

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Township of Essa Building Department Statistics – September 2023.
- p. 2 2. Media Release from Brian Saunderson, MPP Simcoe-Grey, re: Ontario Awarding Victim Support Grant to Nottawasaga OPP.
- p. 6 3. Correspondence from the City of Hamilton dated September 19, 2023, re: Resolution - Support of Basic Income.
- p. 9 4. Correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry dated September 27, 2023, re: Essa Council Delegation to AMO (Aggregate).
- p. 10 5. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter – September 2023.
- p. 20 6. Correspondence from the Town of Wasaga Beach dated September 28, 2023, re: Resolution – Request for Provincial Task Force – Unsanctioned Car Rallies.
- p. 22 7. Correspondence from the Town of Aurora dated September 28, 2023, re: Resolution - Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers.
- p. 26 8. Correspondence from the City of Burlington dated September 28, 2023, re: Resolution - Provincial Legislation for Third-Party Short-Term Rental Companies.
- p. 28 9. Correspondence from the Municipality of Bluewater dated October 2, 2023, re: Childcare Availability in Ontario.
- p. 30 10. Media Release from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority dated October 3, 2023, re: Plant Trees with NVCA Next Spring.
- p. 31 11. Correspondence from the Towns of Collingwood and New Tecumseth dated October 4, 2023, re: Provincial Partnership to Build More Homes, Support Healthcare and Economic Development in Simcoe County.
- p. 33 12. Correspondence from the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) dated October 3, 2023, re: ROMA 2024 Annual Conference Information.
- p. 38 13. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) dated October 3, 2023, re: Policy Update. – *Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act* Introduced and Housing Affordability Task Force Recommendations Response.
- p. 40 14. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
- p. 47 a) September 26, 2023 – Council Highlights.
- p. 49 b) September 27, 2023 – Release – Simcoe County Celebrates World Tourism Day with Relaunch of the “Spark” Mentorship & Grants Program.
- c) September 28, 2023 – Joint Release - County of Simcoe and City of Orillia Creating Conditions for Attainable Housing Across the Region.

- p. 51 d) October 2, 2023 – Release – County of Simcoe Paramedics Honoured with Exemplary Service Medals.
- p. 53 e) October 10, 2023 – Release – County Presents Homelessness Winter Response Plan.

B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

None

C – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR REVIEW AND REPORT TO COUNCIL

None.

Sep-23

Current

Permits Issued	# Permits Issued	# Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Construction Value of Permits Issued	Construction Value of Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Building Permit Fees	Building Permit Fees YTD
Residential	41	235	\$4,345,830.00	\$34,994,159.00	\$58,945.39	\$456,147.83
Commercial	3	13	\$600,000.00	\$14,966,600.00	\$4,697.60	\$36,417.52
Industrial		5		\$4,730,000.00		\$57,875.63
Institutional	2	19	\$210,000.00	\$558,000.00	\$2,662.50	\$9,614.28
Public Utilities		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Agricultural	2	8	\$230,000.00	\$2,805,000.00	\$2,470.80	\$41,631.01
TOTAL	48	280	\$5,385,830.00	\$ 58,053,759.00	\$68,776.29	\$ 601,686.27

Y.O.Y.	39	209	\$4,139,000.00	\$ 26,314,271.00	\$53,172.55	\$ 211,169.70	184.93%
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NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	9	65	\$3,572,080.00	\$20,748,680.00
Mult Res Bldgs	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accessory Apt within Existing Res Bldg	2	3	\$ 265,000.00	\$355,577.00
TOTAL	11	68	\$3,837,080.00	\$21,104,257.00

Reviewed by CBO Pedro Granes



Y.O.Y	10	35	\$ 3,180,000.00	\$ 15,427,174.00
	10.00%	94.29%	20.66%	36.80%



Ontario Awarding Victim Support Grant to Nottawasaga OPP

Province supporting victims and survivors of intimate partner violence/domestic violence, human trafficking and child exploitation



ALLISTON, ON – The Ontario government is investing more than \$4 million across the province to help support victims and survivors of intimate partner violence/domestic violence, human trafficking, and child exploitation. The funding is being delivered through the Victim Support Grant program and includes \$85,420.35 for the Nottawasaga detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

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BRIAN SAUNDERSON
MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
SIMCOE—GREY

surrounding OPP detachments support victims of human trafficking and intimate partner violence.

Project Safe Paths has two dedicated police crisis beds at Imani's Place to facilitate referrals, provide protection and assist in rehabilitating victims of trafficking and intimate partner violence in a culturally affirming environment. The project will also fund B.R.I.G.H.T. (Bringing Real Internet Guidance to Help Teens) presentations at schools and in the community.



"Today's announcement will ensure that the Nottawasaga detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, along with their dedicated community partners will be able to continue the critical work they do to support victims and survivors of human trafficking, exploitation and intimate partner



government and my sincere gratitude goes out to Detachment Commander Inspector Steve Ridout and his team of officers, who are committed to protecting our residents and keeping them out of harms way."



"Support for victims and survivors is a crucial first step to recovery," said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "This important grant is part of our government's plan to combat violent crime on our streets and ensure that victims are not left behind."

The [Victim Support Grant \(VSG\)](#) is part of [Ontario's Guns, Gangs and Violence Reduction Strategy](#) and complements the province's \$307 million [Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy, 2020- 2025](#) and [Combating Human Trafficking Act, 2021](#).





All municipal and First Nation police services as well as the Ontario Provincial Police are eligible to apply for funding through the VSG program.

- The VSG can be used for a variety of projects and initiatives, including specialized training for law enforcement, culturally responsive education and awareness campaigns, and purchasing technology and equipment to enhance police investigations and provide survivors with the option to complete interviews remotely.
- Of the 45 projects being funded across the province, 19 will focus on intimate partner violence and domestic violence, five on human trafficking, three on child exploitation, and 18 that will focus on all three areas.
- The Ontario government is investing over \$2 million in the Partner Assault Response (PAR) program to help break the cycle of intimate partner violence and keep communities safe. The PAR program provides specialized group education and counselling for people charged with intimate partner violence offences and offers support to current partners of those in the program. This two-year investment is in addition to the more than \$2 million given to PAR providers in 2022.



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

VIA: Mail

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

The Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Office of the Premier
Queen's Park, Legislative Building,
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

September 19, 2023

Dear Prime Minister and Premier,

At the City of Hamilton Council meeting of September 13, the following motion was approved:

7.2 Municipal Resolution in Support of Basic Income for the City of Hamilton

WHEREAS, The City of Hamilton recognizes the social and economic challenges faced by its residents that have a detrimental impact on the determinants of health including income inequality, poverty, inadequate housing and precarious employment;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City of Hamilton to strive for the well-being and prosperity of all its residents, which includes ensuring access to basic needs and opportunities to improve health;

WHEREAS, through addressing poverty and improving access to healthcare, a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income can potentially reduce healthcare costs enabling people to afford preventive care and timely treatments while preventing more costly healthcare interventions, leading to better overall population health,

WHEREAS, a Basic Income program was tested in Hamilton during the Ontario Basic Income Pilot project between 2017 and 2019 and more than 1,000 local residents reported positive outcomes including the alleviation of food and housing insecurity, improved physical and mental health, financial stability, social equity and greater connection to the labour market;

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WHEREAS, the Federal Budget Office upon reviewing the concept of a national Guaranteed Basic Income program determined it could, if properly set out, be a major economic driver to the Canadian economy; and

WHEREAS, a Basic Income program can complement and enhance existing social support systems, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive approach to addressing the needs of Hamilton residents including persons with disabilities and aligns and complements the City of Hamilton's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton supports the concept of a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to combat poverty, income inequality, and economic insecurity within our community; and supports the continuing advocacy of the Basic Income Hamilton Working Group (under the auspices of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction) to share research and the unique experiences of local residents who participated in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot project;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton calls upon the provincial and federal governments to collaborate to implement a national Guaranteed Livable Basic Income program;
- (c) That Hamilton City Council directs the Office of the Mayor to write a letter to the Prime Minister, local Members of Parliament and the Senate, the Premier of Ontario, local Members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, calling on these orders of government to work collaboratively towards implementing a National Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs; and
- (d) That the City of Hamilton encourages other municipalities across the province and the country to join in advocating for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income as a key policy tool in the fight against poverty and inequality and to this end, Hamilton City Council will advocate through its representatives at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Canadian Federation of Municipalities for Guaranteed Livable Basic Income resolutions at meetings of those organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours Truly,



Mayor Andrea Horwath
City of Hamilton

cc: Hamilton Area Members of Parliament
Hamilton Area Members of Provincial Parliament
All Municipalities of Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

99 Wellesley Street West
Room 6630, Whitney Block
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tel: 416-314-2301

99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Bureau 6630, Édifice Whitney
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416 314-2301



354-2023-1257

September 27, 2023

Her Worship Sandie Macdonald
Mayor
Township of Essa
smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca

Dear Mayor Macdonald:

Thank you for meeting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry at this year's Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference.

My ministry understands the importance of the aggregate industry in Ontario and how essential a consistent supply of aggregate is to building and maintaining critical infrastructure like homes, schools, hospitals, and roads. While we remain committed to continuous improvement and enhancing program delivery to support the industry, we also understand the concerns of municipalities and will continue to work closely to find mutually beneficial solutions.

I look forward to continuing our work together.

Thank you again for meeting.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Sarah Corbett

Subject:

FW: Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter



**Nottawasaga Futures is a community economic
development agency serving the South Simcoe
Area.**



Nottawasaga Futures

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2023

Economic Challenges: Entrepreneur's Finance Seminar

Join us for an insightful session featuring industry experts discussing
Financial Management Strategies for Entrepreneurs.

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
from 9:00am-12:00pm

Bradford & District Community Centre
125 Simcoe Road, Bradford, Ontario



FEATURED WORKSHOP:
**Revenue Streams,
Ecommerce & Building
a Contingency Plan**

WITH TARA LONGO
*Healthy Butcher Founder,
Entrepreneurial Advisor*



TO REGISTER:
Email Robin Brown at:
robin@nottawasaga.com



Please join us for our Small Business Week event Wednesday October 18
from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Bradford Community Centre.

Registration opens at 8:30

If you would like to attend please email robin@nottawasaga.com

Becoming a Film-Friendly Vendor in Simcoe County

→ **4 Oct 2023** **DMZ Innisfil**
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Unlock the potential of
the film industry to
grow your business.

Register: filmfriendlyinnisfil.eventbrite.ca

Presented by:
sgbma



South Georgian Bay Media Association & Nottawasaga Futures Present:
"Becoming a Film-Friendly Vendor in Simcoe County" Workshop

🎬 Calling All Simcoe County Businesses and Film Enthusiasts! 🎬

Are you ready to unlock the dynamic world of the film industry? Dive deep into the vast opportunities it presents for local businesses in Simcoe County!

🌟 Event: Becoming a Film-Friendly Vendor in Simcoe County

📅 Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023

🕒 Time: 10:00 AM

📍 Location: DMZ Innisfil

AS

- Gain insights into the industry from film producer Tom Strnad.
- Learn how to thrive as a vendor in film and television production.
- Network with local stakeholders & potential collaborators.

From hoteliers, caterers, to green service providers, and everyone in between – this workshop is designed for YOU!

🔗 Register and Learn More: <https://filmfriendlyinnisfil.eventbrite.ca>

Don't miss this incredible chance to connect with the thriving film community in our region! [#FilmInInnisfil](#) [#SimcoeCountyFilm](#) [#InnisfilEvents](#)

This event is funded through the County of Simcoe's Entrepreneurial Innovation Fund and presented in partnership with Nottawasaga Futures, Town of New Tecumseth, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Town of Innisfil, Small Business Centre of Barrie, Simcoe County and Orillia, Orillia Community Futures South Georgian Bay, South Georgian Bay Media Association and S.N.A.P. Films.

Visit filmfriendly.eventbrite.ca or contact for more information and registration.



FedDev Ontario is making it easier than ever to apply for funding to better serve southern Ontario businesses and organizations. With a new timed intake model, we are making the process simpler and more responsive to economic opportunities.

Applications will now be accepted three times per year (fall, winter, spring), with the first intake now open!

[Click here for more information](#)



LUNCH & LEARN

A question & answer session with Nottawasaga Futures & FOCUS Employment Services.

On October 12th from 12:00pm - 1:00pm over Zoom

Let's Talk:

- Business
- Entrepreneurship
- Hiring staff
- Loans & grants

Register with the link!




Nottawasaga Futures

Canada 

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO

Ontario 

You're invited to an Employer Lunch & Learn!

We are partnering with FOCUS to answer questions regarding business, entrepreneurship, hiring staff, loans, grants, and more!

On October 12th from 12-1pm this FREE event will be taking place over Zoom.

Please register [here](#):



Simcoe County program aims to “spark” innovative tourism ideas with mentorships and grants”

Whether you are an individual, a start-up or an established small business or non-profit organization, there can be many challenges and barriers to bringing a new tourism idea, experience or partnership to fruition.

The "Spark" Program will match selected candidates with a tourism **mentor** and provide **seed funds** to help take their new tourism idea to the next level of development.

Click [here](#) for more info



BDC is working to increase diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in all aspect our business. That's why we have partnered with TealBook to help us identify potential suppliers, improve the accuracy of our data, and optimize reporting.

When you register, your company will have the opportunity to qualify as a Diverse Supplier and benefit from the BDC Supplier Diversity Program.

Click [here](#) to register

For more information on the BDC Supplier Diversity program, please visit [bdc.ca/supplier](https://www.bdc.ca/supplier)



Community Volunteers, working in-stream, installing tree revetments for erosion control – August 2023

The South Simcoe Stream Network program is busy planning our fall events. On the agenda are the planting of 500 trees along Sheldon Creek in Adjala-Tosorontio, to provide new forest coverage on stream banks that have been restored, over the summer, to reduce erosion and provide fish and wildlife habitat. We will also be undertaking another stage of stream restoration on Beeton Creek in the town of Beeton, where, using cut trees anchored into the

creek banks, we aim to protect a stretch of the creek from severe erosion that has been taking place in recent years.

We would like to thank all our sponsors and volunteers who helped over the busy summer season. We hope to see you in the fall!

If you are interested in volunteering, or have any questions about our projects, please contact Theresa Parent at theresa@nottawasaga.com

Financial Support and Resources

- [Nottawasaga Futures Community Investment Fund](#)
- [Simcoe County CDAP Top Up Grant](#)
- [Canada - Ontario Job Grant](#)
- [Ontario Business Registry](#)
- [Business Benefits Finder](#)
- [Canada Business App](#)
- [Delia: Funding for Women-owned Enterprises](#)
- [Ontario Automotive Modernization Program](#)
- [Southwestern Ontario Development Fund](#)
- [Business advisory services for small & medium-sized businesses](#)
- [Youth Small Business Program](#)

Book a Free Consultation



TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH

30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach
Ontario, Canada L9Z 1A1
Tel (705) 429-3844
Fax (705) 429-6732
mayor@wasagabeach.com

September 28, 2023

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

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Illegal Car Rally – Provincial Task Force

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach, during their September 14, 2023 Council meeting adopted the following resolution regarding illegal car rallies:

WHEREAS the prevalence of unsanctioned car rally events has grown in recent years throughout North America;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Wasaga Beach has been the target of unsanctioned car rallies over the past four years resulting in property damage, threats to public order, and significant risk to people's safety and enjoyment of their property;

AND WHEREAS the protections afforded by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are being violated by unsanctioned car rally organizers and participants, thereby infringing on the rights of others and undermined the response of enforcement personnel;

AND WHEREAS unsanctioned car rally activity crosses multiple jurisdictions requiring a province wide coordinated response framework to protect all communities from the same disruption and risk to public safety;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Wasaga Beach requests that a provincial task force be assembled to create a municipal response framework to protect communities from unsanctioned car rallies with a mandate to include, but not limited to:

- Investigate legislative enhancements and tools to assist municipalities in responding and enforcing unsanctioned car rallies.
- Investigate expanded powers for municipal law enforcement officers.
- Develop a proactive approach to awareness, prevention, enforcement and collaboration across all enforcement personnel, including police, municipal law enforcement officers and other provincial offences officers.
- Investigate harsher penalties and increased fines for unsanctioned car rally organizers and participants.

Ab

AND FURTHER THAT the Province provide funding to municipalities to assist with the cost in enforcing unsanctioned car rallies;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, MPP Brian Saunderson, Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police, County of Simcoe, FCM, and AMO;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities requesting a letter of support be sent to senior levels of government.

Your favourable consideration of this matter is appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at mayor@wasagabeach.com or (705) 429-3844.

Respectfully yours,



Brian Smith, Mayor Town of Wasaga Beach

- cc: Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Brian Saunderson, MPP – Simcoe-Grey
Commissioner Thomas Carrique, Ontario Provincial Police
County of Simcoe Council
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities

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Legislative Services
Michael de Rond
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

September 28, 2023

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

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 26, 2023
Motion 10.4 - Councillor Weese; Re: Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor
Powers in Aurora**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 26, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Head of Council is required to confirm in writing his commitment to meet a municipal housing target by October 15, 2023, in order to receive Strong Mayor Powers; and

Whereas the municipality is required to submit a formal housing pledge which will outline how the municipality plans to meet the housing target by December 15, 2023; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers will result in the Head of Council being granted powers such as:

- **Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer;**
- **Hiring certain municipal department heads and establishing and re-organizing departments;**
- **Creating committees of council, assigning their functions, and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council;**
- **Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process;**
- **Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority;**

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Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 26, 2023
Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in Aurora
September 28, 2023

2 of 2

- **Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority; and**

Whereas these Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic processes executed through municipal elections; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers may also violate by-laws established in Aurora that provides accepted and legal procedures for governance; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council recognizes the important role each Councillor provides the residents in their Ward and the community-at-large;

- 1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That the Aurora Town Council opposes Strong Mayor Powers provided to the Head of Council; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That this approved Motion is to be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Paul Calandra; the Regional Municipality of York; and each of the Municipalities in Ontario.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Michael de Rond

Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.4 Councillor Weese; Re: Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in Aurora

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the Head of Council is required to confirm in writing his commitment to meet a municipal housing target by October 15, 2023, in order to receive Strong Mayor Powers; and

Whereas the municipality is required to submit a formal housing pledge which will outline how the municipality plans to meet the housing target by December 15, 2023; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers will result in the Head of Council being granted powers such as:

- Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer;
- Hiring certain municipal department heads and establishing and re-organizing departments;
- Creating committees of council, assigning their functions, and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council;
- Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process;
- Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority;
- Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority; and

Whereas these Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic processes executed through municipal elections; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers may also violate by-laws established in Aurora that provides accepted and legal procedures for governance; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council recognizes the important role each Councillor provides the residents in their Ward and the community-at-large;

1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That the Aurora Town Council opposes Strong Mayor Powers provided to the Head of Council; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That this approved Motion is to be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Paul Calandra; the Regional Municipality of York; and each of the Municipalities in Ontario.

Yeas (4): Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, and Councillor Gallo

Nays (3): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Kim

Carried (4 to 3)



905-335-7600 ext. 7702
905-335-7675
kevin.arjoon@burlington.ca

Sent via email

September 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Provincial legislation for third-party short-term rental companies

Please be advised that at its meeting held Tuesday, September 26, 2023, the Council of the City of Burlington approved the following resolution:

Whereas the demand for alternative accommodations has resulted in an increased prominence of residential properties being advertised for short term accommodations through third party companies such as Airbnb and VRBO; a shift from the 'traditional' cottage rental historically managed by a property owner; and

Whereas over the past decade a flood of properties have been removed from the ownership and long-term rental market (*Canada Research Chair in Urban Governance at McGill University*) contributing to housing shortages, increased housing demands and increased housing costs resulting in housing affordability issues, including affordable rentals; and

Whereas short term rentals (STR) can be beneficial, when operated appropriately, by providing solutions for the accommodation industry that supports local tourism and small businesses as well as providing an opportunity for property owners to generate income from their residence (permanent or seasonal) using a convenient third-party system; and

Whereas STR's can create nuisances including noise, parking, high volumes of visitors attending a property, septic capacity and fire safety, for adjacent residential property owners who wish to experience quiet enjoyment of their property; and

Whereas research indicates that demand for STR's is increasing, in part due to vacationers choosing domestic travel options as well as the financial benefits to property owners, demonstrating that STR's are here to stay; and

Whereas there are no Provincial regulations in place governing third party STR companies resulting in a variety of regulations/guidelines being implemented at the local municipal level which creates inconsistencies, confusion and frustrations for both consumers and residents across the province; and

Therefore, be it resolved that Burlington City Council calls on the Provincial Government to move forward as soon as possible to legislate all third-party short-term rental brokerage companies, for example Airbnb and VRBO, requiring them to:

- appropriately manage and be responsible for their listings, and to compel compliance; and
- establish a registry system, making it mandatory for each rental listing to register and pay an appropriate annual fee, with the requirement that STR companies are to provide the registry and collected fees to the municipality in which the STR properties are located, allowing municipalities to be aware of all registered STR properties and to have access to funds to assist with the response and enforcement of issues surrounding STR properties; and
- de-list/remove a property from the STR company's listing when a municipality has identified and verified life, health and/or nuisance infractions including noise, fire safety, septic, etc. to ensure a property cannot be rented; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities for support as well as to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Halton MPPs.

If you have any questions, please contact me at extension 7702 or the e-mail address above.

Sincerely,



Kevin Arjoon
City Clerk

Municipality of *Bluewater*

October 2, 2023

The Honourable Lisa M. Thompson
Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)
408 Queen Street, P.O. Box 426
Blyth, ON N0M 1H0

Re: Childcare availability in Ontario

Dear Minister Thompson:

The Municipality of Bluewater is concerned about the critical issue of childcare availability in our province and how it is linked to educational requirements and low wages within the childcare sector. We believe that addressing these issues is crucial for the well-being of our families and the future prosperity of Bluewater and Ontario.

Childcare availability in Ontario has become an increasingly pressing problem for parents and guardians. Access to affordable, high-quality childcare is essential for families to balance work and family responsibilities, and it plays a vital role in supporting the early development and education of our children. However, the lack of available childcare spaces is a significant barrier for many parents, limiting their ability to participate fully in the workforce and achieve financial stability.

We suspect that one of the key factors contributing to the shortage of childcare spaces is the educational requirements imposed on childcare workers. While it is important to ensure the safety and well-being of children in childcare settings, the current educational requirements may be overly restrictive. These requirements often result in a shortage of qualified childcare providers, making it challenging to expand the availability of childcare services.

This year in the Municipality of Bluewater, we have childcare facilities and before and after school programs that have closed or have reduced capacity due to lack of qualified staffing. These recent closures and capacity issues have imposed a significant amount of stress on families in our community.

Additionally, low wages within the childcare sector are a significant concern. Many qualified and passionate individuals are discouraged from pursuing a career in childcare

due to the low wages and limited opportunities for professional growth. This low-wage structure not only makes it difficult to attract and retain skilled childcare educators but also effects the quality of care children receive. Investing in the professional development and fair compensation of early childcare educators is essential to ensure that our children receive the best care possible and the best start in life.

To address these issues and improve childcare availability in Ontario, the Municipality urges you to consider the following actions:

1. **Review and Reform Educational Requirements:** Work with relevant stakeholders to review and potentially revise the training methods of early childcare educators, striking a balance between safety and accessibility by increasing the praxis model to learning.
2. **Invest in Professional Development:** Advocate for increased investment in professional development opportunities for childcare workers to enhance their skills and qualifications.
3. **Increase Wages:** Support initiatives to increase the wages of childcare workers, ensuring that they are paid a fair and competitive salary for the vital work they do.
4. **Expand Funding:** Work to secure additional funding for the expansion of childcare services and facilities, especially in underserved and rural communities.
5. **Promote Public Awareness:** Raise public awareness about the importance of accessible and high-quality childcare services and the need for policy changes.

This is an urgent matter that is expected to worsen and your timely response to these concerns is needed.

By addressing these issues, we can make significant strides toward improving childcare availability in Bluewater and Ontario and ensuring that families have the support they need to thrive. We kindly request your timely support and advocacy on these matters and would be grateful for any updates or initiatives related to childcare reform in our province.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to your continued dedication to the well-being of Ontario's families and children.

Sincerely,



Mayor Paul Klopp for the
Council of the Municipality of Bluewater

cc: Premier Doug Ford
Ben Lobb, Huron-Bruce MP
Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
All Ontario Municipalities

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: FYI – Plant trees with NVCA next spring

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Plant trees with NVCA next spring

UTOPIA, Ontario (October 3, 2023) – The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) is searching for landowners looking to plant trees in the spring of 2024. Each year, NVCA’s forestry program plants around 100,000 trees for property owners in the Nottawasaga Watershed who want to convert their land into forests.

Planting trees helps to provide wildlife habitat, shade rivers and streams, produces oxygen, among many other benefits. Well managed forests also contribute to the economy by providing wood for construction and wood fiber for products such as paper.

“In the early 1900s, as settlers established communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed, they started to clear land for farming, but the topsoil quickly eroded and sand underneath was exposed,” said Rick Grillmayer, Manager of Forestry at NVCA. “Between the 1960s and early 1990s, the Province of Ontario planted millions of trees to restore our forests. Fast forward to today, NVCA is the only organization in the watershed that offers professional tree planting services.”

NVCA has a minimum requirement of 1 hectare or approximately 2 acres of planting space. All properties must be located in the Nottawasaga Watershed, landowners can use [NVCA’s Interactive Data Viewer](#) to determine where their property is located.

Thanks to funding support from Forest Ontario’s 50 Million Trees Program, the Simcoe County Tree Planting Program, and the Town of New Tecumseth Tree Planting Program, landowners may be eligible for grants for tree planting. Grant availability depends on property size and location and range between 60-88% of tree planting costs for 2024.

Properties over 4.45 hectares or 11 acres in size may be eligible for the [Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program](#).

If you are interested in planting trees with NVCA, please contact Rick Grillmayer at rgrillmayer@nvca.on.ca or (705) 424-1479 x230. For more information on NVCA’s tree planting program, [landowners can visit the NVCA website for additional details](#).

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About NVCA: The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

Media contact: Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist, 705-424-1479 ext.254, mleung@nvca.on.ca

Maria Leung (she/her/hers)
Senior Communications Specialist

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
8195 8th Line, Utopia, ON L0M 1T0
T 705-424-1479, ext. 254
mleung@nvca.on.ca | nvca.on.ca



Town of Collingwood

97 Hurontario Street, Box 157
Collingwood, ON, L9Y 3Z5
Phone: 705-445-1030
www.collingwood.ca



New Tecumseth
Alliston · Beeton · Tottenham

New Tecumseth

10 Wellington St. E.,
Alliston, ON, L9R 1A1
Phone: 705-435-3900 or 905-729-0057
www.newtecumseth.ca

October 4, 2023

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario, M5G 2G2

Re: Provincial Partnership to Build More Homes, Support Healthcare and Economic Development in Simcoe County

Dear Minister Calandra,

On behalf of the Town of Collingwood and the Town of New Tecumseth, we congratulate you on your appointment as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. We look forward to collaborating with you and your government on achieving your goal of building 1.5 million new homes by 2031.

Currently, Collingwood and New Tecumseth are working on a large infrastructure project which will enable the construction of tens of thousands of new homes. Today, the residents of New Tecumseth receive water from a 60 km pipeline which the Provincial government helped to fund, which draws water from Georgian Bay in Collingwood. After decades of service, this shared treatment and distribution system needs increased capacity to allow both municipalities to contribute to assisting the Province with meeting the provincial goal. .

Collingwood and New Tecumseth have proposed expanding the water treatment facilities in Collingwood to enable additional capacity for almost 24,000 new homes or the equivalent in commercial or industrial uses, with an additional almost 36,000 new homes capacity enabled in easily implemented stepped increases. Unfortunately, the cost of this project grew from \$50 million eight years ago, to \$120 million in 2022, to \$270 million in 2023 when the bids for the project were received. These bids are only valid for 60 days until November 10th and are likely to only increase after they expire.

Both Collingwood and New Tecumseth lack the debt capacity and fiscal ability to cover the increase in costs to the project. Both our communities are growing quickly, and have the potential to greatly

contribute to Ontario's housing and economic growth, but only if the new water treatment plant is constructed.

The Town of Collingwood and Town of New Tecumseth seek the Government of Ontario's support in filling the funding gap for the new Water Treatment plant. This project will enable up to 24,000 new homes in Phase 1, and up to 36,000 new units in Phase 2. If the project does not proceed, only 2,000 new homes could be built with the plant's current remaining water capacity. Additional interim supply can be enabled should the expansion proceed.

In addition to building new homes, our communities also need increased water treatment capacity to support the development of a new Collingwood regional hospital and potential economic development opportunities including in the automotive sector that New Tecumseth is currently working on collaboratively with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. Essential projects could be jeopardized if we are not able address the water capacity issue in our communities.

Our municipalities are ready to leverage every tool at our disposal to ensure the underlying infrastructure exists to support our local development. However, we need to partner with the provincial government to make it happen. The partnership could include multiple dimensions such as potential grants, creative financing, removing provincial barriers to municipal debt capacity, etc.

We are requesting that you to assign the Provincial Land Development Facilitator, Paula Dill, to engage our municipal staff and co-develop a solution that they can bring to provincial and municipal decision makers. Unfortunately, time is limited. A solution must be found within the month of October or we risk having to retender the project which will undoubtedly result in a higher cost to address the necessary water capacity to build homes, support the proposed hospital and unlock economic development opportunities for our communities.

Sincerely,



Her Worship Yvonne Hamlin
Mayor of Collingwood



His Worship Richard Norcross
Mayor of New Tecumseth

CC: Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 CC: Brian Saunderson, Member of Provincial Parliament, Simcoe-Grey
 CC: Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing
 CC: Paula Dill, Provincial Land Development Facilitator, MMAH
 CC: Michael Klimuntowski, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
 CC: Aryn Azzopardi, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister of Infrastructure
 CC: Mayor Matrosovs, Town of the Blue Mountains
 CC: Mayor Measures, Clearview Township
 CC: Mayor Macdonald, Essa Township

Lisa Lehr

From: Rural Ontario Municipal Association <events@roma.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Lisa Lehr
Subject: ROMA 2024: Closer to Home

Trouble viewing this email? [View in browser](#)



ROMA 2024 Annual Conference

Closer to Home

January 21 – 23, 2024

Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

The ROMA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 2024 Annual Conference. The 2024 Conference, themed, *Closer to Home*, will provide rural municipal leaders the opportunity to address policy issues, funding concerns, and to meet directly with Provincial Ministers on local issues.

Over the past several months, the ROMA Board has continued its policy and advocacy development on ensuring rural communities have access to services *Closer to Home*. The ROMA Conference provides participants the same opportunity to advocate for their local needs by gaining insight, education, networking opportunities and access to provincial and federal leaders.

Don't miss this important event that over the last several has seen attendance grow well over 1,000.

Early Bird Registration

*Early Bird Conf. Registration
by Oct. 27 2023

*Early Bird Hotel Bookings
by Dec 20. 2023

Take advantage of Early Bird registration rates. The deadline to access these rates is **October 27, 2023** to access early bird registration rates.

[Register Here](#)

Accommodations

Visit the [ROMA Conference page](#) for information on accommodations.

Conference rates are available at the **Sheraton Centre Hotel, Hilton Toronto, and Marriott Downtown**. For information click here.

[Hotel Information](#)

Attention Sponsors and Exhibitors!

Don't be disappointed. Book your trade show booth today to ensure your participation in the ROMA Conference.

[Exhibitor Information](#)

For sponsorship information, contact Victoria van Veen at: Vvanveen@amo.on.ca

CONTACT

events@roma.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

Keep up to date with the rural municipal voice

of the province, on social media.



Website



Twitter



LinkedIn



Youtube

Our mailing address is:

200 University Avenue, Suite 801

[Home](#) /

ROMA 2024 Conference

Closer to Home

Sunday, January 21 - Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Sheraton Centre Hotel - 123 Queen Street West, Toronto

The ROMA Board of Directors is pleased to welcome you to the 2024 Annual Conference.

The 2024 Conference, themed, ***Closer to Home***, will provide rural municipal leaders the opportunity to address policy issues, funding concerns and to meet directly with Provincial Ministers on local issues.

The ROMA Board has continued its policy and advocacy development on ensuring rural communities have access to services ***Closer to Home***.

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CONTACT

events@roma.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

[Home](#) / [ROMA 2024 Conference](#) /

ROMA Conference Registration

Sunday, January 21 - Tuesday, January 23

Sheraton Centre Hotel - 123 Queen Street West, Toronto

~~*~~ Early Bird rate ends: Friday, October 27, 2023 at 4pm ~~*~~

Registration closes at 11:59 P.M. on Monday, January 15th, 2024.

On-site registration will open on Sunday, January 21st, 2024

Registration Type	Member	Non Member
Full- Early bird	* \$670.00	\$765.00
Sunday- Early bird	\$240.00	\$310.00
Monday- Early bird	\$370.00	\$530.00
Tuesday - Early bird	\$240.00	\$309.00
Full - Regular	\$730.00	\$850.00
Sunday - Regular	\$300.00	\$370.00
Monday - Regular	\$475.00	\$580.00
Tuesday - Regular	\$300.00	\$370.00

ADL

Full - Onsite	\$795.00	\$930.00
Sunday - Onsite	\$355.00	\$425.00
Monday - Onsite	\$540.00	\$680.00
Tuesday - Onsite	\$355.00	\$425.00
Student - Non municipal	n/a	\$350.00
Speaker Upgrade	-	\$470.00
Cancellation	\$95.00	\$100.00

- *Please note all cancellations must be submitted in writing via email to events@roma.on.ca.*
- *Cancellations received prior to 4:00 pm ET, November 24, 2023 will be eligible for a refund less \$95 (member) or \$100 (non-member) (plus HST) administration fee.*
- *Cancellations made after 4:00 pm are non-refundable. Registrations are transferable. An alternate name may be substituted at any time.*

CONTACT

events@roma.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

REGISTER HERE!

(Please contact amo@amo.on.ca if you require a login to register)

*Hotel has to be booked by Dec. 20, 2023 to receive group rate

ROMA Conference

Registration

Hotel Information



POLICY UPDATE

October 3, 2023

Policy Update - *Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act* Introduced and Housing Affordability Task Force Recommendations Response

***Affordable Homes, Good Jobs Act* Introduced**

On September 28, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing introduced [new legislation](#) that, if enacted, would incorporate an income component into the definition of affordable housing for the purposes of exemptions from development charges. Consistent with the approach advocated by AMO, the definition is based on the standard of housing costing no more than 30 percent of household income. Precise details are still required as part of the Minister's Affordable Housing Bulletin to enable implementation. AMO will continue to highlight for the government the importance of issuing this bulletin as soon as possible to enable municipalities to understand implications for budgets.

The bill, if enacted, would also support St. Thomas to provide municipal incentives as part of the building of an electric vehicle battery manufacturing plant; would streamline Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) decisions through regulatory change; and provide municipalities with the option of accessing Vendors of Records under Supply Chain Ontario. AMO plans to work with its Land Use Planning and Resources Task Force to make a submission to the government as part of the OLT regulatory consultation.

Housing Affordability Task Force Recommendations Response

At its meeting on September 29th, the AMO Board considered the recent request made by Minister Calandra to mayors across Ontario regarding their views on the recommendations of the Housing Affordability Task Force. The Minister has requested that all heads of council respond to the request by **October 16th** or risk financial penalties for their municipality. AMO had previously requested that the ministry extend the deadline to allow mayors to consult with councils, however the request was not granted. AMO urges *all* members who received a letter from the Minister –

including those without provincial housing targets – to meet this deadline to remain eligible for investments under the Building Faster Fund.

To support members as consider their response, the AMO Board has [sent a letter to Minister Calandra](#) and stated that the letter would be shared with all municipal governments. While mayors will each make individual decisions that reflect local circumstances, AMO states that at a sector-level, **municipalities conditionally support all Task Force recommendations** with a few exceptions, provided that the government puts in place:

1. A **fair and sustainable funding framework** to support infrastructure and growth, that is not unduly subsidized by existing property taxpayers;
2. A **comprehensive, sequenced implementation plan** that gives both developers and municipalities certainty regarding costs and rules to support effective long-term decision-making;
3. An **accountability framework** that accurately recognizes the roles and responsibilities of different housing partners and does not hold municipalities accountable for the actions of developers or provincial ministries. Mechanisms must be included to ensure that public investments are tied to outcomes in the public interest;
4. A core focus on **non-market housing**, which was not within the mandate of the Housing Affordability Task Force. A robust non-market housing sector is a critical part of a well-functioning overall housing system and needs to be prioritized by governments.
5. A **public policy review by the Ontario Public Service** verifying that each recommendation is feasible, likely to result in increased housing supply and/or affordability and is in the public interest.

The letter identifies top recommendations from the Task Force for prioritization, as well as three recommendations that AMO objects to on principle.

AMO has previously stated that the government has chosen its own path in addressing the housing crisis in Ontario, despite the advice of municipalities, and will be accountable for its outcomes. AMO has also stated that municipalities will do everything within their power to help the province to achieve its housing targets and outcomes. The AMO Board believes that the response outlined in the letter is reflective of this approach.

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Sarah Corbett

Subject:

RE: County Council Highlights - Meeting Held September 26, 2023



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting on September 26** and the **Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 12, 2023**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the [County's YouTube channel](#).

- Service Simcoe

2023/24 Ontario Renal Network Operating
Funding Agreement for Trillium Manor

A14a

Trillium Manor supports the delivery of peritoneal dialysis services to residents within Trillium Manor who require them. The program is managed and funded through Ontario Health.

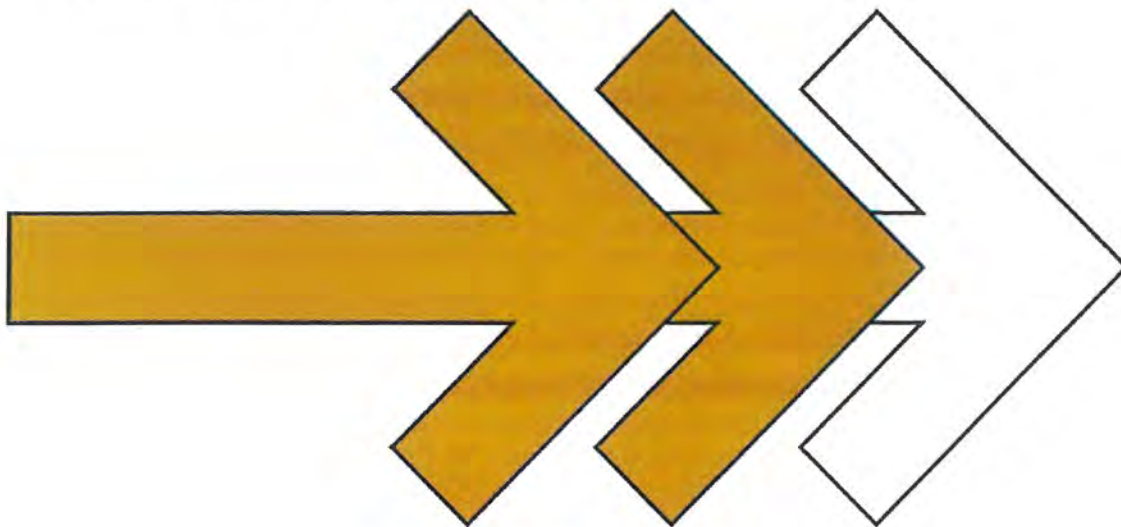
Both Simcoe Manor and Trillium Manor have had agreements in place to provide peritoneal dialysis to residents for several years. This service is provided in partnership with Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, the Ontario Renal Network, Cancer Care Ontario, and Ontario Health.

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the funding agreement, which will allow Trillium Manor residents to receive hemodialysis treatment within their home rather than at the regional dialysis centre resulting in less disruption in their daily lives and transportation costs.

COUNTY OF SIMCOE

TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

Phase II: Transportation Network Development
Roads, Transit and Active Transportation



41

Click on the image above to read the Transportation Master Plan Update.

Transportation Master Plan Update - Project Progress

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update project that is currently in progress, along with an overview of the progress that has been made.

The work plan for the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update has been developed into a four-phase plan, with public and stakeholder consultation and communication activities conducted throughout.

Phase II and Phase III Reports were published on the County's TMP webpage on June 22, 2023, providing the opportunity for key stakeholders to submit their comments.

At present, the project team is actively engaged in the process of determining how best to address the comments that have been received. Council will receive a review of the recommendations in the near future.



Blue Box Transition and Collection Week Change

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the provincial Blue Box Transition and the associated collection week change.

Part of the provincial Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act requires that the producers of blue box material set up their own collection system by January 1, 2026, with a transition period from July 1, 2023, through to December 31, 2025. The County of Simcoe was provided a transition date of January 1, 2024.

In negotiation with Circular Materials Ontario (CMO)–the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) acting on behalf of producers to set up the collection system–the County has agreed to continue to provide the recycling services on their behalf from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025. For this period there will be no change to the method of collection or the types of materials being collected.

As of January 1, 2026, there is still a possibility, though unlikely, that the County may continue to be responsible for curbside recycling collection. It is more likely that CMO will contract separately for these services and the

County of Simcoe will no longer be responsible for collecting recycling material from residences.

Collection Week Change

As of January 1, 2024, the County of Simcoe will no longer be required to transfer recycling collected curbside. CMO has contracted their own transfer facility located in the City of Barrie to transfer this material. This means that the County's collection trucks will be required to empty recycling at the location designated by CMO and then proceed to the County's transfer station to empty organics.

To accommodate these changes, our bi-weekly cart collection rotation will change for some areas of the County. Impacted households will have two consecutive recycling collection weeks (November 27-30 and December 4-7). These households are permitted one additional garbage bag (to be placed beside their cart) on their next garbage week (December 11-14). More information will be made available at simcoe.ca/collectionschange, and a targeted communications and marketing campaign will provide advanced notice to impacted households.

2024 High Level Draft Budget Assumptions

As outlined during the 2023 Budget presentation, the County's operating balance has reduced significantly over the last few years due to efforts to provide modest tax rate increases. This has increased the gap between funding and cost inflation. In addition, cost increases are significant in many areas such as construction, supplies, insurance and other external factors which adds to the need for additional funding to meet growing service and capital project demands. To enable staff to present a responsible, prudent, but forward thinking budget to Council for their review, staff requested that they be permitted to present a draft budget with a Tax Levy increase in the range of 2% for asset management and 3% for operating expenses for a combined increase of approximately 5% for

A14a

2024 for Council's review. This is after some significant efforts to reduce impacts. A number of other municipalities in Ontario have communicated similar needs and pressures in developing their 2024 budget request.

On September 26, 2023, following Council deliberations, Council approved the budget assumptions, which directs staff to incorporate the proposed rates into the 2024 County of Simcoe draft budget. The budget review process will begin with Council receiving the proposed draft budget during a special budget meeting and then will have opportunities to review and recommend changes if desired. Budget approvals will follow these discussions in late 2023.



Click on the image above to learn more about the County Orillia Campus at the former ODCVI.

Request for Approval – Orillia Campus

Leaseholds – SCS Division

45

As part of a purposeful design within the Orillia Campus project, the Social and Community Services (SCS) Division will operate a satellite office to ensure that residents and neighbouring community members have access to essential community and social services. This includes services delivered within the SCS Division, such as Ontario Works, Community Services, Social Housing and Children Services.

On September 26, 2023, Council approved the County portion of the leasehold and equipment costs for the satellite office, with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services funding the remaining 50%.

Council Meeting Agenda - September 26, 2023

Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - September 12, 2023

FOLLOW US



[EXTERNAL]



Release

County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Simcoe County celebrates World Tourism Day with the relaunch of the “Spark” Mentorships & Grants Program

Midhurst/September 27, 2023 – The County of Simcoe, Regional Tourism Organization 7, and the Tourism Innovation Lab are celebrating World Tourism Day on September 27 with the relaunch of a mentorships and grants program designed to “spark” and support entrepreneurs and organizations with innovative tourism ideas for Simcoe County.

The “Spark” Program was first launched in 2018 by the Tourism Innovation Lab and has now been delivered in over 40 regions across Ontario and British Columbia. Its goal is to find, foster and support new tourism ideas that will enhance current offerings, address gaps or challenges, motivate travel and longer stays, increase year-round visits.

In 2022, three selected applicants were matched with a mentor and provided \$3,000 in seed funds to help them get started with their new tourism ideas. Previous Simcoe County recipients successfully pitched poetry concerts, art experiences, and year-round nature retreats and adventures.

For this second “Spark” Program application intake, organizers are especially interested in tourism ideas that will incorporate, address and advance sustainability, waterways and Indigenous tourism in Simcoe County. Individual entrepreneurs, small businesses, non-profits and community groups are encouraged to apply with their new tourism ideas for Simcoe County **by October 26, 2023**. Following a juried review process, five finalists will be invited to virtual Pitch Session where three winners will be selected to receive mentorships and grants.

The Simcoe County “Spark” Program is led by the Tourism Innovation Lab in collaboration with Tourism Simcoe County and Regional Tourism Organization 7. For more information and to register for an Info Session, visit www.tourisminnovation.ca/SimcoeCounty.

Quotes

“The success of our small businesses is essential to support the future of Simcoe County. The County is pleased to work with our tourism partners again to build up this program in our area. The ‘Spark’ Program is a great way to help our entrepreneurs succeed and encourage new tourism ideas within Simcoe County. I look forward to seeing the creative ideas flow and our tourism sector continue to grow.”

~ Basil Clarke, Warden, County of Simcoe

“We are excited to see Simcoe County launch the second round of the ‘Spark’ program with the Innovation Lab. We’ve seen the benefits to local entrepreneurs in Simcoe County as they launched and grow their ideas. We can’t wait to see what the ideas and experiences are.”

~Bill Sullivan, RTO7

“After a great response in 2022, we are excited to be launching the second round of the “Spark” Program in Simcoe County. We encourage entrepreneurs, small businesses and organizations across the region to come forward with innovative ideas that will elevate Simcoe County’s tourism offerings and experiences and inspire travel to the region.”

~ Justin Lafontaine, Program Lead, Tourism Innovation Lab

About Tourism Simcoe County

Tourism Simcoe County (TSC) promotes Simcoe County as a four season destination of choice by developing products and experiences and executing comprehensive marketing campaigns across a variety of multimedia platforms. TSC provides tourism leadership throughout Simcoe County by developing the local tourism industry and forging and strengthening community partnerships. TSC is committed to supporting the sustainable growth of the region's tourism assets, including, but not limited to, Agritourism, Arts, Culture and Heritage Tourism, Indigenous Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.

About Tourism Innovation Lab

The Tourism Innovation Lab is a non-profit initiative created to find, foster and support new tourism ideas, experiences and partnerships, to cultivate and propel collaborations between the tourism and tech sectors, and to build a community of tourism innovators, idea makers and entrepreneurs in Canada. First launched in 2018, the Lab and its "Spark" Mentorships & Grants Program are now offered across Ontario and British Columbia. The Tourism Innovation Lab is a program of Hackforge and is based in Windsor, ON and Squamish, BC.

- 30 -

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Social Media

	<i>Tourism Simcoe County</i>	<i>Tourism Innovation Lab</i>	<i>RT07</i>
<i>Facebook</i>	@experiencesimcoecounty	@tourisminnovationcanada	@RT07Connection
<i>Instagram</i>	@experiencesimcoecounty	@tourisminnovationcanada	@RT07Connection
<i>Twitter</i>	@simcoecountyTSC	@tourinnovation	@RT07Connection



Joint Release

County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County of Simcoe and City of Orillia creating conditions for attainable housing across the region

Midhurst/September 28, 2023 – The County of Simcoe and the City of Orillia are partnering to build up our communities through a new Housing Attainable Supply Action Plan (Housing ASAP). This plan will support residents in the “missing middle” who are looking for housing at a reasonable price in the communities that they love.

The Housing ASAP project will help the governments create the conditions needed for more attainable housing offered by the private market in communities throughout the region. It aims to identify and develop strategies and tactics for the regional and local governments to implement or advocate for over the next five years.

This project will answer three fundamental questions related to attainable housing within Simcoe County and the City of Orillia:

1. **What is Attainable?** In each sub-region of the County, what is the target sale price and target rent that is within reach of the working individual and family?
2. **What is Missing?** What are the number and types of dwellings that need to be integrated into each sub-region for the private sector to deliver market-based housing that is attainable?
3. **How can we Help?** What can municipalities do to help facilitate the attainable units that are needed?

The project has been divided into four components:

- **Component 1** - Gap Analysis, Background Review
- **Component 2** - Public and Stakeholder Engagement
- **Component 3** - Best Practices & Potential Solutions Review
- **Component 4** - Recommended Action

Information, including a Housing Needs Assessment, will be provided to Councils in Orillia and the County in the coming weeks. Details can be found in the City of Orillia's [Council Information Package](#) and on the [County of Simcoe's](#) Affordable Housing Advisory Committee agendas. The next step of the project will be to garner public and stakeholder input later this fall.

THE HOUSING CONTINUUM



The housing continuum represents the spectrum of housing types available from very low to above moderate-income households. Housing ASAP focuses on the areas from "Affordable Rental Housing" to "Market Home Ownership" portion of the Housing Continuum.

Attainable Housing is sometimes referred to as the "missing middle". Attainable Housing is only a segment along the Housing Continuum. Attainable Housing is providing affordable rental and homeownership opportunities offered by the private market, as opposed to social housing, subsidized housing, transitional housing, emergency shelters, etc.

For more information on the Housing Supply Action Plan (Housing ASAP) and other local strategies for housing across Simcoe County, visit simcoe.ca/housing. For information on the City of Orillia's plans for housing, visit orillia.ca/housing.

Quotes

"This plan is coming at a time that is critical to our communities across the region. Our residents know the cost of living is increasing at a rapid and uncomfortable pace and we want to assure them that the County and its partners are working together to ensure that they have the conditions needed to thrive in our communities. I am pleased that the City of Orillia has partnered with us on the Housing ASAP project and look forward to hearing real solutions that balance the growth of our communities with a price tag that ordinary people can afford."

~ *Warden Basil Clarke, County of Simcoe*

"Housing attainability is a significant concern in Orillia. We are taking actions to address this, including hiring a housing coordinator and working with our partners at the County of Simcoe to find strategies to reduce the price of rental units and the cost of housing. We look forward to receiving the recommendations from the Draft Housing Attainable Supply Action Plan once complete and continuing our partnership with the County and other levels of government to work together to create solutions for housing in our community."

~ *Mayor Don McIsaac, City of Orillia*

About County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

- 30 -

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County of Simcoe Paramedics honoured with Exemplary Service Medals

Midhurst/October 2, 2023 – Ten County of Simcoe Paramedic Services members were honoured at the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs Annual General Meeting Awards Dinner and Gala, held Thursday, September 28 at Blue Mountain in Grey County.

Director and Chief Sarah Mills was joined by Deputy Chief Patrick Hervieux, Platoon Supervisor Frank Potter, and Paramedics Shannon Bacci, Laura Gillies, Mark Hildebrandt, Cory Schepers, Owen Van Dyke and Doug Whiffen as recipients of the Governor General Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 2023 Medal for 20 Years of Exemplary Service. Paramedic Ben Valentine received the 2023 First Bar for 30 Years of Exemplary Service.

The EMS Exemplary Service Medal is a national honour presented by the Governor General of Canada recognizing professionals in the provision of pre-hospital emergency medical services to the public, who have performed their duties in an exemplary manner, characterized by good conduct, industry, and efficiency. Recipients must have completed 20 years of exemplary service, including at least 10 years in the performance of duties involving potential risk.

Quotes

“These honourees have and continue to provide the highest quality care to their communities during difficult and distressing times. Their professionalism, dedication and leadership are inspiring to those they so selflessly serve.” ~ *Basil Clarke, Warden, County of Simcoe*

“I couldn’t be prouder of not only the incredible men and women honoured, but all County of Simcoe Paramedics. The care they provide, the skills they have and the strength and empathy they show to not only their patients but to each other are second to none. Thank you for serving the County of Simcoe with such distinction.” ~ *Sarah Mills, Director and Chief, County of Simcoe Paramedic Services*

About the County of Simcoe

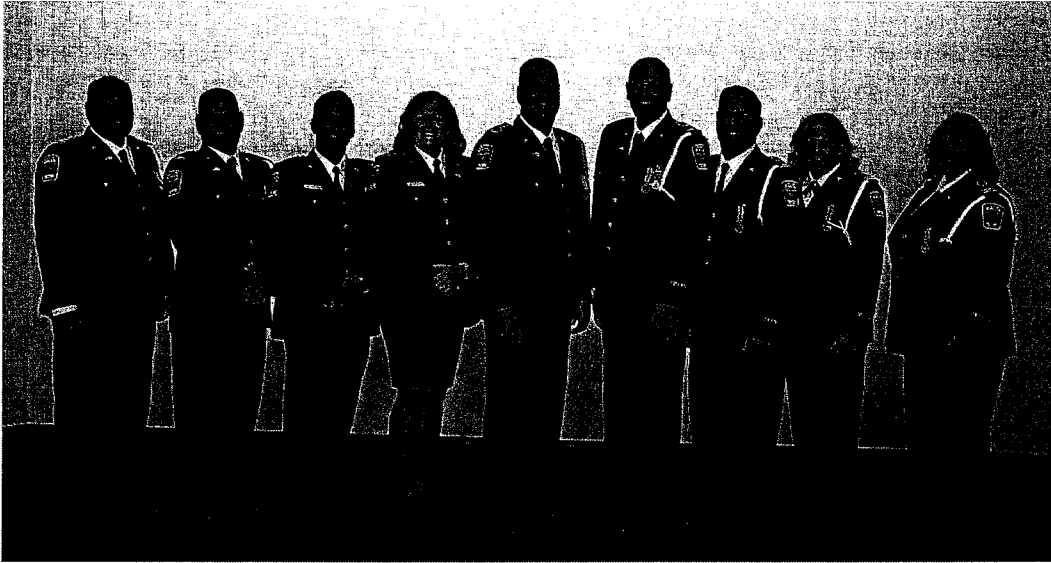
County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

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(L to R: Cory Schepers, Doug Whiffen, Patrick Hervieux, Sarah Mills, Frank Potter, Owen Van Dyke, Mark Hildebrandt, Shannon Bacci, and Laura Gillies)

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Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



County presents homelessness winter response plan

Midhurst/October 10, 2023 – Earlier today, County Council was presented with the proposed homelessness services' winter response plan for 2023-2024. As part of the County's 10-point homelessness prevention strategy, this winter response plan highlights proposed actions to support our unhoused population throughout the coldest months of the year.

"We recognize the need for additional supports throughout the winter months to ensure that no one is left out in the cold who is seeking a space indoors," said General Manager Mina Fayez-Bahgat. "County Council continues its significant commitment and support to our social and community services actions, ideas and strategies. As needs increase in our region, Council and staff are taking a proactive approach to build up the lives of those who need our support the most."

The winter response plan outlines the County's enhanced support with:

- winter warming centres – opening 7 days per week during the winter months
- additional mobile response outreach teams supporting additional warming and transportation to shelters during inclement weather
- activation for alternate spaces and temporary overflow beds in shelters, with up to an additional 107 available spaces, over and above the 224 shelter beds already in the system
- new tools to assist the public, service providers, and municipalities in accessing live to-the-minute data on each local homeless shelter's current bed capacity

The real-time data available through the new homelessness dashboard will allow the public and stakeholders to see exactly where and when spaces are available and allow the County and its partners to plan ahead and monitor effectiveness of the long-term strategy. The development of this dashboard will continue to help the County make the best decisions and implement its 10-point homelessness strategy.

This is just one more way that the County is **#BuildingUp** our communities. For updates on how the County of Simcoe is investing in our region, visit simcoe.ca/BuildingUp.

About the County's 10-point Homelessness Prevention Strategy

The County of Simcoe's 10-point Homelessness Prevention Strategy provides a strong, data-driven plan to help vulnerable residents and our communities. The strategy includes a considerable added investment toward the goal of preventing and ending chronic homelessness.

The strategy makes affordable housing even more attainable by increasing supply, creating "deep rent subsidies," increasing eviction prevention services and improving available shelter. It commits the County to find new housing opportunities, enhancing community shelter services

and standards, and improving safety and well-being throughout the community. For further details and ongoing updates to the homelessness prevention plan, visit simcoe.ca/HomelessnessSystem.

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