

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

1. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO):
 - p. 1 a) September 27, 2019 – AMO Board Highlights and Policy Items You Need To Know.
 - p. 5 b) October 1, 2019 – AMO Submits Report to Attorney General on Liability and Insurance Cost Reforms.
 - p. 25 c) October 10, 2019 – Province Appoints Advisor for Public Health and Emergency Health Services Consultations.

2. Correspondence from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA):
 - p. 27 a) September 27, 2019 - NVCA Board Meeting Highlights.
 - p. 29 b) September 30, 2019 – NVCA Draft Budget – 2020.

- p. 39 3. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Annual Community Report (2018-2019).

4. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
 - p. 51 a) October 8, 2019 – Committee of the Whole Report CCW-2019-336, re: Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS).
 - p. 58 b) October 10, 2019 – Media Release, re: Community Partners Open Lucy’s Place.
 - p. 61 c) County Council Highlights.

- p. 63 5. Correspondence from the Essa Public Library, re: Interlibrary Loan Update from Essa Public Library Staff.

- p. 64 6. Notice of Public Meeting from the Township of Clearview, re: Official Plan Review.

- p. 66 7. Essa Historical Society Listing of Upcoming Programs (2019-2020).

- p. 67 8. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) dated October 9, 2019, re: Implementation to Schedule 2, Conservation Authorities Act, Bill 108.

B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

None to be presented.

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

None to be presented.

Lisa Lehr

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: September 27, 2019 5:02 PM
To: Lisa Lehr
Subject: AMO Board Highlights and Policy Items You Need To Know

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#) | [Send to a friend](#)
Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list



September 27, 2019

AMO Board Highlights and Policy Items You Need To Know

September 27th AMO Board Highlights

To keep members informed, AMO provides updates on important issues considered at AMO Board of Directors' meetings. Highlights of today's meeting include:

AMO President Jamie McGarvey created a [video overview](#) of today's AMO Board meeting.

Joint and Several Liability Reform Submission

The Board considered and approved a submission to the Attorney General which includes key recommendations which address municipal impacts related to joint and several liability. Next week the AMO paper will be distributed to all municipal councils for consideration and endorsement.

Paramedic Services: New Models of Patient Care

AMO will respond to Ontario's regulatory posting on implementing new models of care for select low acuity 9-1-1 patients. If enacted, the regulations under the *Ambulance Act* will provide more flexibility for paramedics to treat patients in other ways than taking them to an emergency department. AMO will emphasize the need to improve dispatch before the new models' implementation. Municipal governments and District

Social Service Administration Boards can respond to the regulatory posting by October 6th.

Blue Box Program

Blue Box is transitioning to full producer responsibility. Municipal councils will need to make big decisions on how this will occur in your community. Watch for regional workshops, webinars and update bulletins from AMO this fall.

Conservation Authorities (CAs)

The Board has identified some transition considerations for Bill 108 conservation authority-related changes. Additional information is needed from the Ministry regarding what activities, to what level of detail, are required to support the mandated roles of CAs. AMO is working with Conservation Ontario on a template for the creation of MOUs between CAs and municipal governments. The template is a sample and municipal governments are free to negotiate items. Finally, there are local considerations that will require some coordination.

Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

The AMO Board is largely supportive of the changes to the PPS. Many clarifications and increased flexibility are welcomed. Some councils may encounter tension between this increased flexibility and the requirements for environmental protections. Additional guidance for low growth, rural and northern use of the PPS, similar to that provided in 2014, is requested. Prior to implementing the PPS, a number of provincial guidance documents are needed. It is important that appropriate guidance on Indigenous engagement not download the Crown's Duty to Consult but rather demonstrates how municipal governments can be helpful in supporting this Crown responsibility. Consultation ends October 21st.

Social Assistance Reform Update

AMO staff provided the AMO Board with an update on social assistance reform and sought direction on AMO's advocacy approach on the elimination of Transitional Child Benefit and changes to the definition of 'disability.' If the Transitional Child Benefit is eliminated municipal governments may be left to fill in the gap to keep low-income families, particularly refugee claimants, housed. This will negatively impact families and will create fiscal challenges for municipal governments. AMO will advocate for the decision to eliminate this benefit to be reversed. On the proposed change to the definition of disability, AMO will seek assurances from the province that the change will not add costs to municipal governments. Changes to the definition may lead to increases in the Ontario Works caseload with potential impacts on municipal service delivery costs.

E-Scooter Pilot Framework

The AMO Board approved sending a letter to the Minister of Transportation highlighting municipal concerns with the provincial government's proposed e-scooter

Ab

pilot framework. Of great concern are the proposed timeframe for the pilot launch, the proposed speed limit, data collection requirements, municipal liability protections and the need to ensure a municipal say in regulating e-scooters locally.

Provincial Data Strategy

The provincial government has released a second discussion paper towards the development of an Ontario Data Strategy. Comments are due October 9th. The AMO board approved responding positively to the discussion paper, emphasizing the need to ensure access to fast reliable broadband across Ontario and the need for provincial supports to enable widespread municipal data sharing with businesses and the public. AMO staff will continue to work with the province to respond to future discussion papers of municipal interest.

Municipal Policy items you need to know

AMO Fall Policy Forum – October 24/25

AMO is hosting a two-day Policy Forum in London, Ontario on October 24 & 25, 2019. The Forum is open to municipal elected officials and senior municipal staff. In this time of constant change, it is an event not to be missed. For more information and to register, click [here](#) or email events@amo.on.ca.

Long-Term Care Funding Extension

Earlier in 2019, the province changed the funding model for long-term care. While there was a 1.7% overall increase in the funding envelope, the funding model changes resulted in significant in-year reductions for municipal homes. AMO, municipal governments and AdvantAge Ontario, a staff association representing municipal homes, asked for a reconsideration of the changes. It is therefore welcome news to hear that the Minister of Long-Term Care is extending the funding change implementation timeline while exploring alternatives. The ministry will be consulting on a new small capital program and developing a long-term care staffing strategy. AMO thanks the government for its responsiveness and looks forward to working with the ministry on the design of new funding programs + the staffing strategy.

Aggregates Consultation

MNRF has announced a consultation on changes to the *Aggregates Resources Act* which ends November 4th. Key elements under consideration are the proposal to require a new application rather than an amendment if a producer wants to extract below water level, clarification around the limits to zoning, and preventing the LPAT imposition of haul route agreements.

Broadband Strategy Released

On July 23, 2019, the Government released "Up to Speed: Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Action Plan." The Strategy includes a commitment to launch a \$150 million

Ala

provincial broadband and cellular infrastructure program beginning in 2020-2021. AMO will provide updates as further details become available.

Prompt Payment & Adjudication in Force October 1st

As of October 1st, the *Construction Act* is now in full force and effect. This will have significant impacts to municipal procurement practices, both as an owner of infrastructure projects, and as individual homeowners. For more information, click [here](#).

Building Services Transformation

The provincial government has announced a consultation on the transformation of building code services. A [discussion paper](#) has been posted online and is open for municipal input until November 25th. Regional information sessions will also be held in Chatham-Kent, Belleville, North Bay and Vaughan. Notably, the province is proposing to create a new delegated administrative authority to provide services to the building sector and streamline the building code process. AMO will analyze the discussion paper and report back to the AMO board.

For more information on any of these items, contact AMO's Policy team at policy@amo.on.ca.

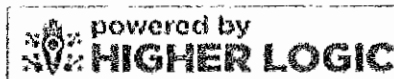
*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)



Lisa Lehr

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 1, 2019 3:23 PM
To: Lisa Lehr
Subject: AMO submits report to Attorney General on liability and insurance cost reforms

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#) | [Send to a friend](#)
Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list



October 1, 2019

AMO submits report to Attorney General on liability and insurance cost reforms

On September 27, the AMO Board approved a submission on joint and several liability entitled, "*A Reasonable Balance: Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs.*" Earlier today, AMO President Jamie McGarvey forwarded the report to the Attorney General, The Honourable Doug Downey for consideration.

Municipal councils are encouraged to endorse the report and its recommendations. The Ministry of the Attorney General has agreed to accept municipal resolutions up until November 1, 2019. Resolutions can be sent to the Attorney General at doug.downeyco@pc.ola.org and magpolicy@ontario.ca or by writing to:

The Honourable Doug Downey
Attorney General of Ontario
McMurtry-Scott Building,
720 Bay St, 11th Floor,
Toronto, ON
M7A 2S9

The report includes seven key recommendations on actions which the government could take to reduce the negative impact of joint and several liability. It builds on previous reports and resolutions submitted in 2010, 2011, and 2014. Please see the report for more details.

A1b

AMO thanks those municipalities that have contributed to the government's consultation to date. If you have not already done so, please provide a copy of your submission to the AMO President at amopresident@amo.on.ca.

For questions related to the report, please contact AMO Senior Advisor Matthew Wilson at mwilson@amo.on.ca or at 416-971-9856 ext. 323.

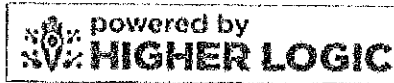
*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



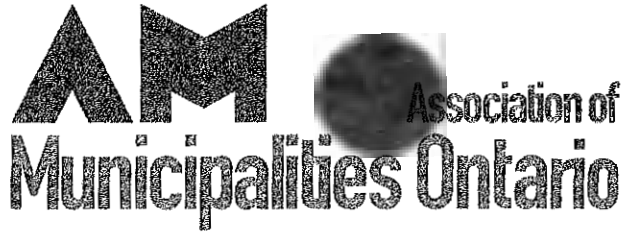
Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)



6



Towards a Reasonable Balance:

Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs

Submission to the Attorney General of Ontario

October 1, 2019



Table of Contents

Letter to the Attorney General of Ontario..... 3

Executive Summary 5

Recommendations 7

Insurance Cost Examples..... 8

Joint and Several in Action - Recent Examples 9

Joint and Several Liability in Action - Other notable cases 11

2011 Review of Joint and Several Liability – Law Commission of Ontario 11

2014 Resolution by the Ontario Legislature and Review by the Attorney General 12

Options for Reform - The Legal Framework..... 13

The Saskatchewan Experience..... 15

Insurance Related Reforms..... 17

Conclusion..... 18



Office of the President

Sent via email to: doug.downeyco@pc.ola.org
magpolicy@ontario.ca

October 1, 2019

The Honourable Doug Downey
Attorney General of Ontario
McMurtry-Scott Building, 11th Floor
720 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2S9

Dear Attorney General Downey,

Municipal governments accept the responsibility to pay their fair share of a loss. Always. Making it right and paying a fair share are the cornerstones of our legal system. Citizens expect nothing less of their local governments.

But what is a challenge for municipalities and property taxpayers alike, is being asked to assume someone else's responsibility for someone else's mistake. Municipal governments should not be the insurer of last resort. For municipalities in Ontario, however, the principle of joint and several liability ensures that they are just that.

Joint and several liability means higher insurance costs. It diverts property tax dollars from delivering public services. It has transformed municipalities into litigation targets while others escape responsibility. It forces municipal government to settle out-of-court for excessive amounts when responsibility is as low as 1%.

There must be a better way. There must be a better way to help ensure those who suffer losses are made whole again without asking municipalities to bear that burden alone. There must be a better way to be fair, reasonable, and responsible.

AMO welcomes the government's commitment to review joint and several liability. It is a complex issue that has many dimensions. Issues of fairness, legal principles, "liability chill", insurance failures and high insurance costs are all intertwined. Many other jurisdictions have offered additional protection for municipalities and AMO calls on the Ontario government to do the same.

What follows is a starting point for that discussion. Our paper reasserts key issues from AMO's 2010 paper, AMO's 2011 insurance cost survey, provides more recent examples, and details some possible solutions of which there are many options.

Municipalities are in the business of delivering public services. Municipal governments exist to connect people and to advance the development of a community. It is time to find a reasonable balance to prevent the further scaling back of public services owing to joint and several liability, "liability chill", or excessive insurance costs.

Aib



**Towards a Reasonable Balance:
Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs**

Together with the provincial government, I am confident we can find a better way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JMCG', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jamie McGarvey
AMO President



Executive Summary

AMO's advocacy efforts on joint and several liability in no way intends for aggrieved parties to be denied justice or damages through the courts. Rather, municipal governments seek to highlight the inequity of how much "deep pocket" defendants like municipalities are forced to pay, for both in and out of court settlements.

It is entirely unfair to ask property taxpayers to carry the lion's share of a damage award when a municipality is found at minimal fault or to assume responsibility for someone else's mistake.

Municipal governments cannot afford to be the insurer of last resort. The principle of joint and several liability is costing municipalities and taxpayers dearly, in the form of rising insurance premiums, service reductions and fewer choices. The *Negligence Act* was never intended to place the burden of insurer of last resort on municipalities.

As public organizations with taxation power and "deep pockets," municipalities have become focal points for litigation when other defendants do not have the means to pay. At the same time, catastrophic claim awards in Ontario have increased considerably. In part, joint and several liability is fueling exorbitant increases in municipal insurance premiums.

The heavy insurance burden and legal environment is unsustainable for Ontario's communities. Despite enormous improvements to safety, including new standards for playgrounds, pool safety, and better risk management practices, municipal insurance premiums and liability claims continue to increase. All municipalities have risk management policies to one degree or another and most large municipalities now employ risk managers precisely to increase health and safety and limit liability exposure in the design of facilities, programs, and insurance coverage. Liability is a top of mind consideration for all municipal councils.

Joint and several liability is problematic not only because of the disproportioned burden on municipalities that are awarded by courts. It is also the immeasurable impact of propelling municipalities to settle out of court to avoid protracted and expensive litigation for amounts that may be excessive, or certainly represent a greater percentage than their degree of fault.

Various forms of proportionate liability have now been enacted by all of Ontario's competing Great Lakes states. In total, 38 other states south of the border have adopted proportionate liability in specific circumstances to the benefit of municipalities. Many common law jurisdictions around the world have adopted legal reforms to limit the exposure and restore balance. With other Commonwealth jurisdictions and the majority of state governments in the United States having modified the rule of joint and several liability in favour of some form of proportionate liability, it is time for Ontario to consider various options.

There is precedence in Ontario for joint and several liability reform. The car leasing lobby highlighted a particularly expensive court award made in November of 2004 against a car leasing company by the victim of a drunk driver. The August 1997 accident occurred when the car skidded off a county road near Peterborough, Ontario. It exposed the inequity of joint and several liability for car leasing companies. The leasing companies argued to the government that the settlement had put them at a competitive disadvantage to lenders. They also warned that such liability conditions would likely drive some leasing and rental companies to reduce their business in Ontario. As a result, Bill 18 amended the *Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act*, the *Highway Traffic*

Act and the Ontario *Insurance Act* to make renters and lessees vicariously liable for the negligence of automobile drivers and capped the maximum liability of owners of rental and leased cars at \$1 million. While Bill 18 has eliminated the owners of leased and rented cars as "deep pocket" defendants, no such restrictions have been enacted to assist municipalities.

A 2011 survey conducted by AMO reveals that since 2007, liability premiums have increased by 22.2% and are among the fastest growing municipal costs. Total 2011 Ontario municipal insurance costs were \$155.2 million. Liability premiums made up the majority of these expenses at \$85.5 million. Property taxpayers are paying this price.

These trends are continuing. In August of 2019, it was reported the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury faces a 59% insurance cost increase for 2019. This is just one example. AMO encourages the municipal insurance industry to provide the government with more recent data and trends to support the industry's own arguments regarding the impact joint and several has on premiums.

Insurance costs disproportionately affect small municipalities. For 2011, the per capita insurance costs for communities with populations under 10,000 were \$37.56. By comparison, per capita costs in large communities with populations over 75,000 were \$7.71. Property taxpayers in one northern community are spending more on insurance than their library. In one southern county, for every \$2 spent on snowplowing roads, another \$1 is spent on insurance.

In 2016, the Ontario Municipal Insurance Exchange (OMEX), a not-for-profit insurer, announced that it was suspending reciprocal underwriting operations. The organization cited, a "low pricing environment, combined with the impact of joint and several liability on municipal claim settlements" as reasons for the decision. Fewer choices fuels premium increases.

Learning from other jurisdictions is important for Ontario. The Province of Saskatchewan has implemented liability reforms to support its municipalities. As a municipal lawyer at the time, Neil Robertson, QC was instrumental in laying out the arguments in support of these changes. Now a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan, AMO was pleased to have Neil Robertson prepare a paper and address AMO conference delegates in 2013. Much of the Saskatchewan municipal experience (which led to reforms) is applicable to the Ontario and the Canadian municipal context. Summarised below and throughout this paper are some of Robertson's key findings.

Robertson found that, regardless of the cause, over the years municipalities in Canada have experienced an accelerating rate of litigation and an increase in amounts of damage awards. He noted these developments challenge municipalities and raise financial, operational and policy issues in the provision of public services.

Robertson describes the current Canadian legal climate as having placed municipalities in the role of involuntary insurer. Courts have assigned municipal liability where liability was traditionally denied and apportioned fault to municipal defendants out of proportion to municipal involvement in the actual wrong.

This increased exposure to liability has had serious ramifications for municipalities, both as a deterrent to providing public services which may give rise to claims and in raising the cost and reducing the availability of insurance. The cost of claims has caused insurers to reconsider not only



what to charge for premiums, but whether to continue offering insurance coverage to municipal clients.

Robertson also makes the key point that it is reasonable for municipal leaders to seek appropriate statutory protections. He wrote:

"Since municipalities exist to improve the quality of life for their citizens, the possibility of causing harm to those same citizens is contrary to its fundamental mission. Careful management and wise stewardship of public resources by municipal leaders will reduce the likelihood of such harm, including adherence to good risk management practices in municipal operations. But wise stewardship also involves avoiding the risk of unwarranted costs arising from inevitable claims."

And, of course, a key consideration is the reality that insurance premiums, self-insurance costs, and legal fees divert municipal funds from other essential municipal services and responsibilities.

It is in this context that AMO appreciated the commitments made by the Premier and the Attorney General to review the principle of joint and several liability, the impact it has on insurance costs, and the influence "liability chill" has on the delivery of public services. Now is the time to deliver provincial public policy solutions which address these issues.

Recommendations

AMO recommends the following measures to address these issues:

1. The provincial government adopt a model of full proportionate liability to replace joint and several liability.
2. Implement enhancements to the existing limitations period including the continued applicability of the existing 10-day rule on slip and fall cases given recent judicial interpretations, and whether a 1-year limitation period may be beneficial.
3. Implement a cap for economic loss awards.
4. Increase the catastrophic impairment default benefit limit to \$2 million and increase the third-party liability coverage to \$2 million in government regulated automobile insurance plans.
5. Assess and implement additional measures which would support lower premiums or alternatives to the provision of insurance services by other entities such as non-profit insurance reciprocals.
6. Compel the insurance industry to supply all necessary financial evidence including premiums, claims, and deductible limit changes which support its, and municipal arguments as to the fiscal impact of joint and several liability.
7. Establish a provincial and municipal working group to consider the above and put forward recommendations to the Attorney General.

Insurance Cost Examples

The government has requested detailed information from municipalities regarding their insurance costs, coverage, deductibles, claims history, and out-of-court settlements. Municipalities have been busy responding to a long list of provincial consultations on a wide range of topics. Some of the information being sought is more easily supplied by the insurance industry. AMO's 2011 survey of insurance costs produced a sample size of 122 municipalities and assessed insurance cost increases over a five-year period. The survey revealed an average premium increase which exceeded 20% over that period.

All of the same forces remain at play in 2019 just as they were in 2011. Below are some key examples.

Ear Falls - The Township of Ear Falls reports that its insurance premiums have increased 30% over five years to \$81,686. With a population of only 995 residents (2016), this represents a per capita cost of \$82.09. This amount is a significant increase from AMO's 2011 Insurance Survey result. At that time, the average per capita insurance cost for a community with a population under 10,000 was \$37.56. While the Township has not been the subject of a liability claim, a claim in a community of this size could have significant and long-lasting financial and service implications. The Township has also had to impose stricter insurance requirements on groups that rent municipal facilities. This has had a negative impact on the clubs and volunteers' groups and as a consequence, many have cut back on the service these groups provide to the community.

Central Huron - For many years the municipality of Central Huron had a deductible of \$5,000. In 2014, the deductible was increased to \$15,000 to help reduce insurance costs. The municipality also increased its liability coverage in 2014 and added cyber security coverage in 2018. The combined impact of these changes represents a premium cost of \$224,774 in 2019, up from \$141,331 in 2010. Per capita costs for insurance alone are now \$29.67.

Huntsville - Since 2010, the Town of Huntsville reports an insurance premium increase of 67%. In 2019 this represented about 3.75% of the town's property tax levy. At the same time, Huntsville's deductible has increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000. The town also reports a reluctance to hold its own events for fear of any claims which may affect its main policy. Additional coverage is purchased for these events and these costs are not included above.

Ottawa - In August 2018, the City began working with its insurance broker, Aon Risk Solutions ("Aon"), to prepare for the anticipated renewal of the Integrated Insurance Program in April 2019. As the cost of the City's insurance premiums had risen by approximately 25% between 2017 and 2018, this early work was intended to ensure that any further increase could be properly accounted for through the 2019 budget process. Early indications of a possible further 10% premium increase prompted the City and Aon in late 2018 to explore options for a revised Program, and to approach alternative markets for the supply of insurance.

On January 11, 2019, an OC Transpo bus collided with a section of the Westboro Station transit shelter, resulting in three fatalities and numerous serious injuries. This was the second major incident involving the City's bus fleet, following approximately five years after the OC Transpo - VIA train collision in September 2013.



The January 2019 incident prompted insurance providers to re-evaluate their willingness to participate in the City Program. Despite Aon's work to secure an alternative provider, only Frank Cowan Company ("Cowan"), the City's existing insurer, was prepared to offer the City an Integrated Insurance Program. Cowan's offer to renew the City's Program was conditional on revised terms and limits and at a significant premium increase of approximately 84%, or nearly \$2.1 million per year. According to Cowan, these changes and increases were attributable to seven principle factors, including Joint and Several Liability:

1. Escalating Costs of Natural Global Disasters;
2. Joint and Several Liability;
3. Claims Trends (in the municipal sector);
4. Increasing Damage Awards;
5. Class Action Lawsuits;
6. New and/or Adverse Claims Development; and,
7. Transit Exposure.

Cowan also indicated that the primary policy limits for the 2019-2020 renewal would be lowered from \$25 million to \$10 million per occurrence, thereby raising the likelihood of increased costs for the City's excess liability policies.

Joint and Several in Action - Recent Examples

The following examples highlight joint and several in action. The following examples have occurred in recent years.

GTA Municipality – A homeowner rented out three separate apartments in a home despite being zoned as a single-family dwelling. After a complaint was received, bylaw inspectors and Fire Prevention Officers visited the property. The landlord was cautioned to undertake renovations to restore the building into a single-family dwelling. After several months of non-compliance, charges under the fire code were laid. The owner was convicted and fined. A subsequent visit by Fire Prevention Officers noted that the required renovations had not taken place. Tragically, a fire occurred which resulted in three fatalities. Despite having undertaken corrective action against the homeowner, joint and several liability loomed large. It compelled the municipality to make a payment of \$504,000 given the 1% rule.

City of Ottawa - A serious motor vehicle accident occurred between one of the City's buses and an SUV. The collision occurred at an intersection when the inebriated driver of the SUV failed to stop at a red light and was struck by the City bus. This collision resulted in the deaths of the SUV driver and two other occupants, and also seriously injured the primary Plaintiff, the third passenger in the SUV. The secondary action was brought by the family of one of the deceased passengers.

The Court ultimately concluded that the City was 20% liable for the collision, while the SUV driver was 80% at fault. Despite the 80/20 allocation of fault, the City was required to pay all of the approximately \$2.1 million in damages awarded in the primary case and the \$200,000 awarded in the secondary case, bringing the amount paid by the City to a total that was not proportionate to its actual liability. This was due to the application of the principle of joint and several liability, as well as the interplay between the various automobile insurance policies held by the SUV owner and

passengers, which is further explained below. Although the City appealed this case, the Ontario Court of Appeal agreed with the findings of the trial judge and dismissed it.

This case was notable for the implications of various factors on the insurance policies held by the respective parties. While most automobile insurance policies in Ontario provide for \$1 million in third party liability coverage, the insurance for the SUV was reduced to the statutory minimum of \$200,000 by virtue of the fact that the driver at the time of the collision had a blood alcohol level nearly three times the legal limit for a fully licensed driver. This was contrary to the requirements of his G2 license, which prohibit driving after the consumption of any alcohol. Further, while the Plaintiff passengers' own respective insurance provided \$1 million in coverage for underinsured motorists (as the SUV driver was at the time), this type of coverage is triggered only where no other party is in any way liable for the accident. As a result, the primary Plaintiff could only effectively recover the full \$2.1 million in damages if the Court attributed even a small measure of fault to another party with sufficient resources to pay the claim.

In determining that the City was at least partially responsible for the collision, the Court held that the speed of the bus – which according to GPS recordings was approximately 6.5 km/h over the posted limit of 60 kilometres an hour – and momentary inattention were contributing factors to the collision.

To shorten the length of the trial by approximately one week and accordingly reduce the legal costs involved, the parties had earlier reached an agreement on damages and that the findings regarding the primary Plaintiff would apply equally to the other. The amount of the agreement-upon damages took into account any contributory negligence on the part of the respective Plaintiffs, attributable to such things as not wearing a seat belt.

City of Ottawa, 2nd example – A Plaintiff was catastrophically injured when, after disembarking a City bus, he was struck by a third-party motor vehicle. The Plaintiff's injuries included a brain injury while his impairments included incomplete quadriplegia.

As a result of his accident, the Plaintiff brought a claim for damages for an amount in excess of \$7 million against the City and against the owner and driver of the third-party vehicle that struck him. Against the City, the Plaintiff alleged that the roadway was not properly designed and that the bus stop was placed at an unsafe location as it required passengers to cross the road mid-block and not at a controlled intersection.

Following the completion of examinations for discovery, the Plaintiff's claim against the Co-Defendant (the driver of the vehicle which struck the plaintiff) was resolved for \$1,120,000 comprising \$970,000 for damages and \$120,000 for costs. The Co-Defendant's policy limit was \$1 million. The claim against the City was in effect, a "1% rule" case where the City had been added to the case largely because the Co-Defendant's insurance was capped at \$1 million, which was well below the value of the Plaintiff's claim.

On the issue of liability, the pre-trial judge was of the view that the City was exposed to a finding of some liability against it on the theory that, because of the proximity of the bus stop to a home for adults with mental health issues, the City knew or should have known that bus passengers with cognitive and/or physical disabilities would be crossing mid-block at an unmarked crossing. This, according to the judge, could have resulted in a finding being made at trial that the City should



either have removed the bus stop or alternatively, should have installed a pedestrian crossing at this location.

The judge assessed the Plaintiff's damages at \$7,241,000 exclusive of costs and disbursements which he then reduced to \$4,602,930 exclusive of costs and disbursements after applying a reduction of 27.5% for contributory negligence and subtracting the \$970,000 payment made by the Co-Defendant's insurer.

Settlement discussions took place and the judge recommended that the matter be resolved for \$3,825,000 plus costs of \$554,750 plus HST plus disbursements.

Joint and Several Liability in Action - Other notable cases

Deering v Scugog - A 19-year-old driver was driving at night in a hurry to make the start time of a movie. She was travelling on a Class 4 rural road that had no centerline markings. The Ontario Traffic Manual does not require this type of road to have such a marking. The driver thought that a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction was headed directly at her. She swerved, over-corrected and ended up in a rock culvert. The Court found the Township of Scugog 66.7% liable. The at-fault driver only carried a \$1M auto insurance policy.

Ferguson v County of Brant - An inexperienced 17-year-old male driver was speeding on a road when he failed to navigate a curve which resulted in him crossing the lane into oncoming traffic, leaving the roadway, and striking a tree. The municipality was found to have posted a winding road sign rather than a sharp curve sign. The municipality was found 55% liable.

Safranyos et al v City of Hamilton - The plaintiff was leaving a drive-in movie theatre with four children in her vehicle at approximately 1 AM. She approached a stop sign with the intention of turning right onto a highway. Although she saw oncoming headlights she entered the intersection where she was struck by a vehicle driven 15 km/h over the posted speed limit by a man who had just left a party and was determined by toxicologists to be impaired. The children in the plaintiff's vehicle suffered significant injuries. The City was determined to be 25% liable because a stop line had not been painted on the road at the intersection.

Mortimer v Cameron - Two men were engaged in horseplay on a stairway and one of them fell backward through an open door at the bottom of a landing. The other man attempted to break the first man's fall and together they fell into an exterior wall that gave way. Both men fell 10 feet onto the ground below, one of whom was left quadriplegic. The trial judge determined both men were negligent, but that their conduct did not correspond to the extent of the plaintiff's injuries. No liability was attached to either man. The building owner was determined to be 20% and the City of London was found to be 80% liable. The Court awarded the plaintiff \$5 M in damages. On appeal, the City's liability was reduced to 40% and building owner was determined to be 60% liable. The City still ended up paying 80% of the overall claim.

2011 Review of Joint and Several Liability - Law Commission of Ontario

In February 2011 the Law Commission of Ontario released a report entitled, *"Joint and Several Liability Under the Ontario Business Corporations Act"*. This review examined the application of



joint and several liability to corporate law and more specifically the relationship between the corporation and its directors, officers, shareholders and stakeholders.

Prior to the report's release, AMO made a submission to the Law Commission of Ontario to seek to expand its review to include municipal implications. The Law Commission did not proceed with a broader review at that time, but the context of its narrower scope remains applicable to municipalities. In fact, many of the same arguments which support reform in the realm of the *Business Corporations Act*, are the same arguments which apply to municipal governments.

Of note, the Law Commission's¹ report highlighted the following in favour of reforms:

Fairness: "It is argued that it is unfair for a defendant, whose degree of fault is minor when compared to that of other defendants, to have to fully compensate a plaintiff should the other defendants be insolvent or unavailable."

Deep Pocket Syndrome: "Joint and several liability encourages plaintiffs to unfairly target defendants who are known or perceived to be insured or solvent."

Rising Costs of Litigation, Insurance, and Damage Awards: "Opponents of the joint and several liability regime are concerned about the rising costs of litigation, insurance, and damage awards."

Provision of Services: "The Association of Municipalities of Ontario identifies another negative externality of joint and several liability: municipalities are having to delay or otherwise cut back services to limit exposure to liability."

The Law Commission found that the principle of joint and several liability should remain in place although it did not explicitly review the municipal situation.

2014 Resolution by the Ontario Legislature and Review by the Attorney General

Over 200 municipalities supported a motion introduced by Randy Pettapiece, MPP for Perth-Wellington which called for the implementation a comprehensive, long-term solution in 2014. That year, MPPs from all parties supported the Pettapiece motion calling for a reform joint and several liability.

Later that year the Ministry of the Attorney General consulted on three options of possible reform:

1. The Saskatchewan Model of Modified Proportionate Liability

Saskatchewan has adopted a modified version of proportionate liability that applies in cases where a plaintiff is contributorily negligent. Under the Saskatchewan rule, where a plaintiff is contributorily negligent and there is an unfunded liability, the cost of the unfunded liability is split among the remaining defendants and the plaintiff in proportion to their fault.

¹ Law Commission of Ontario. "Joint and Several Liability Under the Ontario *Business Corporations Act*." Final Report, February 2011 Pages 22-25.



2. Peripheral Wrongdoer Rule for Road Authorities

Under this rule, a municipality would never be liable for more than two times its proportion of damages, even if it results in the plaintiff being unable to recover full damages.

3. A combination of both of the above

Ultimately, the government decided not to pursue any of the incremental policy options ostensibly because of uncertainty that insurance cost reductions would result. This was a disappointing result for municipalities.

While these reviews did not produce results in Ontario, many other common law jurisdictions have enacted protections for municipalities. What follows are some of the options for a different legal framework.

Options for Reform – The Legal Framework

To gain a full appreciation of the various liability frameworks that could be considered, for comparison, below is a description of the current joint and several liability framework here in Ontario. This description will help to reader to understand the further options which follow.

This description and the alternatives that follow are taken from the Law Commission of Ontario's February 2011 Report entitled, *"Joint and Several Liability Under the Ontario Business Corporations Act"* as referenced above.²

Understanding the Status Quo and Comparing it to the Alternatives

Where three different defendants are found to have caused a plaintiff's loss, the plaintiff is entitled to seek full payment (100%) from any one of the defendants. The defendant who fully satisfies the judgment has a right of contribution from the other liable parties based on the extent of their responsibility for the plaintiff's loss.

For example, a court may find defendants 1 (D1), 2 (D2) and 3 (D3) responsible for 70%, 20%, and 10% of the plaintiff's \$100,000 loss, respectively. The plaintiff may seek to recover 100% of the loss from D2, who may then seek contribution from D1 and D3 for their 70% and 10% shares of the loss. If D1 and/or D3 is unable to compensate D2 for the amount each owes for whatever reason, such as insolvency or unavailability, D2 will bear the full \$100,000 loss. The plaintiff will be fully compensated for \$100,000, and it is the responsibility of the defendants to apportion the loss fairly between them.

The descriptions that follow are abridged from pages 9-11 of the Law Commission of Ontario's report. These are some of the key alternatives to the status quo.

² Ibid. Page 7.

1. Proportionate Liability**a) Full Proportionate Liability**

A system of full proportionate liability limits the liability of each co-defendant to the proportion of the loss for which he or she was found to be responsible. Per the above example, (in which Defendant 1 (D1) is responsible for 70% of loss, Defendant 2 (D2) for 20% and Defendant 3 (D3) for 10%), under this system, D2 will only be responsible for \$20,000 of the \$100,000 total judgement: equal to 20% of their share of the liability. Likewise, D1 and D3 will be responsible for \$70,000 and \$10,000. If D1 and D3 are unable to pay, the plaintiff will only recover \$20,000 from D2.

b) Proportionate Liability where Plaintiff is Contributorily Negligent

This option retains joint and several liability when a blameless plaintiff is involved. This option would cancel or adjust the rule where the plaintiff contributed to their loss. As in the first example, suppose the plaintiff (P) contributed to 20% of their \$100,000 loss. D1, D2 and D3 were responsible for 50%, 20% and 10% of the \$100,000. If D1 and D3 are unavailable, P and D2 will each be responsible for their \$20,000 shares. The plaintiff will remain responsible for the \$60,000 shortfall as a result of the absent co-defendants' non-payment (D1 and D3).

c) Proportionate Liability where Plaintiff is Contributorily Negligent with a Proportionate Reallocation of an Insolvent, Financially Limited or Unavailable Defendant's Share

In this option of proportionate liability, the plaintiff and remaining co-defendants share the risk of a defendant's non-payment. The plaintiff (P) and co-defendants are responsible for any shortfall in proportion to their respective degrees of fault.

Using the above example of the \$100,000 total judgement, with a shortfall payment of \$50,000 from D1 and a shortfall payment \$10,000 from D3, P and D2 must pay for the missing \$60,000. P and D2 have equally-apportioned liability, which causes them to be responsible for half of each shortfall - \$25,000 and \$5,000 from each non-paying defendant. The burden is shared between the plaintiff (if determined to be responsible) and the remaining defendants.

d) Proportionate Liability with a Peripheral Wrongdoer

Under this option, a defendant will be proportionately liable only if their share of the liability falls below a specified percentage, meaning that liability would be joint and several. Using the above example, if the threshold amount of liability is set at 25%, D2 and D3 would only be responsible for 20% and 10%, regardless of whether they are the only available or named defendants. However, D1 may be liable for 100% if it is the only available or named defendant. This system tends to favour defendants responsible for a small portion of the loss, but the determination of the threshold amount between joint and several liability and proportionate liability is arbitrary.

e) Proportionate Liability with a Reallocation of Some or All of an Insolvent or Unavailable Defendant's Share

This option reallocates the liability of a non-paying defendant among the remaining defendants in proportion to their respective degrees of fault. The plaintiff's contributory negligence does not



impact the application of this reallocation. Joint and several liability would continue to apply in cases of fraud or where laws were knowingly violated.

f) Court Discretion

Similar to the fraud exception in the option above, this option includes giving the courts discretion to apply different forms of liability depending on the case.

For example, if a particular co-defendant's share of the fault was relatively minor the court would have discretion to limit that defendant's liability to an appropriate portion.

2. Legislative Cap on Liability

Liability concerns could be addressed by introducing a cap on the amount of damages available for claims for economic loss.

3. Hybrid

A number of jurisdictions provide a hybrid system of proportionate liability and caps on damages. Co-defendants are liable for their portion of the damages, but the maximum total amount payable by each co-defendant is capped to a certain limit.

The Saskatchewan Experience

As referenced earlier in this paper, the Province of Saskatchewan responded with a variety of legislative actions to assist municipalities in the early 2000s. Some of those key developments are listed below which are abridged from "*A Question of Balance: Legislative Responses to Judicial Expansion of Municipal Liability – the Saskatchewan Experience.*" The paper was written by Neil Robertson, QC and was presented to the annual conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario in 2013. Two key reforms are noted below.

1. Reforming joint and several liability by introducing modified proportionate liability: "The Contributory Negligence Act" amendments

The *Contributory Negligence Act* retained joint and several liability, but made adjustments in cases where one or more of the defendants is unable to pay its share of the total amount (judgement). Each of the parties at fault, including the plaintiff if contributorily negligent, will still have to pay a share of the judgement based on their degree of fault. However, if one of the defendants is unable to pay, the other defendants who are able to pay are required to pay only their original share and an additional equivalent share of the defaulting party's share.

The change in law allows municipalities to reach out-of-court settlements, based on an estimate of their degree of fault. This allows municipalities to avoid the cost of protracted litigation.

Neil Robertson provided the following example to illustrate how this works in practise:

"...If the owner of a house sues the builder for negligent construction and the municipality, as building authority, for negligent inspection, and all three are found equally at fault, they would each be apportioned 1/3 or 33.3%. Assume the damages are \$100,000. If the builder has no funds, then the municipality would pay only its share (\$33,333) and a 1/3 share of the builder's defaulting share

(1/3 of \$33,333 or \$11,111) for a total of \$44,444 (\$33,333 + \$11,111), instead of the \$66,666 (\$33,333 + \$33,333) it would pay under pure joint and several liability.”

This model will be familiar to municipal leaders in Ontario. In 2014, Ontario’s Attorney General presented this option (called the Saskatchewan Model of Modified Proportionate Liability) for consideration. At the time, over 200 municipal councils supported the adoption of this option along with the “Peripheral Wrongdoer Rule for Road Authorities” which would have seen a municipality never be liable for more than two times its proportion of damages, even if it results in the plaintiff being unable to recover full damages. These two measures, if enacted, would have represented a significant incremental step to address the impact of joint and several to Ontario municipalities.

2. Providing for uniform limitation periods while maintaining a separate limitation period for municipalities: “The Limitations Act”

This act established uniform limitation periods replacing many of the pre-existing limitation periods that had different time periods. The Municipal Acts in Saskatchewan provide a uniform one-year limitation period “from time when the damages were sustained” in absolute terms without a discovery principle which can prolong this period. This helps municipalities to resist “legacy” claims from many years beforehand. This act exempts municipalities from the uniform two-year discoverability limitation period.

Limitation periods set deadlines after which claims cannot be brought as lawsuits in the courts. The legislation intends to balance the opportunity for potential claimants to identify their claims and, if possible, negotiate a settlement out of court before starting legal action with the need for potential defendants to “close the books” on claims from the past.

The reasoning behind these limitations is that public authorities, including municipalities, should not be punished by the passage of time. Timely notice will promote the timely investigation and disposition of claims in the public interest. After the expiry of a limitation period, municipalities can consider themselves free of the threat of legal action, and continue with financial planning without hurting “the public taxpayer purse”. Municipalities are mandated to balance their budgets and must be able to plan accordingly. Thus, legacy claims can have a very adverse affect on municipal operations.

Here in Ontario, there is a uniform limitations period of two years. Municipalities also benefit from a 10-day notice period which is required for slip and fall cases. More recently, the applicability of this limitation deadline has become variable and subject to judicial discretion. Robertson’s paper notes that in Saskatchewan, courts have accepted the one-year limitations period. A further examination of limitations in Ontario may yield additional benefits and could include the one-year example in Saskatchewan and/or the applicability of the 10-day notice period for slip and fall cases.

Other Saskatchewan reforms

Saskatchewan has also implemented other reforms which include greater protections for building inspections, good faith immunity, duty of repair, no fault insurance, permitting class actions, and limiting nuisance actions. Some of these reforms are specific to Saskatchewan and some of these currently apply in Ontario.



Insurance Related Reforms

Government Regulated Insurance Limits

The April 2019 provincial budget included a commitment to increase the catastrophic impairment default benefit limit to \$2 million. Public consultations were led by the Ministry of Finance in September 2019. AMO wrote to the Ministry in support of increasing the limit to \$2 million to ensure more adequate support those who suffer catastrophic impairment.

In 2016, the government lowered this limit as well as third-party liability coverage to \$200,000 from \$1 million. This minimum should also be increased to \$2 million to reflect current actual costs. This significant deficiency needs to be addressed.

Insurance Industry Changes

In 1989 the Ontario Municipal Insurance Exchange (OMEX) was established as a non-profit reciprocal insurance provider for Ontario's municipalities. It ceased operations in 2016 citing, "[a] low pricing environment, combined with the impact of joint & several liability on municipal claim settlements has made it difficult to offer sustainable pricing while still addressing the municipalities' concern about retro assessments."³ (Retro assessments meant paying additional premiums for retroactive coverage for "long-tail claims" which made municipal budgeting more challenging.)

The demise of OMEX has changed the municipal insurance landscape in Ontario. That joint and several liability is one of the key reasons listed for the collapse of a key municipal insurer should be a cause for significant concern. Fewer choices fuels cost. While there are other successful municipal insurance pools in Ontario, the bulk of the insurance market is dominated by for-profit insurance companies.

Reciprocal non-profit insurers are well represented in other areas across Canada. Municipalities in Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia are all insured by non-profit reciprocals.

The questions for policy makers in Ontario:

Are there any provincial requirements or regulations which could better support the non-profit reciprocal municipal insurance market?

What actions could be taken to better protect municipalities in Ontario in sourcing their insurance needs?

How can we drive down insurance costs to better serve the needs of municipal property taxpayers?

³ Canadian Underwriter, August 11, 2016 <https://www.canadianunderwriter.ca/insurance/ontario-municipal-insurance-exchange-suspends-underwriting-operations-1004098148/>



Conclusion

This AMO paper has endeavoured to refresh municipal arguments on the need to find a balance to the issues and challenges presented by joint and several liability. It has endeavoured to illustrate that options exist and offer the reassurance that they can be successfully implemented as other jurisdictions have done.

Finding solutions that work will require provincial and municipal commitment. Working together, we can find a better way that is fair, reasonable, and responsible. It is time to find a reasonable balance.

From: AMO Communications [<mailto:Communicate@amo.on.ca>]
Sent: October 10, 2019 1:23 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Province Appoints Advisor for Public Health and Emergency Health Services Consultations

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#) | [Send to a friend](#)
Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list



October 10, 2019

Province Appoints Advisor for Public Health and Emergency Health Services Consultations

The Minister of Health has announced that Jim Pine is the newly appointed Advisor to lead consultations on the future of Public Health and Emergency Health Services. The 2019 provincial Budget stated that the government is seeking to modernize municipal Public Health and Emergency Health Services. This generated much concern and discussion in the municipal sector.

At the AMO Conference in August, the Minister of Health, the Honourable Christine Elliott, said that a renewed consultation with partner municipalities would occur and that an expert advisor would support this engagement. The Advisor's role is to facilitate discussions between the Ministry of Health, AMO and public health, emergency health, and municipal stakeholders.

Jim Pine is the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the County of Hastings. He is also a former member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. Given his extensive municipal background, AMO is pleased with Minister Elliott's choice. Jim is well-known and well-respected in the municipal sector. AMO looks forward to working with him in his new role along with the government to get this right.

Throughout the consultations, AMO will bring forward practical solutions that work best for municipal residents and municipal governments to fix what needs fixing and preserve what works well. We understand that the province is entering this consultative process openly, transparently and without pre-determined outcomes. They have committed to listening to municipal leaders, the public health and

A1c

emergency health services sectors, and others to inform the design and implementation of reform to public health and emergency health services.

AMO, with the assistance of our Public Health Technical Working Group, has examined the Auditor General's 2017 recommendations to seek to address the identified problems from her audit on chronic disease prevention. Regarding Emergency Health Services, it is our advice that dispatch communications improvements must be made first, before any discussion on potentially restructuring the paramedic services happens. We understand the government has heard our and our members' advice on these significant matters.

AMO is providing advice to the Advisor and the Ministry of Health on how best to proceed with constructive consultations. We are hopeful that we, our members and our partners will learn more about this consultation process shortly, starting with the official launch of the consultations.

AMO Contact:

Monika Turner, Director of Policy, mturner@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 318.

*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.



Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)





NVCA Board Meeting Highlights September 27, 2019

Next Meeting: October 25, 2019, Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors

2020 NVCA Draft Budget to be distributed to municipalities for review

NVCA Board of Directors approved NVCA's 2020 Draft Budget for circulation, and staff will distribute the 2020 Draft Budget booklet to municipalities for the 30 day review period.

Greenbelt Foundation Positively Green Initiative

The NVCA Board of Directors has approved endorsement of the Positively Green Initiative.

Kevin Beaulieu, Municipal Program Director Greenbelt Foundation presented to the Board of Directors to seek endorsement from NVCA for support and to move forward with outreach and funding proposals.

Ontario's greenbelt is Canada's largest greenbelt with over 2 million acres of protected land including intact natural heritage systems. It provides Ontario with fresh air, clean water, local food, thriving economies and climate resilience while protecting environmentally sensitive areas and productive farmlands.

Positively Green Initiative identifies 100 plus priority projects across the region directly benefiting the public, municipalities, and businesses including agriculture. These projects focus on nature's role in climate change and the Greenbelt's unparalleled environmental services.

The Greenbelt Foundation is looking to work with NVCA on 9 projects, including:

- Dam removal and pond decommissioning/perched culvert remediation
- Planting trees and other vegetation along rivers and streams and removing fish barriers
- Creating habitats in prairie, savannah, meadows
- Agricultural and livestock best management practices implementation

Currently 13 conservation authorities in Ontario are collaborating with the Greenbelt Foundation on this initiative.

Sharing mapping data with Greenland International Consulting

NVCA Board of Directors approved staff to have further discussions with Greenland International Consulting related to their request to have the NVCA share hydrology modelling data.

A request for this information also came from the Town of Wasaga Beach in support of a proposed grant application to the Smart Computing Innovative Fund.

In brief

Nigel Bellchamber from Amberley Gavel gave an educational presentation to the Board of Directors regarding governance and how to be an effective board.



Future Meetings and Events

Hiking the Nottawasaga Bluffs (all ages)

Friday, October 4, 2019

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

8861 Nottawasaga 15/16 Sdrd, Clearview
Township

Volunteer Tree Planting Day

Saturday, October 5, 2019

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Mono Community Pollinator Garden 246366
Hockley Rd, Mono, ON (near Orangeville) L9W
2Y8

Small Halls Festival – The Tall Small Hall Hike

Sunday, October 6, 2019

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Singhampton Community Centre

NVCA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, October 25, 2019

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Location: Tiffin Centre for
Conservation, 8195 8th Line, Utopia



**Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority**

September 30, 2019

The Township of Essa
c/o Lisa Lehr, Clerk
5786 Simcoe County Road 21
Utopia, Ontario
L0M 1T0

Dear Mayor Macdonald & Council:

Enclosed, please find the 2020 Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) Draft Budget Booklet (attachment). This draft budget was received and approved for circulation and input for a 30 day review period, at the September 27, 2019 NVCA Board meeting. Please forward any comments to the undersigned.

The NVCA worked very diligently to address the Provincial funding cuts of approximately 50% without adversely impacting our member municipalities.

The Township of Essas's proposed 2020 levy contribution is \$175,977.75 an increase of \$4,696.51 over 2019. The year 4 capital asset levy will be \$10,345.02.

Please contact Haleigh Ferguson at 705-424-1479 ext. 272 or hferguson@nvca.on.ca to schedule a deputation or meeting with staff to discuss this draft budget. We believe the 2020 draft budget represents a wise investment for the long term health of our environment and our local economy.

A link to the complete 2020 Draft Budget booklet can also be found on the NVCA website home page at www.nvca.on.ca. NVCA Board approval will occur on December 13, 2019.

Yours truly,

Doug Hevenor
Chief Administration Officer

Copies: Colleen Healey-Dowdall, CAO
NVCA Board Member, Cllr. Keith White
Carol Traynor-Richter, Manager of Finance

A2b

NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

2020 DRAFT BUDGET



Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0
T: 705-424-1479 • F: 705-424-2115



OUR VISION

Innovative watershed management supporting a healthy environment, communities and lifestyles.

OUR MISSION

Working together to lead, promote, support and inspire innovative watershed management.

AT A GLANCE

For 60 years, NVCA has worked with municipal, provincial and federal partners, and local stakeholders to deliver excellence in watershed planning and management.

Like Ontario's other 35 conservation authorities, NVCA operates under three fundamental principles:

- Watershed jurisdiction
- Local decision making
- Funding partnerships

As your municipal partner, NVCA provides the expertise to help protect our water, our land, and our future.

OUR WATERSHED

Our watershed is a large geographic area, approximately 3,700 sq. km, with jurisdiction in 18 municipalities in the counties of Simcoe, Dufferin and Grey.

NVCA's Board of Directors is comprised of one representative appointed from each of our member municipalities.

Board members have a very important role and responsibility to represent the interests of their municipalities, consider the interests and needs of the conservation authority, and establish an effective reporting relationship with their municipal council and staff.

Budget Process

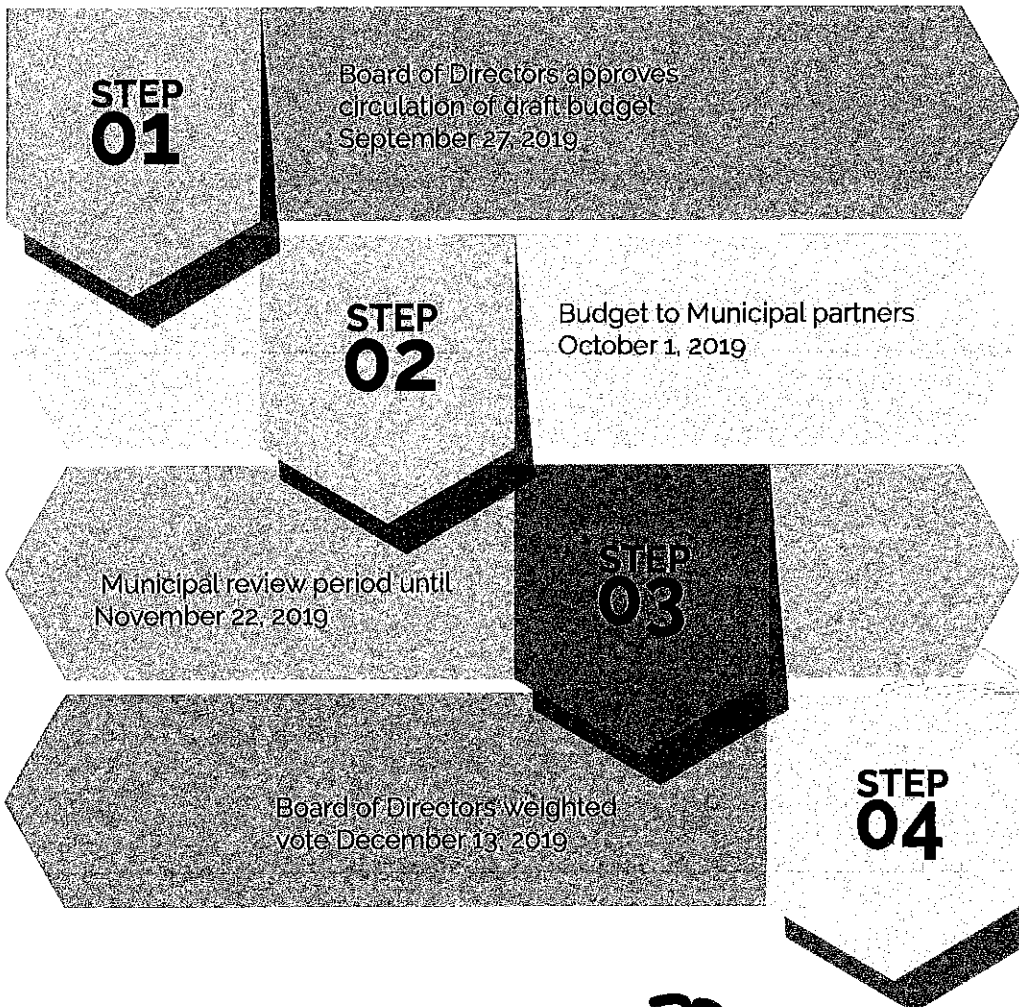
In August 2019, board members approved a staff report on the budget pressures projected for 2020 and directed staff to prepare a 2020 budget for consideration based on a \$75,000 increase to general levy.

Staff have developed a draft budget based on a \$66,028 increase. The draft budget is reviewed at the September 27, 2019 Board of Directors meeting and subsequently circulated to NVCA watershed municipalities for comments of which a minimum of 30 days is given as per the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The Board of Directors will vote on the budget at the December meeting.



Budget Vote

Directors of the Board will vote on the budget and levy using a weighted vote. The weighting formula is based on the Current Value Assessment (CVA) levy apportionment found on the next page.



2020 Draft Budget

The 2020 operation budget is organized into business units and departments and is intended to reflect all associated costs. Operating programs have been maintained at the previous years' service levels.

A \$66,028 increase in municipal levy, is needed to support the operating expenditures. The operating levy is shared by NVCA member municipalities based on the CVA apportionment percentages provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

Summary of Municipal Levy Contribution

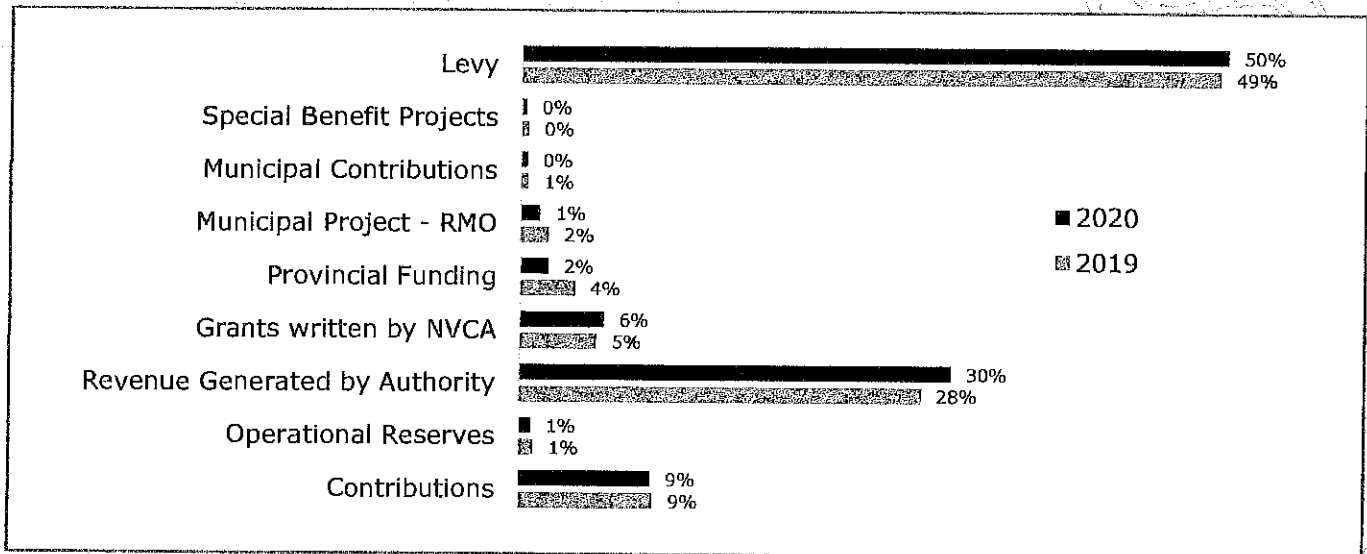
Municipality	2019 CVA Apportionment Percentage	2020 CVA Apportionment Percentage	2019 Operating Levy	2020 Draft Operating Levy	\$ Increase
			\$2,463,029.16	\$2,529,056.91	\$66,027.75
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.1925%	4.1619%	\$103,262.65	\$105,257.72	\$1,995.07
Township of Amaranth	0.2192%	0.2177%	\$5,399.33	\$5,506.24	\$106.91
City of Barrie	15.4117%	15.3786%	\$379,595.83	\$388,933.47	\$9,337.64
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.4179%	1.3672%	\$34,923.55	\$34,577.82	(\$345.72)
Bradford/West Gwillimbury	3.9902%	4.1939%	\$98,280.29	\$106,065.78	\$7,785.48
Clearview Township	5.0678%	4.9414%	\$124,821.15	\$124,970.26	\$149.12
Town of Collingwood	10.0634%	9.9981%	\$247,864.38	\$252,858.40	\$4,994.02
Township of Essa	6.9541%	6.9582%	\$171,281.23	\$175,977.75	\$4,696.51
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.3560%	0.3457%	\$8,768.66	\$8,742.10	(\$26.56)
Town of Innisfil	6.7490%	6.9409%	\$166,229.29	\$175,539.87	\$9,310.58
Township of Melancthon	0.4711%	0.4727%	\$11,603.90	\$11,953.68	\$349.77
Town of Mono	3.8050%	3.7681%	\$93,718.30	\$95,298.04	\$1,579.74
Mulmur Township	1.6843%	1.6296%	\$41,483.71	\$41,214.21	(\$269.50)
Town of New Tecumseth	13.2112%	13.6052%	\$325,395.14	\$344,082.16	\$18,687.01
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.5379%	7.4305%	\$185,659.45	\$187,922.26	\$2,262.80
Town of Shelburne	2.0602%	2.0111%	\$50,742.31	\$50,862.97	\$120.66
Township of Springwater	7.3890%	7.4502%	\$181,992.86	\$188,420.02	\$6,427.16
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.4196%	9.1289%	\$232,007.12	\$230,874.17	(\$1,132.95)

NVCA Member Municipalities

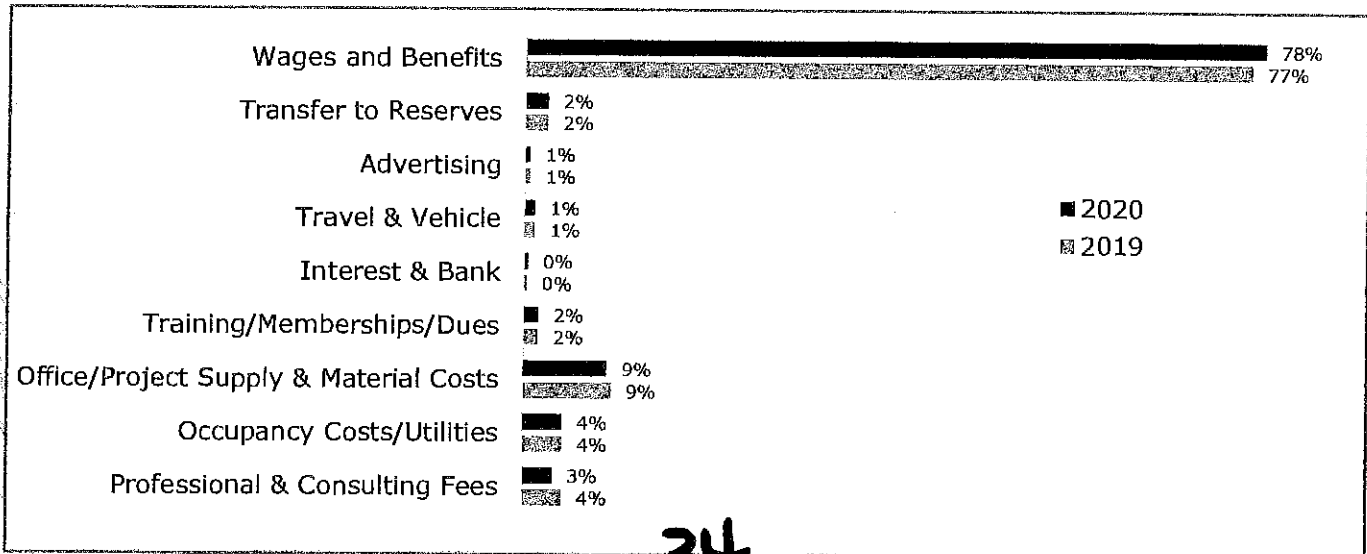
Township of Adair-Township
 Township of Amaranth
 City of Bemis
 Town of the Blue Mountains
 Township of Callington
 Township of Carleton Place
 Township of Collingwood
 Township of Elm
 Municipality of Grey Highlands

Town of Innisfil
 Township of Intercession
 Town of Mono
 Municipality of North York
 Town of New Tecumseth
 Township of Oro-Medonte
 Town of Shelburne
 Township of Simcoe
 Town of Stouffville

Sources of Revenue



Expenditures



Asset Management

The capital asset levy, which funds the asset management plan (AMP), is shared by the municipal partners based on their apportionment percentage.

When the capital asset levy was introduced in 2017, some municipalities chose to phase in their contributions over five years while others chose to contribute their full amount starting in year one. To be fair to those that are contributing in full, the AMP will continue to be updated during the phase in period, but municipalities will only pay the fees as established in year one until the phase-in-period is complete. The year 2020 is the final year of the phase in period and therefore the plan will be updated in 2020.

Below are the contributions for 2020 based on each municipality's decision:

Capital Asset Levy Phased-In Municipalities

Municipality	2020 CVA Apportionment %	2019 Capital Levy Contribution	2020 Capital Levy 4th of 4 year + CVA Adjustment)
City of Barrie	15.38%	\$20,023.94	\$22,863.83
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.37%	\$1,842.24	\$2,032.69
Bradford/West Gwillimbury	4.19%	\$5,184.35	\$6,235.18
Town of Collingwood	10.00%	\$13,075.02	\$14,864.52
Township of Essa	6.96%	\$9,035.20	\$10,345.02
Town of Mono	3.77%	\$4,943.71	\$5,602.19
Town of New Tecumseth	13.61%	\$17,164.82	\$20,227.20
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.43%	\$9,793.67	\$11,047.19
Township of Springwater	7.45%	\$9,600.25	\$11,076.45

Capital Asset Levy Full Contributing Municipalities

Municipality	2020 CVA Apportionment %	2019 Capital Levy Contribution	2020 Capital Levy Contribution with CVA Adjustment
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.16%	\$5,447.18	\$5,407.46
Township of Amaranth	0.22%	\$284.82	\$282.87
Clearview Township	4.94%	\$6,584.40	\$6,420.16
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.35%	\$462.55	\$449.11
Town of Innisfil	6.94%	\$9,421.49	\$9,490.88
Melancthon Township	0.47%	\$612.11	\$614.10
Mulmur Township	1.63%	\$2,188.29	\$2,117.32
Town of Shelburne	2.01%	\$2,676.69	\$2,613.01
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.13%	\$12,238.54	\$11,860.81

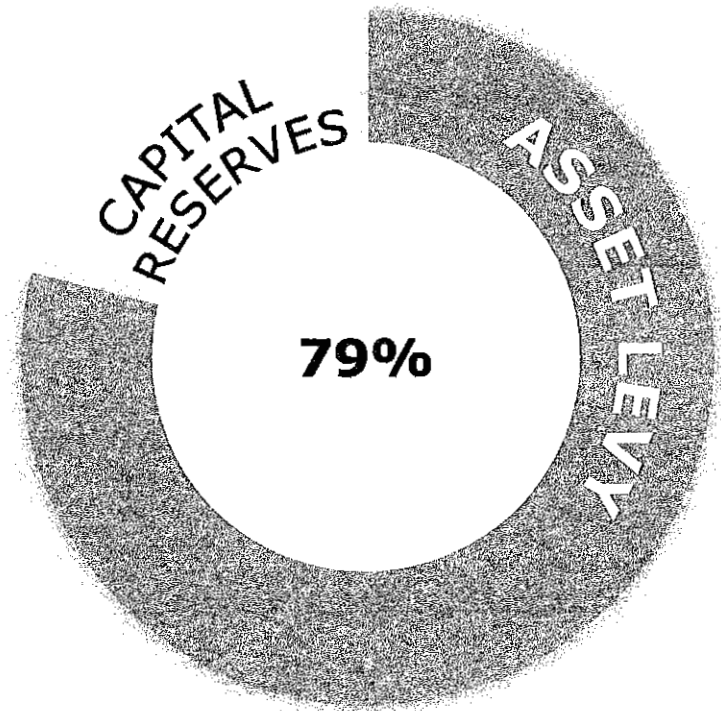
Reserves

These amounts will be put into reserves to pay for the repair maintenance and replacement of the assets as identified in the AMP.

Some of the 2020 expenditures as per the AMP:

1. Dam safety review for the Tottenham Dam
2. Parts replacement on flood and monitoring equipment to extend life as well as replacement of some end of life equipment
3. Computers and server upgrades and network hardware
4. Upgrade of the water system at Tiffin, re-staining of Hix Administration building, replacement of an AED, some signage upgrades and replacement of folding chairs used for schools and events.

Funding for Asset Management Plan
2020 Total Cost - \$181,724



● \$143,549.99

○ \$38,174.01

In years where the capital asset levy is more than the required in expenditures, excess funds will replenish the capital reserve use occurring due to the ten year averaging. Capital reserve use is forecast to balance out over the ten year period.

36

**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Proposed 2020 Budget**

	BUDGET 2019	BUDGET 2020	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy	2,463,029.18	2,529,056.91	66,027.73
Special Benefit Projects	23,500.00	16,000.00	(7,500.00)
Oro-Medonte MOU	(36,953.37)	(37,943.72)	(990.35)
Municipal Contributions	25,000.00	20,000.00	(5,000.00)
Municipal Project - RMO	95,845.00	68,000.00	(27,845.00)
Total Municipal Revenue	<u>2,570,420.81</u>	<u>2,595,113.19</u>	<u>24,692.38</u>
MNR Transfer Payment-Flood	188,490.00	97,307.20	(91,182.80)
Other Provincial Sources	220,548.38	182,500.00	(38,048.38)
Federal Sources	44,000.00	110,460.00	66,460.00
Total Government Grants	<u>453,038.38</u>	<u>390,267.20</u>	<u>(62,771.18)</u>
Contributions	462,640.00	460,540.00	(2,100.00)
User Fees			
Reforestation	54,000.00	53,200.00	(800.00)
Healthy Waters	5,000.00	-	(5,000.00)
Conservation Lands	21,000.00	21,000.00	-
Planning	883,630.00	989,600.00	105,970.00
Environmental Monitoring	13,000.00	13,000.00	-
Environmental Education	279,500.00	298,500.00	19,000.00
Tiffin Operations	93,500.00	95,500.00	2,000.00
Conservation Land Leases	30,315.00	32,400.00	2,085.00
Investment Income	13,000.00	15,000.00	2,000.00
Total Contributions and User Fees	<u>1,855,585.00</u>	<u>1,978,740.00</u>	<u>123,155.00</u>
Operational Reserves	45,903.37	40,143.72	(5,759.65)
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>4,924,947.56</u>	<u>5,004,264.11</u>	<u>79,316.55</u>

EXPENSES:

Wages and Interprogram Charges	3,780,082.56	3,934,404.11	154,321.55
	<u>3,780,082.56</u>	<u>3,934,404.11</u>	<u>154,321.55</u>
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	11,450.00	10,600.00	(850.00)
Memberships/Professional Dues	45,100.00	47,100.00	2,000.00
Educations and Training	29,000.00	29,000.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	274,155.00	354,900.00	80,745.00
Materials & Supplies - Cost of Trees	125,000.00	5,000.00	(120,000.00)
Vehicles & Large Equipment Costs	42,450.00	42,450.00	-
Office Expenses	26,750.00	23,000.00	(3,750.00)
Equipment Costs	9,000.00	9,000.00	-
Transportation Costs	11,000.00	13,000.00	2,000.00
Legal	37,000.00	22,000.00	(15,000.00)
Consultants	149,500.00	116,500.00	(33,000.00)
Insurance	77,900.00	79,600.00	1,700.00
Taxes	24,140.00	23,790.00	(350.00)
Heat and Hydro	33,000.00	33,000.00	-

A210

**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Proposed 2020 Budget**

	BUDGET 2019	BUDGET 2020	\$ CHANGE
Telephones and Internet Access	23,000.00	25,000.00	2,000.00
Audit Fees	17,500.00	18,000.00	500.00
Interest and Bank Charges	14,200.00	19,200.00	5,000.00
Maintenance Expense	31,700.00	31,700.00	-
Uniform Expense	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
Leases	14,000.00	14,000.00	-
Advertisement and Communications	26,520.00	26,520.00	-
Bad Debt Expense	500.00	500.00	-
Transfer to Reserves	116,000.00	120,000.00	4,000.00
	<u>1,144,865.00</u>	<u>1,069,860.00</u>	<u>(75,005.00)</u>
 TOTAL EXPENSES	 <u>4,924,947.56</u>	 <u>5,004,264.11</u>	 <u>79,316.55</u>
 SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	 <u>(0.00)</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>0.00</u>

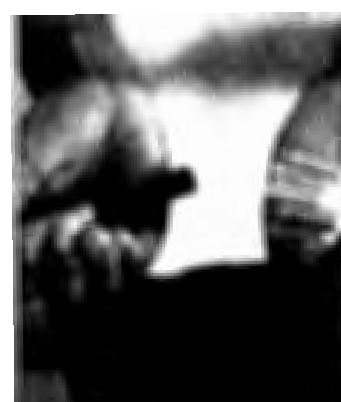
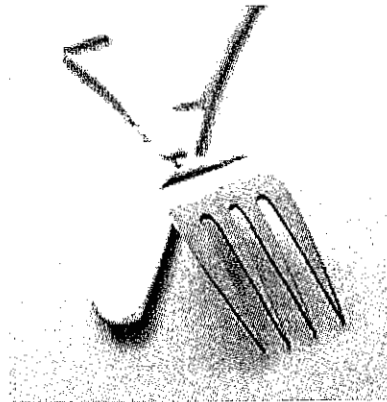
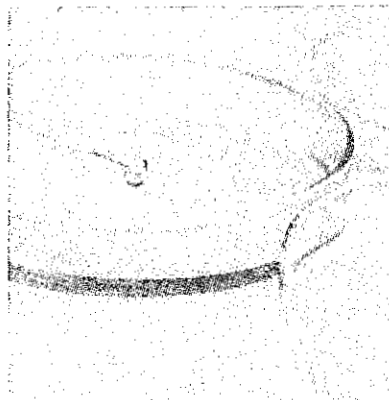
Photo credit: Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Staff
Budget process chart Designed by Freepik



ANNUAL COMMUNITY REPORT

Health@Simcoe Muskoka

2018-2019



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH



Anita Dubeau
Chair, Board of Health

The governance of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit comes with the reward of being involved in work that has great value and meaningful impact on our communities.

In the years I have served with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health we have offered support for emergency responses such as tornadoes and flooding. We have presided over decisions that make dining experiences safer; that offer parenting resources from before birth through children's teen years; that reduce the threat of infectious diseases; and respond to emerging public health threats. In assuming the chair of the Board this year, I am thrilled to be able to take the lead in supporting the staff of the health unit as they continue to devote themselves to the public's well-being, even as resources become scarcer.

In 2018, the Board of Health declared opioids as an issue of urgent public health concern in order to focus health unit resources to address the growing crisis of overdoses and drug use in our communities. We also pressed the province to develop a comprehensive provincial child care strategy to increase the number of licensed, affordable child care spaces available to working parents. The Board acted as a vital liaison to help local municipalities understand the complex rules around cannabis legalization. For the 2018 provincial and municipal elections we supported an awareness campaign urging the public and candidates to consider issues such as food insecurity, housing, legalization of cannabis, the opioids crisis and climate change, and suggested actions.

While it is the front-line work of the health unit that draws the attention of the public, the Board's efforts in the background are of equal importance. Last year a new set of Board by-laws was developed and enacted. By-laws ensure the effective and ethical operation of the Board of Health. They also serve as a guarantee to the public that public revenues are directed toward issues that matter to the long-term health of our communities.

The Board of Health has always played a role in providing vision, creative thinking, and influential support for public health programs and services. Following the municipal elections in the fall of 2018, we bade farewell to several elected and appointed members of the Board, including several whose service extended beyond a decade. I offer my thanks to them all for their contributions to the public's health. I also look forward to working with the fresh ideas and enthusiasm of a new Board of Health in 2019.

This will be particularly important while the Board works through a challenging period of transition ahead as the provincial government implements its plan to transform the public health system in Ontario. As announced in the April 11, 2019 budget, Ontario's 35 health units will be replaced by 10 new regional public health entities on April 1, 2020. With our new strategic transition plan in place, and an outstanding record of public health achievements over the past 14 years behind us, I am confident we will carry forward into these new entities our legacy of unique and excellent public health programs and services to the people and communities of Simcoe and Muskoka.

MESSAGE FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public health in Ontario is in a period of transition as the Ontario government moves forward with transforming the public health sector.

As details of the transition have emerged, it is clear that for the coming year substantial administrative effort will be diverted to the transition into one or two of 10 new provincially defined regional public health entities. While the future is not clear, I can certainly look back on 2018 as a year of achievements garnered through the valuable programs and services we deliver and the close community partnerships we have developed that have strengthened our ability to protect and promote the health of the population of Simcoe Muskoka into 2019.

As of January 2018, health units across the province began implementing the updated Ontario Public Health Standards and its associated guidelines and protocols. Stated simply, these documents set goals for the priorities in health unit operations and programs, and establish new standards for transparency.

Two new mandates have been added to the public health standards: vision screening for young children and mental health promotion. We now have staff trained to conduct vision screening at the Senior Kindergarten level, to identify existing vision problems or those at high risk of visual impairments. This is a service that will help parents give their children a strong start in school and socially. In the spring of 2019, we completed a situational assessment of mental health promotion needs in Simcoe and Muskoka, and how the health unit would be best positioned to address those needs. A mental health promotion strategy, building from that assessment, was completed in May this year.

In December 2018, we came to the end of our agency's 2016-18 Strategic Plan and a new plan was being completed to continue into the next four years. The provincial restructuring changes leave the health unit unable to commit to strategic tasks beyond 2020. As a result, the four-year strategic plan has been streamlined to a more focused one-year work plan, capturing the elements of the strategic plan that can be managed through the coming year. The overarching principles of the original plan remain: maintaining strong relationships among staff and with external partners; meeting the Ontario Public Health Standards through evidence-informed decision making; and ensuring accountability and good governance. Into these principles we have included activities that will not only ensure the continued excellent services we provide to our communities, but also help the agency make a successful transition into a new public health entity or entities by 2020.

Climate change, Lyme disease, legalization of cannabis, the opioid crisis: we live in times of new and emerging public health challenges. Along with those will be the challenge of reorganization according to the plans of the provincial government. The work of the past year has prepared us to meet the public health challenges. The skill and experience of our staff will be invaluable in ensuring we continue to provide our services while we work through the disruptions ahead.



Dr. Charles Gardner
Medical Officer of Health



CLINICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Education and awareness to reduce the incidence and spread of infectious diseases
- Investigation and follow-up with clients with diseases of public health significance
- Conducting infectious diseases surveillance
- Immunization of children and adults, including distribution of publicly-funded vaccines to health care providers
- Sexual health clinic services, including sexually transmitted infection follow up
- Healthy Smiles Ontario dental services – both mobile and fixed clinics
- Infection prevention and control education, inspection and complaint investigation in health care, personal services and child care settings

<p>216</p> <p>community & institutional outbreak investigations</p>	<p>25,501</p> <p>children screened for tooth decay</p>	<p>81</p> <p>infection prevention & control complaint investigations</p>	<p>8,392</p> <p>vaccines given during public immunization clinics</p>
<p>1,423</p> <p>personal services settings & child care inspections</p>	<p>3,072</p> <p>client visits to sexual health clinics</p>	<p>21,010</p> <p>vaccines given at schools</p>	<p>4,081</p> <p>diseases of public health significance investigations</p>

HPV VACCINE

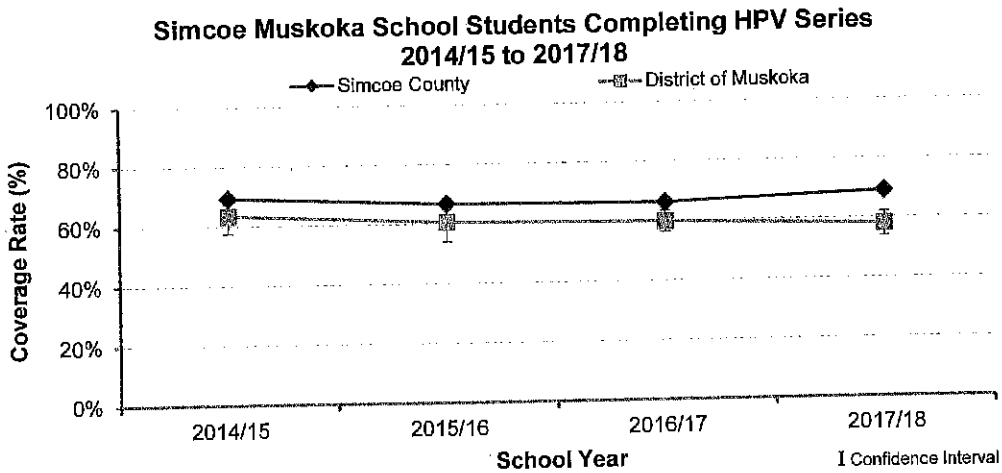
Effective cancer prevention

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a sexually transmitted virus that causes genital warts and virtually all cervical cancers. It is also responsible for a number of other cancers, including mouth and throat, anal, penile, and vaginal and vulvar cancers. It is so common that 75 per cent of sexually active people will get HPV at least once in their lifetime.

HPV can be prevented through vaccination. In Ontario, a free vaccine for HPV is offered to every Grade 7 student. In Simcoe Muskoka the vaccine is provided at school clinics by health unit nurses. Despite the HPV vaccine being safe and effective cancer prevention, only 68 per cent of local kids were vaccinated against HPV-related cancers in 2017/18. This rate has remained unchanged since 2014/15.

Recent research shows that the incidence of HPV infections in nine high-income countries, including Canada, decreased by 64 per cent after the introduction of HPV vaccination programs to girls younger than 20 years of age. The vaccine is also highly effective against genital warts.

Because a recommendation from a health provider is the biggest influence in convincing parents to vaccinate their children, in 2018 the health unit partnered with a local doctor and gynecologic oncologist to improve HPV vaccination rates. The result was an ongoing awareness campaign to inform parents, as well as health care providers, that the vaccine is about preventing cancer. In addition, using local infectious diseases data, the health unit continues to encourage health care providers to discuss the effectiveness and importance of HPV vaccination with their patients. The campaign continues in 2019 with further direct outreach to health care practitioners.



Data Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Digital Health Immunization Repository, extracted by Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit [2018/09/13].
Notes: 2017/18 was the first school year where HPV-9 was provided to students. 2016/17 school year was the first cohort to offer the vaccine to Grade 7 students and was a double cohort with Grade 8 females also receiving HPV. 2015/16 school year only provided HPV to Grade 8 female students.
Immunization data are presented by location of the school the student attends.



COMMUNITY AND FAMILY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Healthy lifestyle programming to prevent chronic diseases through physical activity and healthy eating
- Healthy schools program to help create and maintain healthier school environments
- Prevention of injuries and substance misuse
- Healthy child development support from pre-conception to school transition
- Prenatal classes, breastfeeding clinics and support, and parenting education
- Home visits to new parents through the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program

<p>1,171</p> <p>parent/caregiver visits to The Breastfeeding Place</p>	<p>857</p> <p>expectant parents registered for online prenatal classes</p>	<p>533</p> <p>families received Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) support from SMDHU</p>
<p>4,618</p> <p>home visits by public health nurses and family home visitors</p>	<p>70</p> <p>schools engaged with public health nurses from the School Health program (2018/2019 school year)</p>	<p>1,061</p> <p>expectant parents attended in-person prenatal classes</p>

44

OPIOIDS

Coordinated strategy is helping to save lives

Opioid misuse is an urgent and complicated issue that continues to impact families, individuals and communities in Simcoe Muskoka. It's also an issue that shows few signs of abating any time soon.

In 2018, there were 78 opioid-related deaths or 13 deaths per 100,000 residents in our region. This was significantly higher than the provincial rate of 10 deaths per 100,000 and part of an ongoing upward trend that has seen local opioid-related death rates triple over the past 10 years. Equally as disturbing, in 2018 there were 600 emergency department (ED) visits or 103 ED visits per 100,000 population for opioid poisonings among Simcoe Muskoka residents (see graph). This represents more than a 30 per cent increase over the previous year.

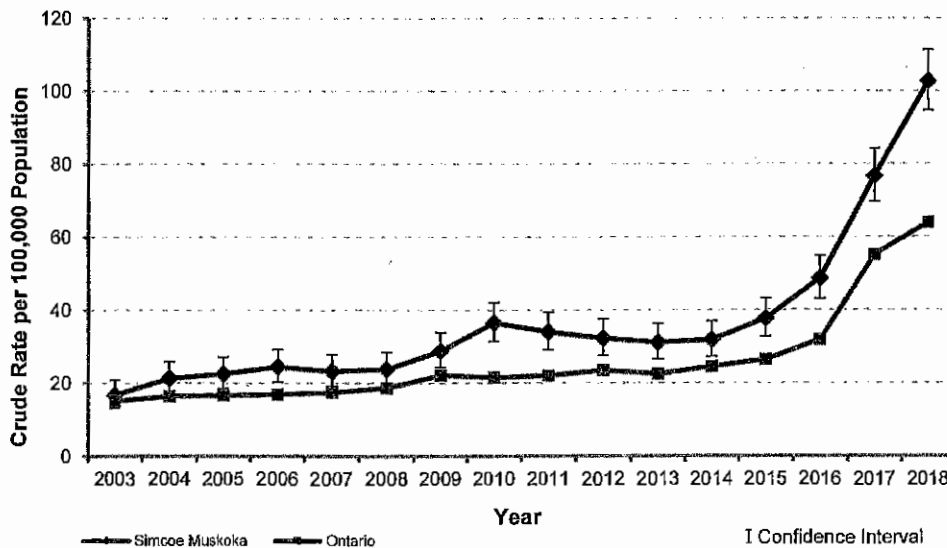
The health unit has been working with community partners on a multi-pronged, coordinated and comprehensive response to reduce opioid harms in our communities since 2017 when the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) was created. The strategy consists of five action pillars including prevention, treatment/clinical practice, harm reduction, enforcement and emergency management, with two foundational pillars, data and evaluation, and lived experience.

As part of the strategy, the health unit provides active surveillance, including monitoring the number of emergency department visits for suspected unintentional opioid overdoses. At a certain threshold these numbers can act as a trigger to the health unit to issue a public alert that anyone using street drugs should be cautious about their supplies, and how and when they are using drugs. In 2018 the health unit issued two public alerts about increased overdoses in Simcoe Muskoka.

Under the SMOS prevention pillar, the health unit also launched an anti-stigma campaign, "People who use drugs are real people", to educate the public that addictions are an illness, not a choice. Short videos of local families who have been affected by opioid use were produced and shared on the health unit's website and on social media to help increase the understanding – and reduce stigma – around substance use.

Harm reduction is an important strategy to address the opioid crisis. The health unit, along with the Gilbert Centre and the Canadian Mental Health Association - Simcoe Branch, are working together to submit an application for a supervised consumption site (SCS) within the City of Barrie. The application process has included consultation with the community and key stakeholders, and the identification of a proposed site in downtown Barrie. Barrie has been particularly hard hit by opioids. In 2017, among the 26 Ontario cities with populations over 100,000, Barrie ranked third highest for emergency department visits for opioid overdose. Data for 2018 moves Barrie into second place among large cities for opioid overdose emergency department visits.

**Opioid Poisoning Emergency Department Visits
Simcoe Muskoka and Ontario, 2003-2018**



Data source: 2003-2018 Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Interactive Opioid Tool. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2018. Available from: <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/DataAndAnalytics/Opioids/Opioids.aspx>. Updated July 15, 2019. Denominators for 2006-2018 were taken from Statistics Canada; Table 17-10-0139-01; Population estimates, July 1, by census division, 2006-2018.

PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

43

- First point of contact for the public through Health Connection service
- Health promotion and communications planning and implementation
- Media relations
- Integrating health equity and determinants of health into all programming
- Population health assessment, surveillance, evaluation and quality improvement
- Finance and administration

602,022

times our Facebook posts seen

88,686

Health Connection inquiries

73,768

visits to the Simcoe Muskoka HealthSTATS website

355

times SMDHU mentioned in local news

HUMAN RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

- Human resources management and implementation of human resources strategy, health and safety, and payroll
- Infrastructure, renovation and facilities management for eight office locations
- Information technology and telecommunications planning and implementation

311

staff as of December 31

8

office locations

8,800

square kilometers of land area covered

540,249

Simcoe Muskoka population served

46

QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Our commitment to continuous quality improvement

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's approach to performance management is based on a commitment to continuous quality improvement, a culture of information sharing and understanding, achieving value for money, and a focus on risk management. Measures of performance are reported annually to the province, Board of Health and the community.

Program Budgeting and Marginal Analysis

Since 2016, public health funding has been somewhat tenuous. Given continuing fiscal constraints, the health unit identified the need to use a practical evidence-based method for resource allocation. Program budgeting and marginal analysis (PBMA) is used to assess the net impact of different ways of providing services in relation to an organization's ability to meet strategic objectives and priorities. PBMA helps ensure that we are delivering the right mix of programs and services that are responsive to the needs of our local communities.

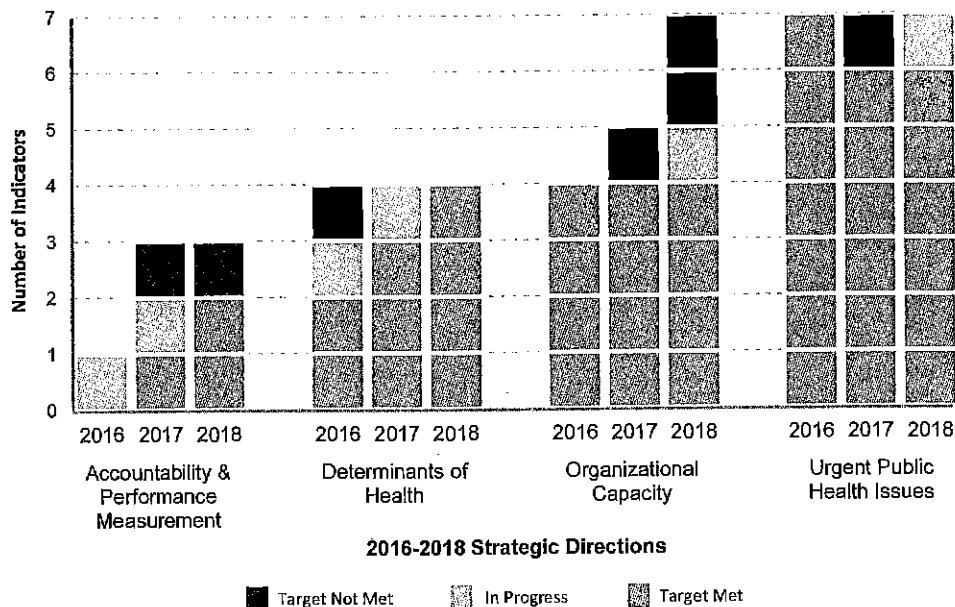
Strategic Plan

Effective strategic planning provides a road map for where an organization is going, the actions needed to make progress, and the benchmarks for assessing progress along the way. The health unit monitors, measures and reports progress on the agency strategic plan using a set of indicators established for each of the strategic outcomes. Colour is used to visually depict progress. Green represents success in meeting an indicator related to the strategic outcome, yellow represents work in progress and red reflects limited or no action initiated to date.

At the end of 2018, a total of 21 indicators were monitored across the four strategic directions. Sixteen targets were met, two showed work in progress and three indicated limited movement forward. These results have been used to inform 2019 plans and priorities in an effort to achieve our strategic outcomes.

The 2016-2018 Strategic Plan has come to an end. Reflection on this plan – our successes and areas requiring improvement – have been used to create SMDHU's 2019-2020 Strategic Transition Plan. This plan focuses on key components that will be positioned as health unit priorities for possible adoption in the changing public health landscape. The plan also allows the health unit to manage the impacts of Ontario's public health restructuring and transition.

**Strategic Plan Outcomes Results
by Strategic Direction
2016, 2017, 2018**



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Food safety education and food premises inspections
- Safe water inspections and education
- Health hazard prevention and management, including vector-borne diseases
- Rabies prevention and control
- Tobacco-free living, including cessation, prevention, protection, education and enforcement
- Emergency management and response planning

181 people received counseling and got free nicotine replacement therapy



37 STOP smoking workshops held to support people to quit smoking

8,406

food premises inspections

2,678

Smoke-Free Ontario Act inspections for smoking and vaping including retail compliance and test shopping with youth

184

tick submissions

1,332

recreational water facility inspections

1,434

rabies exposure investigations

72,512

Inspection Connection page views

48

Inspection results at your fingertips

Public health inspectors (PHIs) check a variety of businesses and settings in Simcoe Muskoka, including restaurants, child care centres and beaches, to ensure they are meeting requirements and standards that help keep people healthy, safe and injury free. Routine inspections help to prevent and reduce the risk of injuries and the spread of illnesses and diseases, including food-borne illness, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Depending upon the facility or setting, PHIs may be checking that foods are stored at proper temperatures so that dangerous bacteria can't grow, that equipment is clean and that sanitizing procedures are followed. PHIs also test water at public beaches. If weekly testing results are unacceptable, public health inspectors assist municipalities in posting notices to the public about water quality for those beaches. Tobacco enforcement officers make sure retailers comply with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 to not sell tobacco or vapour products to minors.

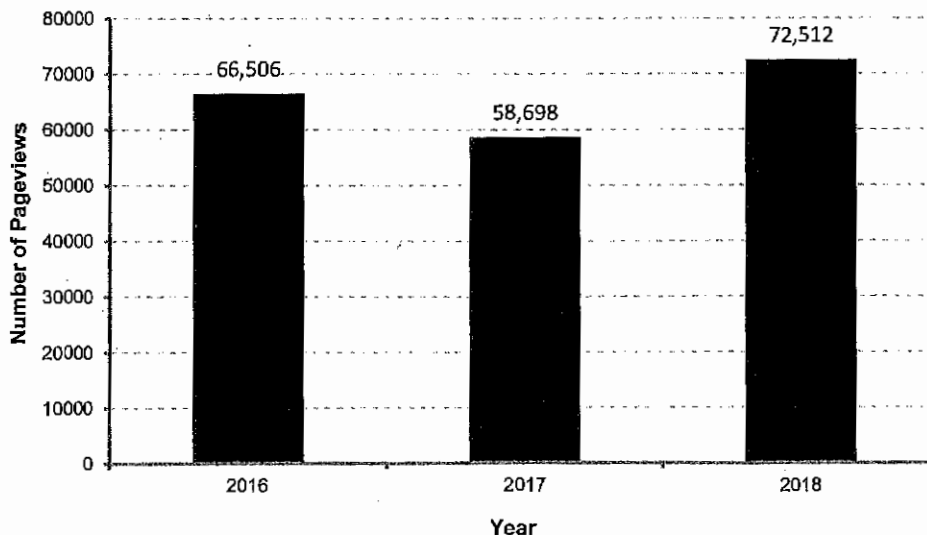
Inspection and investigation results must be made available to the public in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards. Disclosing results provides transparency to the inspection process and gives people information they can use when making decisions about visiting a particular premises or setting.

The health unit began posting inspection results on our website in 2014, starting with the health unit's food safety disclosure program. Infection prevention and control lapses were added in 2016, followed by the status of beach water quality. Most recently, inspections for recreational water, including public swimming pools, wading pools, spas and splash pads; recreational camps; and small drinking water systems were added to the website.

Residents and visitors can go online to our Inspection Connection web page to look at the most recent inspection report of a favourite restaurant, or to see which retailer has been convicted under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017. The beach water testing section has been enhanced to include testing results and a map link, and new images that make it easy for people to know which beaches are open, posted with a swimming advisory or closed. Inspection results for licensed child care settings and tobacco and electronic cigarette retailer convictions were added in 2018, making Inspection Connection an easily accessible one-stop shop for inspection results.

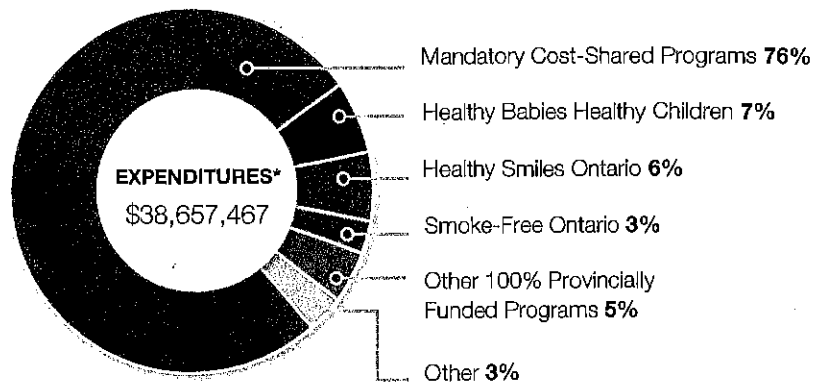
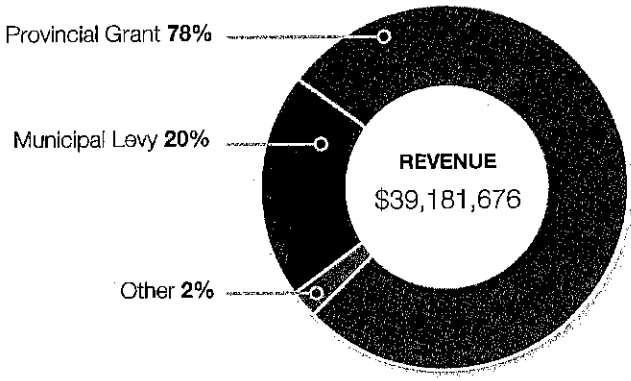
Inspection results for personal services settings, which includes aesthetics, hair styling, tattooing and nail salons, are set to become available in 2020.

**Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's
Inspection Connection Website Pageviews, 2016-2018**



Data source: Google Analytics, 2019

2018 HEALTH UNIT FINANCIALS



MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Officer of Health & Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Colin Lee - Associate Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Lisa Simon - Associate Medical Officer of Health

We would like to recognize the contributions of those Board members whose terms expired in 2018:

Sergio Morales, Terry Pilger, Elizabeth Saul, Brian Saunderson and Barry Ward.

BOARD OF HEALTH

- Anita Dubeau – Chair**County of Simcoe Appointee
(Voted in Feb 6, 2019)
- Ralph Cipolla – Vice Chair**County of Orillia Appointee
(Voted in Feb 6, 2019)
- Thomas Ambeau**..... Provincial Appointee
(Term expired June 2019)
- Sandy Cairns**..... District of Muskoka
- Lynn Dollin**County of Simcoe Appointee
- Gary Harvey**.....City of Barrie Appointee
(Appointed Jan 2019)
- Stephen Kinsella**..... Provincial Appointee
(Reappointed Sep 2019)
- Peter Koetsler**.....District of Muskoka Appointee
(Appointed Jan 2019)
- Betty Jo McCabe** Provincial Appointee
(Term expired June 2019)
- Micheal McCann**.....City of Barrie Appointee
(Appointed Jan 2019)
- Rick Milne**..... County of Simcoe Appointee
(Appointed Jan 2019)
- Larry Oehm** Provincial Appointee
(Appointed Aug 2019)
- Floyd Pinto**County of Simcoe Appointee
(Appointed Jan 2019)
- Peter Preager**..... Provincial Appointee
- Scott Warnock**..... Provincial Appointee
(Reappointed May 2019)
- Peter Willmott** Provincial Appointee
(Reappointed Aug 2019)



Consent A4a
Agenda



To: **Committee of the Whole**

Agenda Section: Corporate Services
 Division: Engineering, Planning and Environment
 Department: Planning

Item Number: CCW - 2019-336

Meeting Date: October 8, 2019

Subject: Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

Recommendation

That Item CCW 2019-336, dated October 8, 2019, regarding an update to the Provincial Policy Statement, be received; and

That staff provide comments on 'The Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement', substantively in the form identified in Schedule 1 to Item CCW 2019-336, to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing through the EBR Registry Number: 019-0279; and

That Item CCW 2019-336 be forwarded to all of the local municipalities within Simcoe County, for information.

Executive Summary

The current Provincial Policy Statement, 2014 (PPS) was issued under section 3 of the *Planning Act* and came into effect April 20, 2014. It replaced the Provincial Policy Statement issued March 1, 2005. The PPS provides province-wide policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development.

In July 2019, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) released the proposed changes to the PPS as part of the provincial launch for consultation on building more homes that people need and can afford. At this time, the Province is seeking feedback on the proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement to support the government's Housing Supply Action Plan and other land use planning related priorities.

The proposed regulation to implement the new PPS has been posted for a 90 day public review and comment period on the Environmental Registry (Notice No. 019-0279) ending on October 21, 2019. County Planning Staff have reviewed the proposed regulation and will be providing comments to the MMAH regarding the proposed changes as shown on Schedule 1 to this Item. The complete version of the 2019 proposed Provincial Policy Statement is shown on Schedule 2.

The proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement are intended to:

1. Encourage the development of an increased mix and supply of housing
2. Protect the environment and public safety
3. Reduce barriers and costs for development and provide greater predictability
4. Support rural, northern and Indigenous communities
5. Support the economy and job creation

This report provides an overview of the key proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement, for Council's consideration, and it identifies how these proposed changes would affect the County of Simcoe.

Background

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) is the primary provincial land use policy document guiding municipal decision-making. The *Planning Act* requires that decisions on land use planning matters be "consistent with" the PPS as it sets out the provincial policy direction for:

- The efficient use and management of land and infrastructure
- Ensuring the provision of sufficient housing to meet changing needs, including affordable housing
- Protecting the environment and resources including farmland, natural resources (e.g. wetlands and woodlands) and water
- Ensuring opportunities for economic development and job creation
- Ensuring the appropriate transportation, water, sewer and other infrastructure is available to accommodate current and future needs
- Protecting people, property and community resources by directing development away from natural or human-made hazards – such as flood prone areas.

County Planning staff has reviewed the proposed changes to the PPS in the context of all other land use legislation to determine the key findings for and implications on the County of Simcoe. In summary, the government is proposing policy changes to: encourage the development of an increased mix and supply of housing; protect the environment and public safety; reduce barriers and costs for development and provide greater predictability; support rural, northern and Indigenous communities; and support the economy and job creation.

The following section provides details on policy updates which may have implications for the County:

1. Housing Options

The proposed policy changes encourage Planning authorities to permit and facilitate a range of housing options, including new development as well as residential intensification, to respond to current and future needs.

As previously mentioned, the proposed changes to the PPS are a result of the More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan (Bill 108). The proposed draft policies for consultation would increase land supply requirements that municipalities must meet by increasing the planning horizon from 20 to 25 years; increasing housing land supply from 10 to 12 years; and allowing higher minimum requirements for serviced residential land (5 years) for upper- and single-tier municipalities. Changes to the PPS would:

- Update provincial guidance to support land budgeting (e.g. Projection Methodology)
- Increase flexibility for municipalities related to the phasing of development and compact form
- Support the development of housing to meet current and future housing needs, and add reference to *housing options*
- Support municipalities in achieving affordable housing targets by requiring alignment with Housing and Homelessness Plans
- Broaden policies to enhance support for development of long-term care homes
- Require municipalities to take action to fast-track development applications for certain proposals which support housing and job-related growth and development
- Allow mineral aggregate operations to use rehabilitation plans to demonstrate that extraction will have no negative impacts
- Align policies and definition of cultural heritage with recent changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act*
- Direct large ground-mounted solar facilities away from prime agricultural/specialty crop areas
- Make minor changes to streamline development approvals

Housing options is defined as "a range of housing types such as, but not limited to single-detached, semi-detached, rowhouses, townhouses, stacked townhouses, multiplexes, additional residential units, tiny homes, multi-residential buildings and uses such as, but not limited to life lease housing, co-ownership housing, co-operative housing, community land trusts, *affordable* housing, housing for people with *special needs*, and housing related to employment, institutional or educational uses."

Section 1.2.1.h is modified to require coordination with the Policy Statement: Service Manager Housing and Homelessness Plans. This refers to the County's Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy whereby the County is the Service Manager. Section 1.4.3.a further emphasizes the need for planning authorities to align policies with the housing and homelessness prevention strategy and puts more focus on the Strategy in addressing housing needs in the County.

Section 1.1.1.b is modified to add '*market-based*' and states: "healthy, liveable and safe communities are sustained by accommodating an appropriate market-based range and mix of residential types (including single detached, additional residential units, multi-unit housing, affordable housing and housing for older persons), employment (including industrial and commercial), institutional (including places of worship, cemeteries and long-term care homes), recreation, park and open space, and other uses to meet long-term needs."

However, *market-based* is not a defined term and the policies do not provide direction for planners to establish what is an appropriate market-based range and mix of housing types. It is unclear at this stage whether the intention is for applicants to dictate this based on their willingness to construct a product, or whether planners have an obligation to determine appropriate housing options for the market. County staff are requesting clarification on what '*market-based*' means.

Section 4.7 has been added, stating: "Planning authorities shall take action to support increased housing supply and facilitate a timely and streamlined process for local development by:

- a) Identifying and fast-tracking priority applications which support housing and job-related growth and development; and
- b) Reducing the time needed to process residential and priority applications to the extent practical.

County staff are requesting that the Province provide some clarity on the connection between 'fast tracking housing' and 'job creation'.

2. Servicing

The proposed draft policies for consultation would enhance stormwater management policies to protect water and support climate resiliency; and allow flexibility for communities in the County by clarifying perceived barriers to sewage and water servicing policies for lot creation and development in rural settlement areas.

The policies would give planning authorities the ability to consider the use of servicing options, including private communal sewage/water and individual on-site sewage/water service, where municipal sewage and water services are not available, planned or feasible (Section 1.6.6.1.e). In addition, the following policy has been added and is relevant to the County's rural settlement areas:

"Where *partial services* have been provided to address failed services ... infilling on existing lots of record in *rural areas* in municipalities may be permitted where this would represent a logical and financially viable connection to the existing *partial service* and provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*. [Where they are necessary to address failed *individual on-site sewage and water services* in existing developments], the extension of *partial services* into *rural areas* is only permitted to address failed *individual on-site sewage and individual on-site water services* for existing development" (Section 1.6.6.5).

Negative impacts means potential risks to human health and safety and degradation to the quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features, and their related hydrologic functions, due to single, multiple or successive development. Negative impacts should be assessed through environmental studies including hydrological or water quality impact assessments, in accordance with provincial standards.

The general intent of the policy changes is to allow more opportunities for developers to service residential units by providing flexibility with these policies and thereby support the More Homes, More Choice Supply Action Plan. It is unknown at this time how many new opportunities for development could arise from the additional flexibility of these policies however, it is of interest to the County given the number of rural settlement areas present.

3. Settlement Area Boundary Expansion

The proposed draft policies for consultation would add flexibility to the process for certain settlement area boundary expansions. For example, it would allow minor adjustments subject to specific tests and highlight that study requirements should be proportionate to the size/scale of development. This update is in keeping with the changes to A Place to Grow: The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019. More specifically, a new section has been added and states: "...municipalities may permit adjustments of *settlement area* boundaries outside a *comprehensive review* provided:

- a) There would be no net increase in land within the *settlement area*;
- b) The adjustment would support the municipality's ability to meet *intensification* and *redevelopment* targets established by the municipality;
- c) *Prime agricultural areas* are addressed in accordance with 1.1.3.8 (c), (d), and (e); and
- d) The *settlement area* to which lands would be added is appropriately serviced and there is sufficient reserve *infrastructure* capacity to service the lands.

County Planning staff continue to work with the MMAH staff to get further clarity on the new permissions built into the Growth Plan 2019 and PPS relating to settlement area adjustment and expansions outside of a municipal comprehensive review.

4. Climate Change & The Environment

Little changes have been made to these sections of the policy document. They continue to maintain current policies related to natural and human made hazards, protections for the Greenbelt, and policies that require municipalities in southern Ontario to identify natural heritage systems, and provide flexibility as to how to achieve this outcome.

The proposed draft policies for consultation would enhance direction to prepare for impacts of a changing climate and promote the on-site local reuse of excess soil.

The language of the proposed draft policies has slightly shifted to prepare for impacts of climate change. It also refocuses PPS energy policies to support a broad range of energy types and opportunities for increased energy supply. Sections 1.1.3.2.d and 1.8.1 encourage transit-supportive development and prioritize intensification in an effort to prepare for impact of a changing climate through land use and development patterns.

5. Employment Areas

The proposed draft policies for consultation would:

- Provide municipalities with greater control over employment area conversions to support the forms of development and job creation that suit the local context (current and future)
- Encourage municipalities to facilitate conditions for economic investment, and at the time of official plan review or update, assess locally-identified employment areas to ensure designations are appropriate
- Provide stronger protection for major facilities such as manufacturing and industrial uses where non-employment uses are planned nearby (i.e. buffering uses from new sensitive uses).

These changes are generally consistent with the Employment policies contained within A Place to Grow 2019. Specifically, the new PPS Section 1.3.2.5 regarding conversion is consistent with A Place to Grow Section 2.2.5.9.

6. Supporting Rural Northern and Indigenous Communities

The proposed draft policies for consultation would: enhance municipal engagement with Indigenous communities on land use planning to help inform decision-making, build relationships and address issues upfront in the approvals process; and enhance agricultural protections to support critical food production and the agricultural sector as a significant economic driver.

The language in Section 1.2.2 has been revised from *encourage* to *shall* and the updated version reads: "Planning authorities shall engage with Indigenous communities and coordinate on land use planning matters." County staff are concerned with this change as municipalities are not legally responsible to consult; the duty to consult legally lies with the Province. The County is consulting with Indigenous communities and is in the process of preparing an Archaeological Management Plan and Indigenous consultation strategy.

Consultation

Provincial Planning staff from the MMAH and the Ontario Growth Secretariat conducted a meeting with County staff and all local member municipalities on September 13, 2019, to provide an update of the recent Provincial policy changes including A Place to Grow, Bill 108, and the updated Provincial Policy Statement.

On September 19, 2019, MMAH hosted a web/teleconference specific to the proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement. County Planning staff attended this webinar session and invited local member municipalities to participate in person at the County Administration Centre. The webinar provided an overview of the proposed changes and was followed by round-table discussions allowing an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions. Most of the local municipalities participated in the session either in person, or remotely from their office via the teleconference line. Staff will continue to monitor opportunities for consultation with the MMAH and will continue to include the local municipalities in any opportunity available.

Conclusion

Generally the proposed changes to the PPS coordinate with the recent changes to A Place to Grow 2019. A Place to Grow also provides additional flexibility in key areas such as Settlement Area Boundary Expansions, Employment Land Conversions, Provincial Agricultural and Natural Heritage Systems, and Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) requirements.

County staff recognize that the intention of the Province is to support the More Homes, More Choice Supply Action Plan. Planning staff will continue to monitor and evaluate the Environmental Registry and associated regulation as it progresses and will provide an update to the Committee as more information becomes available. Staff will continue to work with local member municipalities on potential implications on planning matters as a result of the proposed amendments to the legislation noted above.

Financial and Resource Implications

The County of Simcoe will be required to undertake more long term studies and projects to ensure that it can comply with the general intent and purpose of the Provincial Policy Statement. The extent of this work will be confirmed once the final modified PPS is released.

Relationship to Corporate Strategic Plan

The intent of the Provincial Policy Statement is aligned with County of Simcoe Strategic Plan Goal of "Building Vibrant and Healthy Sustainable Communities".

Reference Documents

- CCW Item 2019-061, Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017 dated February 12, 2019
- CCW Item 2019-213, Information on Bill 108 (More Homes, More Choices Act), the Amended Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019, and the Proposed Growth Plan Transition Regulation dated May 28, 2019
- AHA Item 2019-307, Our Community 10-year Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy Update 2019 dated September 20, 2019

Attachments

Schedule 1 – County of Simcoe Comments on the Proposed Changes to the PPS
Schedule 2 – Provincial Policy Statement Review Proposed Policies July 2019
Schedule 3 – PPS Review Summary

Prepared By Adrianna Spinosa, MCIP RPP, Planner II

Approvals

	Date
Dave Parks, Director of Planning, Development and Transit	September 19, 2019
Debbie Korolnek, General Manager of Engineering, Planning and Environment	September 25, 2019
Trevor Wilcox, General Manager, Corporate Performance	October 1, 2019



Joint Release

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Better Communities
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Community partners open Lucy's Place

Midhurst/October 10, 2019 – The County of Simcoe today, in partnership with Redwood Park Communities, the David Busby Centre and the City of Barrie, celebrated the grand opening of Lucy's Place, an innovative approach to addressing affordable housing for those experiencing chronic homelessness.

Lucy's Place is an 18-unit supportive housing complex located in Barrie, Ontario. Two properties consisting of an old motel and adjacent home, were purchased by the County of Simcoe in 2017, with funding support from the Government of Ontario, and converted into Lucy's Place through a unique, innovative and collaborative partnership between the County, Redwood Park Communities, the David Busby Centre and the City of Barrie.

In 2018, the County entered into a 25-year ground lease agreement with Redwood Park Communities, a non-profit organization with a mandate to build safe, affordable, and hopeful housing in a supportive environment. Redwood Park Communities oversaw the conversion, and the David Busby Centre is providing case management and 24/7 supports to the residents of the project through their Housing First philosophy and program.

In an effort to identify creative solutions to reach its 10-Year Affordable Housing targets, of creating 2,685 new affordable housing units and preventing homelessness in our communities between 2014-2024, the County hosted an Affordable Housing Innovations Forum in February 2017. The Forum brought together stakeholders from across the social housing system to learn about innovative new approaches to tackling affordable housing shortages in Simcoe County. The input received at this Forum served as the impetus for Simcoe County Council's approval of the purchase of the properties for conversion. To-date, the County, in collaboration with area partners, has created more than 1,500 new affordable housing units, inclusive of the 18 units at Lucy's Place.

Fast Facts:

Funding:

- The project was made possible due to the generosity of a number of levels of government, local businesses, organizations and individuals
- The County of Simcoe purchased the properties in 2017 for \$1,563,750 (including land transfer tax). The project was funded with a combination of Government of Ontario and County funds
 - The Government of Ontario approved up to \$1,812,829 in capital funds for the project under the Home for Good program (HFG). HFG capital funds are provided as quarterly payments over twenty years
 - \$853,000 was approved from the County of Simcoe's Social Housing Reserve of which \$248,000 will be reimbursed by the Home for Good (HFG) capital funds, leaving a net County of Simcoe investment of \$605,000
 - The Government of Ontario is also providing HFG operating funds of \$184,000 per year for support services, and approximately \$140,000 in annual rent subsidies
- The City of Barrie is contributing \$152,115 to the project as a redevelopment grant from its 2018 Community Improvement Plan funds

A4b

- Five of the units in the home are also funded through HFG and County funds with an additional sixth unit being made possible by a private donation

Services:

- Lucy's Place consists of a converted motel which now has 12 self-contained bachelor units, a common area, communal kitchen, and office/programming space. The adjacent home provides six additional units in a congregate style living arrangement where residents have their own bedroom and share kitchen and bathroom facilities
- Clients residing at Lucy's Place have been experiencing extreme chronic homelessness
- Redwood Park Communities and David Busby Centre collaborate to create a supportive community, with on-site supports provided 24/7

Quotes:

"Lucy's Place is made possible due to opportunities created through community partnerships. Together we're making an impact in our communities, and Lucy's Place is a shining example of how collaborative efforts can lead to life-changing solutions. Thank you to Redwood Park Communities, the David Busby Centre, the Government of Ontario and the City of Barrie for working with us and making Lucy's Place a reality."

~ Warden George Cornell, County of Simcoe

"Lucy's Place represents hope. It is a perfect example of what we can achieve when government and community work together. This is the type of innovation and collaboration that is needed to help address the complex social challenges we are facing."

~ Mayor Jeff Lehman, City of Barrie

"It has been an absolute honour to be part of this housing project, and we couldn't have done it without our donors, volunteers, and the trades, many of whom donated their skills or materials. It took us almost 18 months to build Lucy's Place, and the residents made it into a community within a matter of days - a true testament to the impact of safe, affordable, hopeful housing."

~ Tim Kent, Executive Director, Redwood Park Communities

"Busby Centre is honoured and proud to be a partner in this very important project. We believe that ending chronic homelessness in our community is possible and this project is a significant step toward our community effort to do so. Every person we meet has value and has a right to a safe and affordable home."

~ Sara Peddle, Executive Director, David Busby Centre

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.

About Redwood Park Communities

Redwood Park Communities is building safe, affordable, hopeful housing in a supportive community. To learn more visit <https://www.redwoodparkcommunities.com>.

About David Busby Centre

The David Busby Centre is one of the lead organizations participating in actively bringing those solutions based and housing first best practices to our community. Visit <https://www.busbycentre.ca>.

A4b

About City of Barrie

Barrie is an exciting, caring and progressive community that 147,000 people call home. Situated 90 km north of the Greater Toronto Area on beautiful Kempenfelt Bay, Barrie offers an excellent life style and multitude of recreational opportunities. We are committed to the growth of prosperity of Central Ontario's leading City and most dynamic waterfront community.

- 30 -

Collin Matanowitsch
Manager, Public Relations
County of Simcoe, Service Simcoe Branch
705-734-8386 (mobile)
Collin.Matanowitsch@simcoe.ca

Jennifer van Gennip
Director of Communications
Redwood Park Communities
705-881-1890
jennifer@redwoodparkcommunities.com

60

Aye



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
COUNCIL - SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Ambulance Donation and Grand Opening of The Red Pine House



Shortly before Council commenced on Tuesday, September 24, the Warden, County Councillors and staff gathered for a small ceremony to commemorate the County's donation of a 6-year old ambulance and surplus Stryker stretcher to The Living Wish Foundation. Representatives from the non profit organization, which provides transportation and medical supervision for local patients diagnosed with terminal illnesses who wish to visit places of sentimental importance one last time, were pleased to receive the gift of a decommissioned County vehicle. This ambulance will serve as the organization's sole patient transportation vehicle and enhance the lives of many local residents and families.

In celebration of National Forestry Week, the County also held a Grand Opening event for the new Forestry Education Centre – The Red Pine House. The Red Pine House is located at the Simcoe County Museum, overlooking the Kirtland's Warbler Forest and Habitat Restoration site. The building features an interactive learning area for children and youth, artifacts and history on Simcoe County Forests. In keeping with our Simcoe County Forests' #GreenandGrowing self-sustaining operations, the education centre is a 100 per cent solar-powered timber structure that pays tribute to the forests' deep-rooted history.



Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Year 2 Funding for Social Housing Repairs

In June 25, 2019, it was recommended to Council that Year 2 Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) funding in the amount of \$1,357,820 be directed to the rental housing component, with the potential for another report to be introduced at a later date for Council's consideration, regarding the use of the funding for rental development or social housing repair.

This week, Council approved that the \$1,357,820 be directed towards the capital repair needs of social housing stock to offset some of the capital repair costs. With the use of OPHI Year 2 Rental Housing funding, the draft 2020 budget amount for capital repair loans will be reduced from \$4.01 million to \$2.63 million.



Service Simcoe
Communications and Events
Communications@simcoe.ca
705-726-9300 Extension 1773

Text: Municipal and media reproduction permission granted.
Logos, wordmarks, identifiers, non-stock photographic images:
© 2019 The Corporation of the County of Simcoe



George Cornell, Warden
Mark Aitken, Chief Administrative Officer

The County Clerk's Dept. maintains the official record for all County government proceedings. This publication is intended to identify highlights of Committee and Council meetings.

Applications to Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada

In 2011, the County of Simcoe entered into an agreement with Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) to establish a Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) in Simcoe County. The Simcoe County LIP settlement strategies inform community-based planning to support the attraction, recruitment, integration, and retention of immigrants. In order to develop welcoming communities, strategic direction is critical in addressing newcomer needs and their barriers to integration.



This week, Council received a report that detailed the recently approved (in principal) federal funding application for the Simcoe County LIP. The recent application to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is expected to provide the County of Simcoe with a new five-year funding agreement, beginning April 1, 2020, and ending March 31, 2025. The federal submission requested \$1,893,241 over five years, including salary expenses for three full-time staff. Staff anticipate that confirmation of federal funding associated with the LIP submission will not be received until later this fall.

Surplus of County owned lands



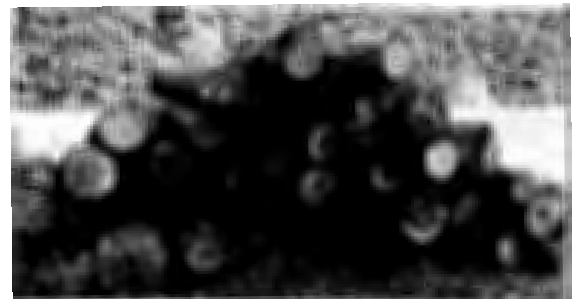
As part of any road widening project it is necessary for the County to acquire land from private properties along the frontage of the road to be widened. In some cases, the impact of the widening and the construction will interfere significantly with the owner's ability to continue to use their property, which results in the County purchasing the entire property as opposed to a portion along the frontage. With the County Road 90 project this scenario occurred at several locations, namely 5493 County Road 90, 5499 County Road 90 and 400 Mill Street.

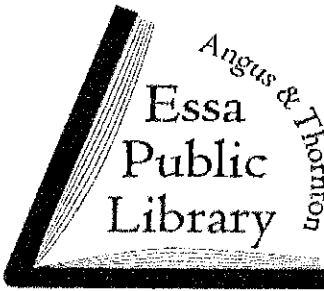
This week, now that construction is almost complete, Council approved staff's recommendation that the properties be declared surplus and sold in accordance with PFP Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Policy. Staff's recommendation that the subject property be sold by listing with a real estate firm or broker on the MLS system was also accepted by Council, as this method will reach the broadest area for potentially interested parties and will likely result in the greatest return on value for the properties.

Timber Sales Results – Summer 2019

Simcoe County has long recognized that forests and their many benefits and resources are essential to the long-term well-being of our environment, communities and economy. Commercial timber harvesting is just one of the treatments utilized to achieve the environmental, social and economic objectives identified in the Forest Management Plan. Approximately 1,000 hectares of Simcoe County Forests are inventoried annually. If harvesting is prescribed, trees are marked and tallied according to the prescription, and volume is estimated in order to provide detailed information to prospective buyers. The standing timber is then sold to the highest bidder as per County policy.

This week, Council received a report on annual timber sales, which encompass approximately 600 to 700 hectares, generally divided into 25 to 40 individual sales. The competitive bidding process resulted in excellent prices for all sales. Revenues result in a net operating balance surplus which is applied to the Forestry Reserve to be reinvested into forestry operations and the acquisition of additional forest lands.





Interlibrary Loan Update from Essa Public Library staff.

As a response to funding cuts to the Southern Ontario Library Service, and especially the loss of the Interlibrary Loan Delivery service, Essa Public Library has modified interlibrary loan procedures to bring information and leisure reading to our residents, and to share material with other libraries when possible.

The changes include:

- Offering a *maximum of three* interlibrary loan items per borrower each month. This limit curtails some use by very enthusiastic readers.
- Balancing loans to other libraries with the number of items borrowed by Essa to be as equitable as possible.
- Sending all items by Canada Post.
- Additional staff time to prepare items and to drive them to the post office each week. (*Double* the previous prep time to ship items).
- Mileage costs

Since re-launching the service in July Essa residents have borrowed 59 items, and the library has loaned 66 items. These numbers are expected to grow as people learn that the service is once again active.

Postage to move these items was \$85.00.

(Canada Post currently offers a discount for library materials shipping).

The service has **slowed significantly** due to the pace of mailing items instead of a dedicated delivery system that expedited materials with two deliveries per week.

As directed by the Library Board, additional costs associated with the new model of interlibrary loan delivery will be assessed in preparation for the 2020 budget estimates.

And SOLS will reimburse a *portion* of 2019 interlibrary loan costs early in 2020.

Respectfully submitted by
 Laura Wark,
 Essa Public Library CEO

AL



CLEARVIEW

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
SEP 30 2019
RECEIVED

Township of The Township of Clearview has initiated a review of the Official Plan and will hold a Public Meeting pursuant to Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

The Township is seeking public input to this important planning initiative.

Public Meeting Information:

When: Monday November 04, 2019 at 6:30 pm

Where: Council Chambers, Township of Clearview Administration Centre, 217 Gideon Street, Stayner, Ontario

The Township of Clearview has initiated a review of the Official Plan and will hold a Public Meeting pursuant to Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

The purpose of the current review is to establish a renewed long-term community perspective. Through this review, a new Official Plan will be prepared to replace the 2001 Official Plan and related amendments. The Official Plan Review is a Township-wide initiative, affecting all land within the Township of Clearview.

The Provincial *Planning Act* requires municipalities to review their Official Plans to ensure conformity with Provincial plans, policies and matters of Provincial interest.

The Township is seeking public input to this important planning initiative.

Information about the Official Plan Review will be posted on the Township website: www.clearview.ca. For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, contact: Mara Burton, Director Community Services, T: 705-428-6230 x 264, F: 705-428-0288, mburton@clearview.ca

64

Ab



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

CLEARVIEW

For More Information:

To ask questions, to be added to the mailing list, for information about appeal rights, or if you wish to make a written request for notification on decisions regarding the Official Plan Review, please contact:

Visit our website:

www.clearview.ca

Contact the Planner assigned to this file:

Mara Burton, Director Community Services

mburton@clearview.ca

705-428-6230 ext. 264

Visit or write to the Community Services Department at the Township of Clearview Administration Centre:

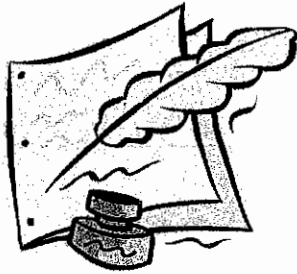
Box 200, 217 Gideon St., Stayner ON L0M 1S0

Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

If you have specific accessibility needs and would like another format or other accommodations the Township of Clearview will work to meet your needs. Please contact Human Resources at 705-428-6230 ext. 255.

Notice dated: 26 September 2019

65



ESSA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMS 2019-2020

THORNTON LIBRARY 1:30 p.m.

September 28, 2019	Speaker-Varcoes Topic – Log Home	Lunch Joan Truax
	NOTE – change of location for meeting -5768 8 th Line of Essa	
October 26, 2019	Speaker-Clint Lovell Topic – 3 rd Book	Lunch Cathie Murphy & Elenore Helmer
November 23 2019	CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON	MEMBERS ONLY
	MARKETPLACE – MAPLEVIEW & 5TH SIDEROAD	
January 25, 2020	Annual Meeting- Reports Speaker Jeff Ruch, Pinestone Farms - Horses	Lunch Ross & Olive Lee
February 22, 2020	Speaker-Barrie & District Barrie & District Stamp Club Topic-Stamps	Lunch Sandra Miller & John Beischer
March 28 2020	Speaker - Cecila Burke History of Flag Store - Thornton	Lunch Cheryl Brinn
April 25, 2020	Speaker-Sable & Hunter Topic-Wendats & 1 st Nation People	Lunch Richard Blanchard & Anita Werda
May 23, 2020	Speaker - Sandi Nemenyi Nottawasaga Handweavers & Spinners	41 th Birthday Cake

Sent via email to: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

October 9, 2019

The Honourable Jeff Yurek
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay St., 5th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Yurek:

At the September 27, 2019 meeting of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Board of Directors, a number of matters were raised regarding the implementation of Schedule 2, *Conservation Authorities Act*, Bill 108.

While we await the implementing regulations, we are keenly aware that transition will take some time. Sufficient time to transition is required. Some preparatory work for creating implementing Bill 108 such as memoranda of understanding for some services are in place. However, most municipal governments and conservation authorities are commencing 2020 budget decisions now, and will not be able to fully implement MOUs for all non-mandatory services in the next three months. We would advise that it is better to plan an implementation for the 2021 fiscal year, provided all regulations are in place in the first quarter of 2020.

Additionally, the activities that support the mandatory programs need to be articulated. Specifically, to what level of detail is field work, monitoring and the resulting documents required? Better defining the scope of activities to support mandatory programs is essential for two reasons.

First, different regions of the province will need different requirements to meet the mandatory programs in a meaningful way. We anticipate that there should be a grouping of expectations reflecting high growth areas (which need deeper level of detail), average growth areas (which would need less detailed effort), and low or no growth areas (which would need a minimum standard of effort).

Second, some conservation authorities will have capacity to meet the threshold of requirements set for their degree of growth and some may not. In the cases where capacity is lacking, a strategy needs to be developed that does not strain municipal financial capacity.

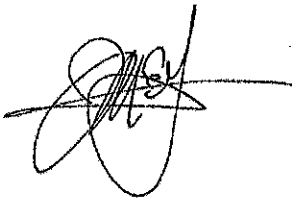
AMO would also like to see a more comprehensive conversation regarding non-mandatory activities. There are many perspectives on the value of CA activities that raise revenues and in turn lower the levy expectations and requirements. This range of

options needs local discussion. Further some consideration to dispute resolution needs to be taken. It is feasible that some local municipal governments may not agree on these discretionary activities and these different views will have fiscal impacts if not resolved in an orderly manner.

Similar matters were raised regarding the Blue Box. Your ministry developed a Blue Box mediation process with a very able facilitator, David Lindsay. This process brought all parties together to successfully resolve implementation concerns. We request a similar approach here, a working group of municipal government representatives, Ministry staff and Conservation Authority staff at a table to iron out principles for implementation.

We look forward to working with you on this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Jamie McGarvey
AMO President

cc: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario
Ling Mark, Director, Great Lakes Inland Water Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Jennifer Keyes, Manager, Water Resources Section, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry