support the City of Thorold's resolution regarding the publication of the sexual offender registry.

The original resolution from the City of Thorold is attached to this letter for your reference. If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC:

Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario

Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario

Regional Municipality of Niagara

Local Area Municipalities

Local Area MPs

Local Area MPPs



Thorold

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Nicholas Debono, City Clerk
3540 Schmon Parkway, P.O. Box 1044
Thorold, ON L2V 4A7

September 10, 2025

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

To All Concerned Organizations

Re: 14.3 Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry – City of Thorold Council Resolution

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold, at its meeting held on September 9, 2025, considered the aforementioned topic and passed the following resolution:

The Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

WHEREAS the current provisions of *Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry)*, 2000, restrict access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry to law enforcement agencies, limiting public awareness of individuals convicted of sexual offences living within their communities;

WHEREAS public access to information about registered sex offenders can empower City residents to take informed precautions to enhance community safety, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children;

AND WHEREAS transparency and access to information are key components of public safety policy, and a public version of the registry could balance safety and privacy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

1. That Council **FORMALLY REQUESTS** that the Government of Ontario amend Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000, to permit public access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry; and
2. That a copy of this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, all regional Members of Provincial Parliament, and Niagara region municipalities.

Thank you,



Nicholas Debono
City Clerk, City of Thorold

- cc. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
All regional Members of Provincial Parliament
- Sam Oosterhoff
 - Jennifer Stevens
 - Wayne Gates
 - Jeff Burch
- Niagara Regional Municipalities
- Niagara Falls
 - Port Colborne
 - St Catharines
 - Welland
 - Grimsby
 - Lincoln
 - Niagara-on-the-Lake
 - Pelham
 - Wainfleet
 - West Lincoln
 - Fort Erie
- Niagara Region



Received September 26, 2025
C-2025-180

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 • www.portcolborne.ca

T 905.228.8031 F 905.834.5746
E charlotte.madden@portcolborne.ca



September 24, 2025

Email: premier@ontario.ca
The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

Re: Support for Niagara GTA Corridor

Please be advised that, at its meeting of September 23, 2025 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne supported the resolution received from the Town of Grimsby regarding the Niagara GTA Corridor.

The Town of Grimsby resolution is attached for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Madden
City Clerk

ec: Regional Municipality of Niagara
Local Area Municipalities
Local MPPs, Jeff Burch, Wayne Gates, Sam Oosterhoff, Jennifer Stevens
Local Area MPs, Dean Allison, Tony Baldinelli, Chris Bittle, Fred Davies
Hon. Kinga Surma, Provincial Minister of Infrastructure
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Councillor Jeff Beattie's Office – Ward 10, Hamilton,
City of Hamilton
City of Kitchener
City of Waterloo
City of Guelph
City of Cambridge
City of Brantford



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vs Steele@grimsby.ca

September 15, 2025

SENT VIA E-MAIL

premier@ontario.ca

Attention: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

RE: Resolution – Support for Niagara-GTA Corridor

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on September 8, 2025, passed the following resolution:

C-25-177

Moved: Councillor Baradziej

Seconded: Councillor DiFlavio

Whereas the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) is the primary east-west transportation corridor through Niagara; and

Whereas the Town of Grimsby is the gateway to Niagara with limited roadways travelling parallel, creating regional vulnerabilities and a bottleneck affect when incidents or delays occur on the QEW; and

Whereas transportation disruptions on the QEW result in congestion and gridlock across town(s) and the region; limits mobility for residents, businesses, and emergency services; and have direct economic and social costs on our community in Niagara; and

Whereas the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis (CANCEA) estimated the economic and social cost of congestion in Ontario in 2024 was \$56.4 billion; and

Whereas a new corridor in the Niagara Region has the potential to increase access to businesses along the new corridor and increase efficiency of the movement of people, goods, products and services to market. All of which make Niagara more attractive to job-creating business investment, and new residents looking to live and work in Niagara; and

Whereas a strategic corridor linking the rapidly growing Waterloo Region, Hamilton, and Niagara Region has the potential to strengthen economic ties between municipalities, creating an inter-regional economic powerhouse and transportation connection serving over two million people, while reducing the bottleneck affect on the QEW in Niagara, Hamilton and the GTA; and

Re: Resolution – Support for Niagara-GTA Corridor

Whereas a new transportation corridor between Niagara and the GTA is critical for long-term regional connectivity, sustainable population growth, balanced infrastructure development, and economic development.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Grimsby and Council express support for the inclusion of a new Niagara-GTA corridor as part of the ongoing Region of Niagara's Transportation Master Plan.

Be it further resolved that this motion be circulated to all Niagara municipalities, MPs and MPPs, the Provincial Minister of Infrastructure and Minister of Transportation, the Premier of Ontario, Councillor Jeff Beattie's Office – Ward 10, Hamilton, the City of Hamilton, the City of Kitchener, the City of Waterloo, the City of Guelph, the City of Cambridge, the City of Brantford, and the Regional Municipality of Niagara, expressing our community's support for continued planning and investment in a Niagara-GTA corridor as a transportation priority.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,



Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC:

Regional Municipality of Niagara

Local Area Municipalities

Local Area MPs

Local Area MPPs

Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure

Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation

Councillor Jeff Beattie, City of Hamilton

City of Hamilton

City of Kitchener

City of Waterloo

City of Guelph

City of Cambridge

City of Brantford



Received September 26, 2025
C-2025-181

The City of Niagara Falls, Ontario

Resolution

September 16, 2025

No. 18 – Motion - Call for Reforms Following Heinous Crime in Welland

Moved by: Councillor Mona Patel

Seconded by: Councillor Chris Dabrowski

Motion

WHEREAS the recent assault of a child in Welland has shaken our entire region, and our communities share in the grief and outrage.

WHEREAS this horrific crime was committed by a repeat offender, highlighting the failures of the current justice system.

WHEREAS the revolving door of justice is putting our children, families, and neighborhoods at risk, with offenders too often released back into our communities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Niagara Falls stand with the City of Welland in calling on the Provincial and Federal Governments to take urgent action to:

- End the revolving door justice system.
- Strengthen bail laws and ensure repeat offenders are kept off our streets.
- Impose tougher sentencing for serious crimes, particularly those involving children.
- Strengthen and expand the Sexual Offender Registry, including stronger monitoring and restrictions for repeat and high-risk offenders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Premier and all Niagara municipalities, all Niagara Members of Provincial Parliament, all Niagara Members of Parliament, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Minister of Public Safety, the Attorney General of Ontario, and the Solicitor General of Ontario, urging them to join this call for action to protect our communities.

.AND The Seal of the Corporation to hereto affixed.

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Matson", written over a horizontal line.

**WILLIAM G. MATSON
CITY CLERK**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Diodati", written over a horizontal line.

JAMES M. DIODATI

September 4, 2025

The Right Honourable Prime Minister Mark Carney

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Re: Call for Reforms Following Heinous Crime in Welland

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

On behalf of the City of Welland, I write to you with a heavy and aggrieved heart following the recent brutal sexual assault of a three-year-old child in our community. This appalling act has shaken the community to its core, leaving families devastated and our entire city demanding swift and decisive action to ensure such an atrocity can never happen again. While no legislation can undo the profound trauma inflicted, this horrific crime demands that we confront the shortcomings of our justice system in protecting society's most vulnerable. I therefore urge your government to take immediate and decisive action by considering:

- **Reform to bail and sentencing provisions** to ensure that individuals charged with, or convicted of, violent sexual crimes, especially when involving minors, face stricter consequences, with no opportunity for early release in cases of extreme brutality.
- **Elimination of parole for heinous offences of this nature**, ensuring that offenders serve their full sentences without exception.
- **More stringent use and enforcement of the National Sex Offender Registry**, with mechanisms to better protect communities by ensuring timely awareness of offenders residing in their midst.

Canadians must have absolute confidence that our justice system places public safety—especially the protection of children—above all else. Communities like Welland cannot and should not live under the shadow of legislative or enforcement gaps that risk allowing such offenders to strike again. Mr. Prime Minister, I must impress upon you that strengthening these protections at the national level is not so much a request, but a collective responsibility that must be met without delay. Our residents, and indeed all Canadians, demand the assurance that every possible measure is being taken to safeguard our children.

This is an urgent call to action, and I expect your government's leadership to match the gravity of this moment. I stand ready to work with you in advancing the decisive reforms our communities so desperately need.

Sincerely,

Frank Campion

Mayor

September 4, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Re: Call for Reforms Following Heinous Crime in Welland

Dear Premier Ford,

On behalf of the City of Welland, I write to you with a heavy heart following the recent brutal sexual assault of a three-year-old child in our community. This devastating act has shocked and horrified our residents, leaving families shaken and demanding urgent action to ensure such a tragedy is never repeated.

While no legislation can erase the trauma inflicted, this horrific crime compels us to reflect on the inadequacy of our current justice system in protecting the most vulnerable. Specifically, I urge your government to consider:

- **Reform to bail and sentencing provisions** to ensure that individuals charged with, or convicted of, violent sexual crimes face stricter consequences, with no opportunity for early release in cases of extreme brutality.
- **Elimination of parole for heinous offences of this nature**, ensuring that offenders serve their full sentences without exception.
- **More stringent use and enforcement of the National Sex Offender Registry**, with mechanisms to better protect communities by ensuring timely awareness of offenders residing in their midst.

Canadians must be confident that our justice system prioritizes public safety above all else, and particularly the safety of children. Communities like Welland cannot bear the weight of knowing that gaps in legislation or enforcement might allow such offenders to harm again.

Premier Ford, I ask for your leadership in strengthening these protections at the national level. Our residents, and indeed all Canadians, deserve to know that every measure possible is being taken to safeguard our children.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you and your government.

Sincerely,

Frank Campion
Mayor

Subject: RE: Shipwreck commemorative plaque from 1870

From: markgarner59 markgarner59 <markgarner59@sympatico.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2025 8:16 AM
To: Mayor <mayor@portcolborne.ca>
Subject: Shipwreck commemorative plaque from 1870

Hello

My name is Mark Garner. I was born and raised in the area with many ties to the early pioneers in Port Colborne. There is a shipwreck commemorative plaque in Oakland Cemetery which has been relocated around town several times since 1870. After 15 years of searching for it I have found it buried and mostly illegible. I would like to restore it and build a proper base as I believe it is a double sided marker lying flat on the ground hiding half of it's message. The 155th anniversary is coming up and I would like to offer my services in this matter. Please read the attached proposal.

Mark Garner

United Empire Loyalist Descendant
711 Templemead Dr. Hamilton Ontario L8W2V8
markgarner59@sympatico.ca Phone or text 905 645-4115

Sept 5, 2025

Mayor and Council

City of Port Colborne
66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, ON

Re: Restoration and Return of the *Mary Anne Rankin* Shipwreck Marker – 155th Anniversary, October 31, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to present a proposal for the restoration and re-dedication of the historic marker commemorating the *Mary Anne Rankin*, a vessel lost off Port Colborne on October 31, 1870. This year marks the **155th anniversary** of that tragedy.

As both an Upper Canada resident and a descendant of United Empire Loyalists with a family tie to the *Mary Anne Rankin*, I would like to take on the responsibility of **restoring the marker, constructing a proper base, and returning it to the City of Port Colborne** as a gift to the community.

The project would conclude with a **public rededication ceremony on October 31st, 2025**, ensuring the memory of the *Mary Anne Rankin* is preserved for future generations.

I am requesting the City's support with placement approval, permitting, and recognition of the marker within the city's heritage records. All restoration and base construction costs will be covered privately.

Port Colborne's maritime history is a cornerstone of its identity, and this project provides an opportunity to highlight that heritage while honoring those connected to the Great Lakes' past. I would be grateful for the chance to discuss this further and to work with the City in returning this important marker to public display.

Sincerely,
Mark Garner

Proposal Plan

Restoration & Re-Dedication of the *Mary Anne Rankin* Shipwreck Marker

Submitted by: Mark Garner, United Empire Loyalist descendant with family ties to the ship, the *Mary Anne Rankin*

1. Project Overview

This proposal seeks approval and support for the restoration, proper mounting, and re-dedication of the historic marker commemorating the shipwreck of the *Mary Anne Rankin*. The project will be undertaken by **Mark Garner**, an Upper Canada resident, historian, and descendant of United Empire Loyalists, who also has a direct family connection to the *Mary Anne Rankin* shipwreck disaster.

The restored marker will be returned to the City of Port Colborne in time for the **155th anniversary of the wreck, October 31st, 2025**, ensuring that this important piece of local maritime and cultural heritage is preserved for future generations.

2. Background

- The *Mary Anne Rankin* was lost off Port Colborne on **October 31st, 1870**.
- The shipwreck is part of the city's maritime history and the broader Great Lakes shipping narrative.
- A marker commemorating the event was previously installed by local volunteers including pioneer Daniel Wesley McCain, but it has deteriorated and requires restoration and proper placement.
- Mark Garner has both a **personal family connection** to the vessel and a heritage connection through his United Empire Loyalist ancestry, giving this project a unique local stewardship.

3. Project Objectives

1. **Restore the shipwreck marker** to a high standard of preservation.
 2. **Create a proper permanent base** (stone, concrete, or other suitable heritage-grade material) to ensure long-term stability.
 3. **Return the marker to the City of Port Colborne**, gifting it back as a piece of preserved heritage.
 4. **Host a rededication ceremony** on October 31st, 2025, marking the 155th anniversary of the *Mary Anne Rankin*.
-

4. Work Plan

1. **Assessment & Restoration**
 - Professionally clean and refurbish the existing marker.
 - Repair or replace damaged surfaces/lettering where required.
 2. **Base Construction**
 - Design and construct a durable, historically respectful base.
 - Ensure materials are weather-resistant and in keeping with local heritage standards.
 3. **Installation & Placement**
 - Work with the City of Port Colborne and heritage staff to select a suitable site.
 - Install the marker securely with the new base.
 4. **Rededication Event (October 31st, 2025)**
 - Ceremony including local officials, heritage representatives, and community members.
 - Brief remarks highlighting the history of the *Mary Anne Rankin* and the restoration.
 - Recognition of the city's role in preserving its maritime history.
-

5. Community Benefits

- **Cultural Preservation:** Ensures the memory of the *Mary Anne Rankin* is respected and accessible.
 - **Heritage Education:** Provides residents and visitors with a tangible link to Port Colborne's maritime past.
 - **Community Pride:** Celebrates local history and the efforts of a local resident with family ties to the ship.
 - **Tourism Value:** Enhances the city's heritage assets for cultural tourism and Great Lakes history enthusiasts.
-

6. Proposed Timeline

- The marker will be restored by mid October 2025 and prepared for the ceremony on Oct 31st 2025.
-

7. Funding & Support

- **Restoration & Base Construction:** Covered by Mark Garner (in-kind contribution).
- **City of Port Colborne:** Requested support with permitting, placement, and inclusion in heritage records.

- **Community Partnerships:** Local heritage societies and museums may be invited to participate in the rededication.
-

8. Conclusion

This project provides an opportunity for the City of Port Colborne to partner in preserving a meaningful part of its history, while highlighting the contributions of local residents in heritage stewardship. The restored *Mary Anne Rankin* marker will serve as a lasting tribute to those lost at sea and as a reminder of the city's role in Great Lakes maritime history.

Submitted by:

Mark Garner

United Empire Loyalist Descendant & Family Connection to the *Mary Anne Rankin*

Thank you

Mark Garner

markgarner59@sympatico.ca

call or text 905 645-4115

September 26, 2025

CL 14-2025, September 25, 2025

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Motion Respecting Call to Strengthen Laws, Sentencing and Parole Restrictions

Regional Council, at its meeting held on September 25, 2025, passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the City of Welland and the broader Niagara Region have been deeply shaken by the recent violent sexual assault of a toddler in Welland;

WHEREAS court documents confirm the accused was previously convicted of sexual assault of a minor, ordered to register as a sex offender, but was released from his original sentence months early with limited conditions;

WHEREAS the release of repeat sexual offenders into our communities poses an unacceptable risk to children, families, and public safety;

WHEREAS municipalities lack the authority to legislate sentencing and offender release policies, but the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada hold responsibility for ensuring that laws, sentencing guidelines, parole, and release practices protect the public from repeat violent and sexual offenders;

WHEREAS Canada's existing criminal justice system has permitted offenders convicted of the most serious crimes, including crimes against children, to be released prematurely despite ongoing risks to the community, and such leniencies in bail, sentencing, and release conditions have contributed to repeat victimization of children and other vulnerable Canadians; and

WHEREAS Niagara South Member of Parliament Fred Davies is presenting a petition to the House of Commons demanding changes to the Criminal Code to make bail and early release provisions more restrictive for repeat violent and child sex offenders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Niagara Regional Council **FORMALLY CALL** on the Governments of Ontario and Canada to review and strengthen laws, sentencing provisions, and parole eligibility for individuals convicted of sexual offences, ensuring that repeat offenders are not prematurely released into communities where they pose an ongoing threat;
2. That Regional Council **REQUEST** that the Province of Ontario establish stricter monitoring measures, including mandatory long-term supervision orders, GPS monitoring, and enhanced public safety provisions for all individuals convicted of sexual offences;
3. That Regional Council **REQUEST** that the Attorney General of Ontario, the Ministry of the Solicitor General, and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services report back to municipalities on steps being taken to address gaps in legislation, sentencing, and supervision of repeat sex offenders;
4. That Niagara Regional Council **EXPRESS** its support for amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada to make bail, sentencing, and release conditions more restrictive for repeat violent offenders, particularly sex offenders, and that this support be communicated to MP Fred Davies for inclusion in his petition to the House of Commons; and
5. That a copy of this motion **BE SENT** to:
 - The Premier of Ontario;
 - The Attorney General of Ontario;
 - The Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
 - The Prime Minister of Canada;
 - The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada;
 - The Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs;
 - All Niagara-area Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);
 - All Niagara-area Members of Parliament (MPs); and
 - All local area municipalities.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

:kl

CLK-C 2025-108

Distribution List

Premier of Ontario
Attorney General of Ontario
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Prime Minister of Canada
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs
Niagara MPPs
Niagara MPs
Local Area Municipalities