

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Resolution from the Town of Niagara-on-the Lake dated January 12, 2022, re: National Childcare Program.
- p.3 2. Emails from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO):
- p.5 a) January 14, 2022 – Policy Update – MOI Broadband Webinar, Joint and Several Liability Resolution and Federal Housing Accelerator.
- p.7 b) January 19, 2022 – Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes.
- c) January 26, 2022 – Policy Update – Pre-Budgeted Submission, New Joint & Several Technical Group, Phase 2 CA Regulations, and Provincial Gas Tax Boost.
- p.10 3. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
- p.12 a) January 17, 2022 - Release – Simcoe County to Participate in Provincial Point-in-Time Homelessness Count.
- p.14 b) January 17, 2022 – Release – Find Your Fit with a Cart Size that Suits Your Household Needs.
- p.20 c) January 17, 2022 – Council Highlights – Joint Council and Committee Meeting Held on January 11, 2022.
- d) January 21, 2022 – Release – County Accepting Applications for its 2022 Tourism, Culture and Sport Enhancement Fund.
- p.22 4. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter dated January 17, 2022.
- p.32 5. News Releases from Ontario Newsroom:
- p.34 a) January 14, 2022 – Ontario Launches Virtual 2022 Budget Consultations.
- p.39 b) January 19, 2022 - Ontario Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes.
- p.43 c) January 23, 2022 – Ontario Hosts Successful Rural Housing Roundtable.
- p.45 d) January 25, 2022 - Ontario Investing in Inclusive and Accessible Communities.
- e) January 26, 2022 – New Ontario Clean Energy Registry Will Make Province Even More Attractive for Investment.
- p.50 6. Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre from the County of Simcoe, re: Barrie Collingwood Railway Active Transportation Trail.
- p.51 7. Essa Public Library Report – December 2021.
- p.55 8. Correspondence from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs dated January 25, 2022, re: Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP).
- p.57 9. Correspondence from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks dated January 26, 2022, re: Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.
- p.59 10. Correspondence from the Office of the Solicitor General dated January 21, 2022, re: Court Security and Prisoner Transportation (CSPT) Transfer Payment (TP).

B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

None.

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

None.



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 905-468-3266 • Fax: 905-468-2959

www.notl.org

January 12, 2022

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

City of St. Catharines
 Legal and Clerks Services
 Office of the City Clerk
 Box 3012, 50 Church Street
 St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

ATTN: Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
 bdunk@stcatharines.ca

RE: National Childcare Program

Please be advised the Council of The Corporation of The Town of Niagara-on-the Lake, at its regular meeting held on December 20, 2021, passed a motion in support of The City of St. Catharines resolution in regard to the National Childcare Program,

“WHEREAS the province of Ontario has the most expensive childcare in the country, presenting a financial hardship for many families and a barrier for women’s full economic participation; and

WHEREAS the \$34 billion early learning and childcare spending commitment announced this year by the federal government will bring transformative change to childcare by lowering parent fees and expanding the supply of regulated not-for-profit and public childcare in this country; and

WHEREAS the federal government has already reached childcare agreements with BC, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory, PEI, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec; and

WHEREAS the provisions of each agreement vary to some degree, but the majority of the jurisdictions have agreed to use the federal funds to:

- (a) lower parent fees by 50 per cent by the end of 2022 and to \$10 a day by 2025-26 or sooner;*
- (b) improve the wages and working conditions of early childhood educators, and*
- (c) publicly fund the expansion of not-profit and public childcare;*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines request that the provincial government take the necessary steps to work with the federal government on a bilateral agreement to ensure the new national child care program be made available to Ontarians, and that it focuses on increased access, affordability, quality and responsiveness, all of which are essential to the COVID-19 pandemic response; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff actively monitor federal developments and engage in provincial and regional discussions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council request the City Clerk circulate Council's decision to other municipalities in Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario."

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact our office at 905-468-3266.

Sincerely,



Colleen Hutt
Acting Town Clerk

c.c. Premier Doug Ford - doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Niagara Area MPPs
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association - info@omssa.com
Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario - amo@amo.on.ca

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: January 14, 2022 1:19 PM

To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: AMO Policy Update - MOI Broadband Webinar, Joint + Several Liability Resolution and Federal Housing Accelerator

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



POLICY UPDATE

January 14, 2022

AMO Policy Update – MOI Broadband Webinar, Joint + Several Liability Resolution and Federal Housing Accelerator

Broadband Webinar

On Thursday January 13, 2022, members of municipal council and CAOs received an **emailed invitation** from Jill Vienneau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Broadband Strategy Division to attend a webinar on broadband deployment in Ontario to meet the commitment to connect all homes and businesses to high-speed internet by 2025.

Municipal governments have played a critical role in supporting broadband expansion and will continue to do so as the projects approved under the Ontario Reverse Auction in spring 2022 require access to rights of way and public infrastructure. This webinar will provide an update from Minister Surma and a presentation from Ministry officials on the status of projects, planned actions and requirements.

AMO members are encouraged to attend the session which will be held on January 18th, 2022, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Joint and Several Liability Resolution

Recently, AMO wrote to members regarding the status of commitments to review Joint and Several Liability and the need to encourage the Ontario Government to put a plan in place with municipalities to address this issue before the end of the current

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mandate. Members were asked to consider passing a resolution to support the request and to send it to relevant Ministers and copy AMO.

AMO thanks those members that have already done so and has drafted a standard resolution for members that may still be interested in supporting this call. If you have not already done so, councils are encouraged to discuss the request at their next meeting and consider the attached draft resolution.

Federal Housing Accelerator

Municipalities and the public are invited to share their ideas on how the federal Housing Accelerator Fund and Rent-to-Own programs could be most effective. The Housing Accelerator Fund will aim to remove barriers and help municipalities build housing more quickly in an ambitious and innovative manner, while the Rent-to-Own program will aim to help make it easier for renters to work towards home ownership. Ideas can be submitted directly to the federal government until January 31, 2022, at <https://www.placetocallhome.ca/callforideas>.

If you have ideas for AMO to convey, please send to Amber Crawford and Michael Jacek by 12pm Tuesday, January 18th. Email: ACrawford@amo.on.ca; MJacek@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.



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

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: January 19, 2022 2:03 PM

To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: AMO Policy Update - Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)
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January 19, 2022

Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes

Today, Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM), Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO), and AMO President Jamie McGarvey met with Premier Doug Ford and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister Steve Clark, at the [Ontario Housing Affordability Summit](#).

Premier Ford announced more than \$45 million for a new Streamline Development Approval Fund to help Ontario's 39 largest municipalities modernize, streamline, and accelerate processes for managing and approving housing applications. Over \$8 million was announced through the Audit and Accountability Fund to help large urban municipalities identify potential savings and efficiencies through third-party reviews to further accelerate the creation of new housing and modernize municipal services.

The provincial government has also committed to working with the municipal sector to develop a data standard for planning and development applications to help accelerate approval timelines. This work is part of the [Ontario Data Authority](#) initiative, designed to accelerate Ontario's economic and social growth through improved data sharing. AMO's Digital Government Task Force has been recently re-purposed to work on this needed data standard.

AMO agrees with the province that everyone has a role to play in addressing Ontario's housing crisis and reiterates that housing affordability is a shared responsibility requiring commitment and coordination from all orders of government and the non-profit, co-operative, and private sector. Today's Summit was a good start and there is more work to do.

AZb

AMO looks forward to continuing to work with our partners to address Ontario's housing crisis, including at the upcoming Rural Housing Affordability Roundtable. The Premier and Minister will be hosting this Roundtable at the ROMA Conference on January 23rd with rural, remote, and northern municipal leaders.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

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[EXTERNAL]

6

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: January 26, 2022 4:41 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Pre-Budget Submission, New Joint & Several Technical Group, Phase 2 CA Regulations, and Provincial Gas Tax Boost

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POLICY UPDATE

January 26, 2022

AMO Policy Update – Pre-Budget Submission, New Joint & Several Technical Group, Phase 2 CA Regulations, and Provincial Gas Tax Boost

AMO Pre-Budget Submission

Today, Jamie McGarvey, AMO President, delivered the Association's Pre-Budget Submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. His remarks highlighted three key themes for the fiscal year that lies ahead:

1. AMO seeks a provincial budget that continues to address pandemic-related municipal costs with ongoing intergovernmental cooperation and investment.
2. A budget that does not impose new unfunded responsibilities upon municipalities and builds for the future; and
3. A budget that accounts for inflation in cost-share programs, Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund allocations, and provincial payments in lieu of taxes.

His address highlighted growing municipal capital contributions to new hospital construction and the need to re-think funding approaches. The full written submission is [linked here](#). Municipalities are encouraged to re-enforce the above themes in their submissions to the government and note highlighted emerging trends.

Municipal Insurance Costs: Joint and Several Liability Technical Review

Attorney General Doug Downey has asked his Ministry to convene a Technical Working Group on joint and several liability. The Working Group is anticipated to

begin work in March and will start by examining suggestions made by AMO. The announcement responds to recent calls by AMO and municipalities for the government to create a plan to address this long-standing challenge before the end of the Government's mandate.

Municipalities have experienced substantial increases in insurance costs and joint and several liability is one driver of insurance rates long identified by the municipal sector. Other drivers include climate change and the insurance market.

The Working Group will also include insurance industry representation and is a positive step by the Government. While AMO recognizes that a solution is unlikely before the June Ontario election, it is hoped that the discussions will lay the groundwork for action afterward.

Phase 2 Regulations of the *Conservation Authorities Act* Posted

Today, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks posted the second phase of regulations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The posting proposes how the CA programs and services will be paid for, including the municipal levy, the voting mechanism, and other governance and transparency matters.

As part of this consultation, the Ministry is hosting three webinars in February, including one focused for municipalities and municipal associations on February 8th. If you wish to attend a webinar, please register by emailing ca.office@ontario.ca with the subject line "CAA Phase 2 Webinars" and indicate your preferred session date.

AMO will provide comments on the submission which are due in 30 days (February 25, 2022).

Ontario Gas Tax Boost

On January 21, 2020, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation announced that the province will provide an additional \$120.4M in one time funding to top the Ontario Gas Tax for Transit Program in 2021-22. This funding brings the program to \$375.6M for the year and stabilizes it after gas tax revenues decreased during the pandemic.

The Ontario Gas Tax for Transit Program provides two cents for every litre of gasoline sold in the province. The funds are allocated based on transit ridership and can be used to support transit capital and operations. The funds are provided to 107 municipalities and support transit services in 142 communities.

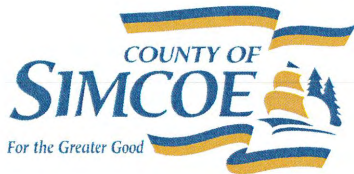
Gas Tax funding stability was recommended by AMO and will provide important supports to municipal transit as the pandemic continues to challenge ridership levels.

This funding is in addition to previously announced specialized COVID-19 transit supports by the provincial and federal governments.

Along with the recent doubling of Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), Ontario municipalities will be able to plan expenditures to improve important local services.

AMO's COVID-19 Resources page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca

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Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Simcoe County to participate in provincial Point-in-Time Homelessness Count

Midhurst/January 17, 2022 – In January 2022, Simcoe County will take part in a coordinated effort to measure homelessness across Ontario. The homelessness enumeration project is delivered locally in partnership between the Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness (SCATEH) and the County of Simcoe.

Over three days, service providers will count and survey individuals who are staying in shelters, short-term housing, temporary accommodations, and sleeping rough (without shelter). The Point-in-Time Homelessness Count (PiT Count) will provide a “snapshot” of homelessness in Simcoe County.

The survey will indicate the *minimum* number of people experiencing homelessness in our community. Other forms of homelessness, such as people staying temporarily with friends, are difficult to count in a PiT Count.

The PiT Count will improve the community’s understanding of the needs and circumstances of the people who are affected by homelessness in the region. The survey will provide key data on gender, age, ethnicity, veteran status, and more.

Results from the PiT Count will be made publically available at www.simcoe.ca/enumeration and www.scateh.com/enumeration. The County of Simcoe and SCATEH will use the results of the PiT Count to improve local response to homelessness. In the future, successive counts will allow the County of Simcoe and SCATEH to measure progress towards the shared goal of ending homelessness in Simcoe County.

Quotes

The Point-in-Time Homelessness Count goes a long way to gauging where we are in our communities as we continue to build additional affordable rental units across the County. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of 2,685 new units between 2014-2024 under *Our Community 10-Year Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy*. This is an important tool to ensure that we are providing the vital support required where it is needed the most. – *Warden George Cornell, County of Simcoe*

Through this Point in Time Count, we are able to collect key data that helps us better understand those experiencing homelessness. This information moves us one step closer to finding solutions together for those who need one. – *Jen Fleury, Chair, Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness (SCATEH)*

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About homelessness enumerations in the County of Simcoe

Additional information about homelessness enumerations in Simcoe County is available at:

www.simcoe.ca/enumeration and www.scateh.com/enumeration

About the County of Simcoe

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

- 30 -

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Release

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simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Find your fit with a cart size that suits your household needs

Midhurst/January 17, 2022 – The County of Simcoe is pleased to introduce a new cart request program to support residents and businesses’ capacity and storage needs. Starting January 17, 2022, business and homeowners can visit carts.simcoe.ca to swap their garbage and/or recycling cart for a smaller size. Exchanges will be free of charge until July 30, 2022.

“Our residents deserve a great deal of credit for adapting so well to the new automated cart collection system,” said Warden George Cornell. “Myself, and many of our Councillors, have heard firsthand how so many residents have enjoyed the benefits and conveniences of this new program. While we had some learnings the first few weeks due to the scale of this significant change, we’ve quickly seen the improvements in alleviating labour challenges and ultimately reducing collection misses for our residents. For households that would prefer smaller carts, the County is now pleased to offer a simple and easy way for residents to swap their existing carts for different sizes.”

Cart Sizes Options:

Residents are now able to choose the cart size that fits their needs. Cart sizes available for selection are:

- Recycling – 360 L (default size), 240 L, 120 L
- Garbage – 240 L (default size), 120 L
- Organics – 120 L only



Cart size dimensions include:

| Capacity | Height | Depth (Front to Back) | Width (Side to Side) | Holds approximately |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 360 litres | 110.4 cm | 84.5 cm | 74.1 cm | 4 recycling bins |
| 240 litres | 102.8 cm | 71.4 cm | 67.8 cm | 3 recycling bins OR 2+ garbage bags |
| 120 litres | 95.2 cm | 62.2 cm | 46.9 cm | 1.5 recycling bins OR 1 garbage bag |

How to Submit Your Request

To submit your cart exchange request, residents and business owners can visit carts.simcoe.ca and go to our ‘Size Swap’ section. This page provides all the relevant information about swapping your recycling and/or garbage cart, including a link to our online portal where you can make your request. For those people unable to access our website, requests can be made through our Contact Centre via phone at 1-800-263-3199. However, due to call volumes for all County Services, the most efficient and timely way to complete your cart swap request is through carts.simcoe.ca.

Prior to requesting a cart exchange, residents should consider the following information:

- Requests can only be made by home/property-owners. Renters should contact their landlords or property managers for assistance
- The first cart exchange/set of cart exchanges for each eligible County household is free until July 30, 2022
- For any subsequent exchanges (maximum once annually) or exchange requests made after July 30, 2022, there is an administration fee of \$50 per cart, unless you are a new homeowner
- Exchange deliveries will commence in early March and may take several weeks to complete. You will be notified prior to delivery to have your current EMPTY cart(s) at roadside for the exchange to occur
- Please carefully select the best size for your household. If smaller carts are selected and the location has consistent overflow of materials or overstuffed carts, the location will be required to revert to a larger size cart and the \$50 per cart administration fee will be applied. Overflow garbage must have a \$3 tag affixed
- For more information, visit carts.simcoe.ca

NEED MORE CAPACITY?

One additional recycling and/or organic cart may be requested by contacting Service Simcoe. Some conditions and a \$50 per cart administration fee apply.

This program does not apply to the cities of Barrie and Orillia.

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

- 30 -

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From: County Of Simcoe Communications <Communications@simcoe.ca>

Sent: January 17, 2022 11:51 AM

To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: County Council Highlights - meeting held January 11, 2022



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agenda from the **Joint Council and Committee Meeting on January 11, 2022**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

- Service Simcoe

Tourism Simcoe County Tourism Service Delivery to the Heart of Georgian Bay

The Economic Development Corporation of North Simcoe (EDCNS), comprised of the communities of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay and Tiny, was formed in 2014 with four strategic objectives for economic development in North Simcoe: Agriculture, Advanced manufacturing, Healthcare and Tourism. *The Heart of Georgian Bay* (HGB) is a Destination

Marketing Organization mandated by EDCNS to promote these municipalities and increase visitation to the area.

In 2021, the EDCNS analyzed the productivity and efficiencies of the HGB and the decision was made that it would be far more effective to have Tourism Simcoe County (TSC) deliver tourism services for the region, rather than the EDCNS. TSC is also known as Experience Simcoe County, and is a service group within Service Simcoe. TSC continues to serve a growing role of supporting tourism operators and partners, while increasing efforts to grow tourism visits with direct operator support, visitor marketing, experience and product development, and media relations.

On January 11, 2022, Council voted to enter into a Service Delivery Agreement to deliver on an outline and plan for Tourism Simcoe County to provide Tourism destination marketing and management services to the Heart of Georgian Bay.



Paramedic Services Power Lift Assist Procurement

The power lift assist device has become a standard safety item across the province with 87% of Ontario Paramedic Services using a powered lift assist system, many of whom have done so for many years. Research has shown lift assist devices minimize the opportunity for injury to staff. The device also protects patients from accidental stretcher drops and has been tested and proven to be more secure in the event of a motor vehicle collision involving the ambulance.

On January 11, 2022, Council approved accelerating procurement of all power lift assist devices in 2022 in anticipation of a price increase in the first quarter of 2022 and a second inflationary price increase in the first quarter of 2023. This opportunity to potentially avoid a market and inflation-based price increase through early procurement also results in quicker deployment of these safety devices.

Child Care and Early Years Workforce Funding

On September 28, 2021, the Ministry of Education advised Municipal Service Managers (MSM) that Canada and Ontario had signed a new Early Childhood Workforce Funding Agreement, providing approximately \$149.9 million in one-time funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce across the province. The County of Simcoe has since received a notional allocation of one-time funding totalling \$2,789,670 for 2022, and \$697,417 for the first quarter of 2023. This funding is pending provincial confirmation, subject to approval of a brief Service Manager Planning Report, due to the Ministry of Education on December 17, 2021.

While the licensed child care sector has for many years now experienced staff recruitment and retention issues, this has been exacerbated by the

current pandemic. Simply put, operators are struggling to maintain the levels of staffing required to meet pandemic related health guidelines, most significantly enhanced staff to child ratios. As such, overall capacity within the licensed child care system has declined.

On January 11, 2022, Council received a report on the County's plans to utilize this funding, and approved plans to hire a temporary manager to support stabilization, quality, integration, and growth across the local system of Licensed Child Care and Early Learning.



Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Plan of Subdivision

Since acquiring ownership of the LSRA in January 2020, the County has initiated a number of projects to assist with the present and future development of the airport and increase the LSRA's economic

competitiveness. One of these initiatives is completing the process to have a registered plan of subdivision on the airport lands. This proposed plan refers to the process by which airport lands will be 'subdivided' into 19 separate commercial blocks of land, as opposed to 'subdivisions' in the residential context for housing purposes.

The airport lands are currently one large parcel, which poses challenges for tenants and the County. This change will allow tenants/developers to engage in land leases exceeding 21 years at the airport, which will assist them in securing financing. In addition, the LSRA has numerous leases on the subject property, which results in all of the tenants' municipal taxes appearing on the overall LSRA tax bill. This creates an administrative burden on the County, as airport staff are then required to categorize and determine the appropriate amount per tenant and then engage in billing and follow-up activities. The plan of subdivision will allow property taxes to be issued directly to the hangar owners and contractually controlled through Land Lease Agreements.

On January 11, 2022, Council approved the necessary by-law to authorize the removal of subdivision approval authority delegated under Section 51.2 (2) of the Planning Act to the Township of Oro-Medonte for this application.

Fire Services Review Follow-Up and Land Use Planning Service Delivery Review

County Council has passed a number of resolutions related to governance and the service delivery review. Among them was RGR-13-19, which reads: That the County engage a third-party consultant to conduct a comprehensive review of Fire Services in Simcoe County, identifying

possible efficiencies and preferred Service Delivery models including regional and sub-regional service models. County Council also voted to engage third-party consultants to conduct a comprehensive review identifying efficiencies and potential streamlining of processes with respect to land use planning services and approvals performed by the County and its member municipal partners.

Through an RFP process, Pomax Consulting Inc. was selected to complete the review to identify efficiencies and to assist fire services and municipalities with providing value to the community. StrategyCorp was engaged to conduct a Land Use Planning Service Delivery Review with the goal of improving the County's planning a development approvals partnership with its 16 local municipal partners in land use planning.

On January 11, 2022, Council received the final reports from both Pomax and StrategyCorp. Council voted to forward Pomax's report to member municipal councils, with a request to review and consider the efficiencies, service delivery models and recommendations outlined in the review and advise the Regional Government Task Force on how the municipality would like to move forward in light of the review's findings. Council also moved that should the member municipalities see promise in some or all of the recommendations, the County can be identified to assist where appropriate.

On January 11, 2022, Council also endorsed the outlined opportunities in StrategyCorp's report and directed staff to implement identified opportunities and undertakings at the County and Local Municipal Level which can be done within current resources, and report back with an implementation strategy and proposed budget for all others, with updates being provided to County Council as required. Staff were also directed to continue to monitor the outcomes of the Provincial Conservation Authority Review and implementation of these recommendations, reporting back to County Council with outcomes and any further opportunities to create a consistent and efficient process.

A3d



Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**County accepting applications for its 2022
Tourism, Culture and Sport Enhancement Fund**

Midhurst/January 21, 2022 – The County of Simcoe is accepting applications for its 2022 Tourism, Culture and Sport Enhancement Fund until February 28. This year, County Council has allocated \$300,000 to help fund projects or experiences that will benefit regional tourism, culture and sport.

“The Tourism, Culture and Sports sector has been one of hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, and County Council is pleased to be able to provide \$300,000 of additional support for our local partners through this year’s Tourism, Culture and Sport Enhancement Fund,” said Warden George Cornell. “Simcoe County is a premier destination to live, work and play. These funds will assist local organizations to showcase our area, boost our local economy, and help this important industry with its continued recovery.”

The Tourism, Culture and Sport Enhancement Fund has been adapted this year to focus on project enhancement. Applicants must show that their initiative is sustainable without funding, and that any funding obtained would serve to increase or improve the value, quality, desirability, or attractiveness of the proposed initiative in order to increase visitation to Simcoe County.

Two new funding streams have also been added, including Main Street Enhancement and Sports Tourism. The funding allows each applicant organization to apply for a maximum of \$20,000. These funds will support and enhance tourism, culture and sport in Simcoe County by:

- Investing in initiatives that promote awareness, access, participation and appreciation of the diverse tourism, culture and sport offerings within the County of Simcoe
- Encouraging industry collaboration and partnerships
- Enhancing the visitor experience by supporting innovative and accessible programming
- Building organizational capacity in tourism, culture and sport organizations
- Contributing to the County of Simcoe’s overall economic health and sense of place

Interested applicants are asked to submit their forms by Monday, February 28, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Applications will be accepted for photo and/or video production, storytelling, product and/or experience development, marketing, event enhancement, operator engagement, capacity-building activities, cycling infrastructure, tourism wayfinding signage, and more.

All applications will be reviewed by the County of Simcoe’s Grants Task Force, consisting of appointed County Councillors with support from County staff. The funding will be divided among successful applicants based on program requirements, objectives and overall benefit to the entire region.

Details and application guidelines can be found at www.experience.simcoe.ca/resources. Potential applicants can contact the County’s Tourism staff via email, at tourism@simcoe.ca with questions.

About Tourism Simcoe County

The mission of Tourism Simcoe County (TSC) is to promote Simcoe County as a first-class destination by further developing the tourism industry and community partnerships. Through product and

A3d

experience development, marketing, workforce development and investment attraction initiatives, TSC continues to provide tourism leadership throughout Simcoe County.

About County of Simcoe

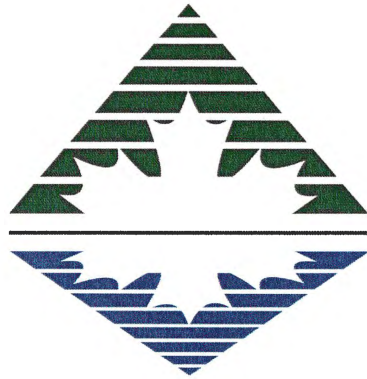
County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

- 30 -

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From: Robin Brown <robin@nottawasaga.com>
Sent: January 17, 2022 11:45 AM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter



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

SOUTH SIMCOE BUSINESS CONSULTING PROGRAM - YOUTH & WOMEN



Consultant Categories:

- Accounting/Bookkeeping/Quickbooks
- E-commerce
- Business Planning
- Cash Flow
- Employment Law

This program offers individual targeted, one on one professional business consulting delivered by subject matter experts.

Nottawasaga Futures, in partnership with the Government of Ontario's Rural Economic Development program is pleased to announce this amazing program, offering a specialized focus on the challenges faced by women and youth pursuing entrepreneurship in our rural communities.

For more information on this program please contact Nottawasaga Futures
705-435-1540



Nottawasaga Futures, in partnership with the Government of Ontario's Rural Economic Development program is pleased to announce our South Simcoe Business Consulting Program. This program offers a specialized focus on the challenges faced by women and youth pursuing entrepreneurship in our rural communities.

Nottawasaga Futures is a non-profit corporation created to identify, develop and coordinate initiatives to support the economic needs of South Simcoe. This consulting program offers individual targeted, one

on one professional business consulting delivered by subject matter experts. Entrepreneurs will be eligible to receive up to 3 hours of consulting sessions within their own community.

This style of support is very much in demand by our local entrepreneurs and the concept has received strong support from our partners.

To register, please contact Martin Kuzma by email at martin@nottawasaga.com

or by phone: 705-435-1540 x 109 or 800-509-7554.

Nottawasaga Futures Consulting Program

With the unprecedented economic impacts of COVID-19, having access to professional services is critical for the success of any business. However, not all business owners can easily afford these costs.

Nottawasaga Futures Consulting Program provides eligible businesses with access to free professional advice, including accounting, legal, financial, marketing, mental health, start-up and more.

Eligibility :

- Businesses must operate in one of the following municipalities :
 - Township of Adjala Tosorontio
 - Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
 - Township of Essa
 - Town of Innisfil
 - Town of New Tecumseth

To learn more contact Nottawasaga Futures • 705-435-1540



WHEN YOUR BUSINESS
SUCCEEDS,
SO DO WE

Our goal is to help you succeed. Whether it's business plan writing, marketing, accounting, or growth strategies, we've got you covered. See how we can help you today by booking an appointment with one of our business consultants.





Do you follow us on Social Media?

We post information on our events and current programs and information from our local businesses and community organizations.

Check us out!

Facebook @NottawasagaFutures

Twitter @NottawasagaNews

Instagram nottawasagafutures

Youtube Nottawasaga Futures



In an effort to monitor the current business climate in our communities, Nottawasaga Futures is conducting a series of surveys to determine how we can best support your business. Your input is valuable and will help guide us during this challenging time. This portion of our survey will focus on our supply of labour in South Simcoe. Completion of the survey will take no more than 5 minute

A4



Thank you Paul, we are so happy that we have been instrumental in helping your business succeed!

Client Testimonial: Paul Barker Automatic Rain

“The most difficult part of taking a business from an idea to the REAL thing is finding the right support. Nottawasaga Futures has walked alongside my business for almost 10 years providing guidance and assistance, when and where needed. They provided initial help with creating a business plan and a budget, then understanding year-end, and examining how to grow and be profitable. I’m a successful provider for my family, my staff, and their families, because of Nottawasaga Futures tutorship.”

Financial Support and Resources

Federal and provincial government financial supports:

- [Canada - Ontario Job Grant](#)
- [Ontario Business Registry](#)
- [Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy \(CERS\)](#)
- [Business Credit Availability Program](#)
- [CEBA Deadline Extended](#)
- [Canada Business App](#)

A4

- [Funding: Canada Summer Jobs](#)

Please contact Martin Kuzma for information on our projects

Click here to go to our website

[view this email in your browser](#)

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Contact us at ced@nottawasaga.com

705-435-1540 or 800-509-7554

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From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 14, 2022 10:33 AM
To: Colleen Healey <chealey@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Ontario Launches Virtual 2022 Budget Consultations



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Launches Virtual 2022 Budget Consultations

People invited to submit their ideas to help attract investment, build Ontario

January 14, 2022
Ministry of Finance

TORONTO — Today, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy announced the launch of 2022 Budget consultations and encouraged Ontarians to share their ideas for making Ontario the best place to build a career, a family and a future.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the government engaged people and businesses in a series of consultations to help inform the Province’s ongoing response to fight this virus. This is a critical time for the government to protect Ontario’s progress against COVID-19 and, more specifically, the newer threat posed by Omicron. The government will continue its conversations with the people of this province by asking them what they want to see in the 2022 Budget.

“It is clear that while the COVID-19 pandemic is not over yet, our government will continue to make decisions that will lay a strong, stable fiscal foundation that Ontario workers, families and entrepreneurs can build on,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “We are looking for ideas that will help us continue to build Ontario’s long-term prosperity and create jobs, while supporting workers and communities in every corner of our province.”

People and organizations are welcome to share their ideas via an online survey, emailed or mailed submissions to the Ministry of Finance, or



through a series of virtual consultations across the province that begin Monday, January 17.

Visit [Ontario.ca/budgetconsultations](https://ontario.ca/budgetconsultations) to learn how to submit your ideas by email, mail, or by filling out a survey. The 2022 Budget consultations will close on February 11, 2022.

The 2022 Budget will be delivered by March 31, 2022.

Quick Facts

- People can participate in this year's Budget consultations by:
 - Sharing ideas online by participating in the [online survey](#)
 - Emailing written submissions to submissions@ontario.ca
 - Mailing submissions to the Minister of Finance
 - Attending a virtual consultation session

Additional Resources

- Learn more about the [2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Build Ontario](#).
- Visit Ontario's [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect people from COVID-19.

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For Feb Consent. Thanks

Colleen Healey-Dowdall

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705-424-9917 x109

Please be advised that the Township of Essa Administration Centre is closed to walk-ins effective January 4, 2022. We encourage residents to use our website and online services where possible. Residents can contact staff directly by email or by phone and arrange for curbside service.



From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 19, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Colleen Healey <chealey@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes

Province announces more than \$45 million to help streamline development approvals and increase housing supply

January 19, 2022
Premier's Office



TORONTO — Today, Premier Doug Ford and Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, met with big city mayors and regional chairs to discuss the housing crisis and coordinate efforts to increase the supply of homes across the province. The virtual summit provided provincial-municipal leaders with an opportunity to share best practices, identify persistent issues and collaborate on ways to build the right mix of housing.

“Young families, seniors and all hardworking Ontarians are desperate for housing that meets their needs and budget,” said Premier Doug Ford. “At a time when our province is growing, our government will continue to use every tool we have to help municipalities get more homes built faster to help more families realize the dream of home ownership.”

During the summit, Premier Ford announced more than \$45 million for a new Streamline Development Approval Fund to help Ontario’s 39 largest municipalities modernize, streamline and accelerate processes for managing and approving housing applications. For example, municipalities can use the funding to implement online systems that make it easier for applicants to navigate the development approvals process, manage their applications and receive timely status updates.

“After a decade of mismanagement and inaction under the previous government, the housing crisis in Ontario will not be solved overnight or in one meeting – addressing housing supply is a long-term strategy that requires long-term commitment, collaboration, and coordination,” said Minister Clark. “Today’s Summit was an important next step to identify what additional measures we can take to increase the supply of housing and make it easier for Ontarians and their families to find a home that meets their needs and budget. As we continue this dialogue, our government will ensure municipalities have the tools and resources they need to unlock housing in every community across Ontario.”

The government also announced over \$8 million through the Audit and Accountability Fund to help large urban municipalities identify potential savings and efficiencies through third-party reviews to further accelerate the creation of new housing and modernize municipal services.

As an additional measure to help build more homes faster, the province also committed to work with the municipal sector to develop a data standard for planning and development applications to help accelerate approval timelines. Built with municipalities, data standardization will help improve the quality of data, create consistency across systems, make it easier to



measure results, reduce costs for business and governments, and support municipalities' transition to digital service delivery and digital approvals. This work is part of the Ontario Data Authority initiative, designed to accelerate Ontario's economic and social growth through improved data sharing.

The government's housing policies under More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan are working to increase the supply of the full range of housing options, from single-family homes to midrise housing to purpose-build rental apartment buildings. In 2020, the year after More Homes, More Choice was implemented, Ontario saw the highest level of housing starts in a decade and the highest level of rental starts since 1992.

Everyone has a role to play in addressing Ontario's housing crisis. The government is working with municipalities to ensure they have the tools they need to unlock housing through this Summit as well as a Rural Housing Affordability Roundtable with rural, remote and northern municipalities on January 23. Additionally, the government is engaging with industry experts on the Task Force and recently held an online public consultation to inform the province's next steps on additional measures that will help more Ontarians find the home that is right for them.

Quick Facts

- Ontario has appointed a Task Force with industry leaders, including those in not-for-profit housing, Indigenous housing, and economics, to provide the government with expert recommendations on additional measures to increase the supply of market housing. The Task Force's recommendations will be published in a report in early 2022.
- Premier Doug Ford, Minister Clark, and Ministers, Associate Ministers and Parliamentary Assistants will attend the 2022 virtual Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference from January 23 to 25, to discuss rural priorities and opportunities for building Ontario, including housing, economic growth, public health, resource development, and more.
- The province's ongoing work to address housing supply complements our continued supports for supportive and affordable housing for our most vulnerable Ontarians. Through the Community Housing Renewal Strategy and Ontario's response to COVID-19, the



province is providing more than \$3 billion between 2020 and 2022. This includes over \$1 billion through the Social Services Relief Fund to municipal and Indigenous partners, which is one of the largest investments in affordable housing and homelessness supports in the province's history.

Quotes

"Housing affordability is an incredibly complex challenge that requires the collaboration, ingenuity and commitment of the province, municipalities and Ontario's development industry. A comprehensive response is needed, and municipalities are eager to be part of next steps that reflect real collaboration and a commitment to transform Ontario's housing market."

- Jamie McGarvey

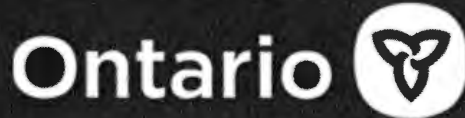
Association of Municipalities of Ontario President

"Ontario is in the midst of a housing crisis, and today's Housing Affordability Summit was an opportunity to identify barriers to increasing a supply of homes that meet the needs of residents across the province. Ontario's Big City Mayors want to recognize and thank the Premier and Minister Clark for organizing today's Summit, and for their commitment to continue to work together on solutions to this urgent and complex matter. We also welcome the new Streamline Development Approval Fund, which will help large municipalities continue to improve their housing approval processes. Municipalities play an important role in increasing housing supply and affordability but it can only be successful when there is a collaborative approach with provincial and federal governments, along with the building community, to find solutions to end this crisis. We look forward to continuing this work, together."

- Jeff Lehman

Mayor of Barrie and Chair of Ontario's Big City Mayors

"Housing affordability is a complex challenge that requires collaboration, innovation and urgency from all levels of government. Thank you to the provincial government for their leadership in calling this timely summit. We look forward to continued dialogue and consultation in addressing housing affordability across Ontario."



- Karen Redman
Chair of the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) and the
Region of Waterloo

Additional Resources

- [Read more about More Homes More Choice](#)
- [Learn about government programs designed to make housing in Ontario more affordable](#)
- [Learn more about the government's online public consultation, which closed on January 13, at Ontario.ca/HousingAffordability](#)

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From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 23, 2022 3:02 PM
To: Colleen Healey <chealey@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Ontario Hosts Successful Rural Housing Roundtable



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Hosts Successful Rural Housing Roundtable

Province collaborating with small and rural municipalities to build more homes faster

January 23, 2022
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

TORONTO — Today, Premier Doug Ford and Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, hosted the Rural Housing Roundtable with Ontario's smaller and rural municipal mayors, reeves and wardens to discuss the housing crisis and coordinate efforts to increase housing supply across the province.

Following the Ontario-Municipal Summit on January 19, 2022, today's virtual roundtable provided an opportunity to collaborate with smaller, rural, Northern, and remote municipalities on ways to build the right mix of housing, share best practices and discuss these municipalities' unique experiences with the housing supply crisis, such as the cost of supplies, and aligning housing with infrastructure needs based on changing populations.

"While every municipality is unique, the housing supply crisis hurts Ontarians in every corner of the province – not just large, urban communities – and our government will continue to work with all our municipal partners to get shovels in the ground," said Premier Doug Ford. "Thank you to each and every municipality that participated in today's roundtable, as we work to identify and implement concrete solutions to allow more families to realize the dream of home ownership."



The provincial government's housing policies under More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan are working to make housing more affordable by increasing the supply of the full range of housing options, from missing middle, to high-rises and family-sized rentals, to single-family homes. In 2021, the second year after More Homes, More Choice was implemented, Ontario saw the highest level of housing starts in history and the highest level of rental starts in thirty years.

But more needs to be done to increase the supply of all kinds of homes to meet demand, which is driving home prices out of reach for too many Ontarians. A recent Scotiabank housing report concluded that Ontario is last in the country in per capita rates of housing, and would need to build 1.2 million additional homes to match the per capita housing rate of our G7 peers.

That is why, along with collaborating with municipalities, the government recently held a public consultation on increasing housing supply, and is engaging with industry leaders through the Housing Affordability Task Force, which will provide expert recommendations in a report in early 2022. These consultations will help the government identify and implement solutions to increase housing supply of all kinds to make it easier for all hardworking Ontarians to find a home that meets their needs and budget.

"We know the key to addressing the housing crisis is getting more homes built faster. Today's housing roundtable with smaller, rural, remote and Northern municipalities was another important next step as our government coordinates with municipalities to make it easier to unlock and fast-track housing," said Minister Clark. "We know that there is no silver bullet to increasing housing supply, and the crisis cannot be solved in one meeting. We will continue to collaborate with all our municipal partners to increase housing supply across the province and ensure they have the tools they need, to make it easier for Ontarians to live closer to where they work."

Quick Facts

- In 2021, two years after More Homes, More Choice was implemented, Ontario had over 100,000 housing starts – the highest level of housing starts in history – and the highest level of rental starts in thirty years (since 1991).



- In 2021, small and rural municipalities had more than triple the number of starts (227%) compared to the previous year – the highest level in the last thirty years (since 1990).
- Ontario has appointed a Housing Affordability Task Force with industry leaders, including those in not-for-profit housing, Indigenous housing, and economics, to provide the government with expert recommendations on additional measures to increase the supply of market housing. The Task Force's recommendations will be published in a report in early 2022.
- The government recently held an online public consultation for Ontarians to share their input, which received over 2,000 responses.
- The province's ongoing work to address housing supply complements our continued supports for supportive and affordable housing for our most vulnerable Ontarians. Through the Community Housing Renewal Strategy and Ontario's response to COVID-19, the province is providing more than \$3 billion between 2020 and 2022. This includes over \$1 billion through the Social Services Relief Fund to municipal and Indigenous partners, which is one of the largest investments in affordable housing and homelessness supports in the province's history.
- Premier Doug Ford, Minister Steve Clark, and Ministers, Associate Ministers and Parliamentary Assistants will attend the 2022 virtual Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference from January 23 to 25, to discuss rural priorities and opportunities for building Ontario, including housing, economic growth, public health, resource development, and more.

Quotes

"Rural municipal leaders appreciate the opportunity to discuss the full spectrum of housing needs including reasonable rental accommodation. Over the past year, home prices have risen by up to 40 per cent in several rural communities. We need creative solutions that unlock the full potential of rural Ontario, including strong economic growth, high quality of life, and responsible land use."

- **Robin Jones**
Chair, Rural Ontario Municipal Association



"Housing affordability is a challenge in every part of Ontario and is creating unique challenges in rural communities. Municipalities are looking to the province for leadership and a strong commitment to working with municipalities on innovative approaches to making housing more affordable."

- **Jamie McGarvey**

President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Additional Resources

- [Read more about More Homes, More Choice](#)
- [Learn about government programs designed to make housing in Ontario more affordable](#)
- [Learn more about the government's online public consultation, which closed on January 13, at Ontario.ca/HousingAffordability](#)

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Krista Pascoe

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 25, 2022 1:03 PM
To: Krista Pascoe
Subject: Ontario Investing in Inclusive and Accessible Communities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing in Inclusive and Accessible Communities

Applications are now open for 2022-23 Inclusive Community Grants

January 25, 2022
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

TORONTO — Ontario is investing \$750,000 to help communities across the province become more inclusive and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

Applications for the next round of Inclusive Community Grants opened today. These grants provide successful municipalities, non-profit community organizations, and Indigenous communities with up to \$60,000 for a local project that will help older residents and people with disabilities participate in community life. This year, Ontario will prioritize projects that support under-served communities and those that address COVID-19-related challenges.

“Our communities are made stronger when we ensure everyone is included in community life,” said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. “That’s why I’m proud to announce the launch of the latest round of funding for Inclusive Community Grants, which will help communities across the province design and implement community-based projects to meet the needs of seniors and people with disabilities.”

The Inclusive Community Grants program was created in November 2020 and funding from the first round went towards projects such as:

- Making public buildings and outdoor spaces more accessible in 13 rural communities across the Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes region
- Developing culturally appropriate age-friendly community resources for Haudenosaunee Elders at Six Nations Health Services
- Addressing the emerging needs of older adults in light of the COVID-19 pandemic by the Lakehead Social Planning Council in a partnership with Centre Francophone de Thunder Bay and Pride Thunder Bay.

Applications for Inclusive Community Grants are now open and available at Ontario.ca/GetFunding. Eligible organizations will have until March 3, 2022, to submit their applications.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is investing \$750,000 to support community-based projects as part of the 2022-23 cycle of the Inclusive Community Grants program.
- Inclusive and Age-Friendly Communities work to promote accessibility, safety and active living for people of all ages and abilities.

Additional Resources

- [Creating a more inclusive Ontario: age-friendly community planning guide for municipalities and community organizations](#)
- [Accessibility in Ontario](#)
- [Programs and services to support Ontario's seniors](#)

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Krista Pascoe

From: Colleen Healey
Sent: January 26, 2022 10:39 AM
To: Krista Pascoe
Subject: FW: New Ontario Clean Energy Registry Will Make Province Even More Attractive for Investment

Consent.

Colleen Healey-Dowdall

Chief Administrative Officer
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705-424-9917 x109

Please be advised that the Township of Essa Administration Centre is closed to walk-ins effective January 4, 2022. We encourage residents to use our website and online services where possible. Residents can contact staff directly by email or by phone and arrange for curbside service.



From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 26, 2022 10:32 AM
To: Colleen Healey <chealey@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: New Ontario Clean Energy Registry Will Make Province Even More Attractive for Investment



NEWS RELEASE

New Ontario Clean Energy Registry Will Make Province Even More Attractive for Investment

ASQ

Ontario



Province capitalizes on its world-class clean electricity grid to give businesses new option to meet environmental and sustainability goals

January 26, 2022

Ministry of Energy

TORONTO – As environmental and sustainability goals increasingly influence corporate decisions on where to invest and grow, the Ontario government is taking action and leveraging the province’s world-class clean electricity grid by developing a voluntary clean energy credit (CEC) registry to boost Ontario’s international competitiveness and attract jobs.

“Ontario families have done the heavy-lifting and built one of the cleanest electricity grids in the world. Our government is ensuring Ontario is leveraging this competitive advantage to drive investment and create jobs.” said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. “The creation of a clean energy credit registry will give businesses the opportunity to meet their corporate environmental and sustainability goals when choosing to operate in Ontario and will also generate revenue which could be returned to Ontario ratepayers to help lower electricity costs.”

Voluntary CECs are certificates that each represent 1 megawatt-hour (MWh) of clean electricity that has been generated from a non-emitting source, such as solar, wind, bioenergy, hydroelectric and nuclear power. A provincial CEC registry will leverage Ontario’s already world-class clean electricity system, that was 94 per cent emissions-free in 2020, and allow businesses to voluntarily purchase and retire these CECs to meet their corporate sustainability goals and demonstrate that their electricity has been sourced from a non-emitting resource. A CEC registry could return funds raised through the purchase of CECs to Ontario ratepayers and could support future clean energy generation in the province.

The Ontario government has directed the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to research and report back on the design of a provincial CEC registry, that would give businesses more choice in how they achieve their corporate sustainability goals. The IESO will deliver its report by July 4, 2022. The government will consider the report as well as stakeholder input, with the intention of having the registry available by January 2023.

“A voluntary clean energy credit market could be a key tool to help Ontario electricity customers realize their clean energy preferences,” says Lesley Gallinger, President and CEO of the IESO. “We will engage with industry stakeholders, businesses, and others as we assess options for a potential market.”

The commitment to develop a registry builds on continued government action to make Ontario the best place to create jobs by cutting red tape and electricity prices all while

46

helping businesses reduce emissions to meet the Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan's climate targets. This will make life easier for Ontarians by returning more money to their pockets as they continue to deal with financial challenges presented by the pandemic and will help protect the environment for future generations.

"By lowering taxes, reducing electricity costs and cutting red tape, our government has reduced the cost of doing business in Ontario by \$7 billion a year," said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "Developing a clean energy credit registry with flexible options adds to the list of benefits to businesses looking to expand and invest in Ontario."

Quick Facts

- There is currently no official centralized registry that tracks and enables purchase of CECs for electricity generated and consumed in Ontario.
- Developing a CEC registry would allow for the simplified creation, trading, and retirement of CECs in Ontario.
- CECs, or similar voluntary registries, exist in other competing North American jurisdictions, such as Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and the New England states.
- Purchasers will be able to source CECs from one or multiple solar, wind, bioenergy, nuclear, and hydroelectric generation facilities in Ontario to meet their individual or corporate goals.

Quotes

"The best places to do business are those that are forward-thinking. Access to a clean energy mix is becoming one of the driving factors for companies when thinking about where to grow their business. This is an important initiative that positions the province as a smart partner for companies looking to reduce their carbon footprint."

- Trevor Dauphinee
CEO, Invest Ontario

"Retail Council of Canada (RCC) supports the Ontario government's commitment to develop a Clean Energy Credit system. Delivering products – be it clothing or groceries, toys or power tools – to our customers in an environmentally friendly way is a top of mind imperative for retailers. This Made-in-Ontario initiative will lead to a competitive marketplace, wherein businesses can voluntarily make commitments which will green our grid, drive local innovation, all while delivering competitively priced credits to business."



- Diane J. Brisebois
President and CEO, Retail Council of Canada

"GM applauds the Ontario government's announcement of a new program to introduce a voluntary clean energy credit registry that gives businesses options to meet environmental and sustainability goals."

- David Paterson
Vice President, Corporate and Environmental Affairs, General Motors Canada

"OPG has seen a strong increase in interest, and uptick in sales, for environmental attributes from our non-emitting hydroelectric and nuclear facilities. The government's proposed centralized CEC registry is a significant step that will benefit ratepayers and support Ontario electricity consumers wishing to track and report on their emissions goals."

- Ken Hartwick
President and CEO, Ontario Power Generation (OPG)

Additional Resources

Open for Business

We're helping to grow the economy and create good jobs. Find the resources you need to do business, work and invest in Ontario.

Find programs to reduce your electricity bill

Learn about programs and credits to reduce your electricity bill.

Ontario's Environment Plan

Learn about Ontario's plan to address climate change and protect our air, land and water.

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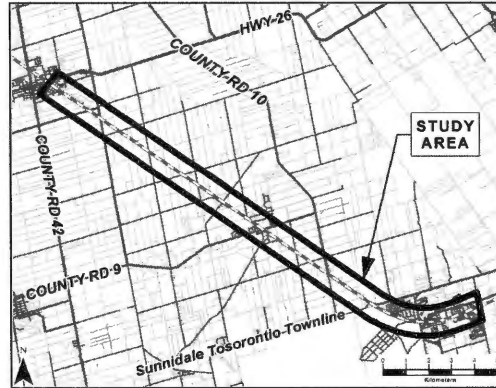
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[EXTERNAL]

**Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
Barrie Collingwood Railway Active Transportation Trail**

The Study

The County of Simcoe has identified an opportunity to provide inter-community active transportation with the development of the Barrie Collingwood Railway (BCRY) Active Transportation Trail, between Stayer (Township of Clearview) and Angus (Township of Essa) for a distance of 23 km. The County is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) to consider options for the development of the BCRY Trail. The site location and approximate extent of the Study Area are shown on the map.



The Process

The Study will follow Schedule B of the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (Municipal Engineers Association, October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, & 2015), which is an approved process under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*. The MCEA process includes: consultation with agencies, stakeholders, Indigenous communities and public; alternative design concepts for the preferred solution; an assessment of potential environmental impacts; and, identification of reasonable measures to mitigate any potential adverse impacts. At the conclusion of the Study, a Project File Report (PFR) will be prepared for public review.

Input Invited or Comments Invited

Consultation is important to this Study. The County of Simcoe would like to ensure that anyone interested has the opportunity to provide input into the planning and design of the project. At this time, County of Simcoe is inviting public input on the alternatives being considered. Information about this Study can be found at <https://www.simcoe.ca/BCRYTrail>. For this first stage of the process, you are encouraged to provide comments by February 18, 2022.

A **virtual Public Information Centre (PIC)** will be available on the County's website to describe the Study, the proposed design alternatives, identify next steps in the process and gather public comments concerns and interests that should be considered in the project planning. PIC materials pertaining to the Study are available online at <https://www.simcoe.ca/BCRYTrail> starting January 24, 2022. Your comments on the project and information materials are encouraged by February 18, 2022.

To provide comment, request additional information concerning this Study or to be added to the Project Contact List to receive future notices, please contact either of the following Project Team members:

Jae Park, P. Eng.
Project Manager
County of Simcoe
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
T 705-726-9300 Ext. 1166
E jae.park@simcoe.ca

Drew Davidge, P. Eng.
Project Manager
R. J. Burnside & Associates Limited
128 Wellington St W, Suite 301
Barrie, ON L4N 8J6
T 705-797-4358
E drew.davidge@rjburnside.com

Project and notice information will be made accessible upon request in accordance with the Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*.

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This Notice was first issued on January 20, 2022.

IMAGINE DISCOVER CONNECT

Outcomes



A patron shared this photo of her kids enjoying their personalized Tween Loot Packs.

"Thank you for the tween book packs - they're awesome! There was a lot of excitement over them."

Laura Wark, CEO wishes past Library Board Chair, Derek McKeever good future adventures.

A proud moment for EPL's YouTube channel: it has had 78,000 views since March 2020. Our top video is Petit Poisson by Karly that was viewed 10,000 times.

Google review:
"Quiet, peaceful and cozy place for my family. Friendly & kind staff. The Kids' Room was great. I have a son turning 3. It was his first experience of a library and he said he liked it and wants to visit again. We made beautiful memories there."

"These are great. The kids will enjoy them during Christmas break."

comment about the Tween Loot packs and Christmas tree craft kits.

A patron who enjoyed a recommended dvd series, shared a note,
"Thank you again for excellent service. Love Essa Libraries!!!"

After finding some books in our book sale, a patron said,
"I feel like I have won the lottery today."

A Grandma and young grandchild came in to get a library card. The little boy announced he had just spoken with his Daddy. Staff mentioned how special that was and his Grandma said *"Yes, especially since his Daddy is in Iraq."* He wanted to show his Daddy the Kids' Room and so they arranged for Facetime while he was in the library.

NPSS Book Club member asked for a copy of their current book and said,
"I'm excited about this!"

Programming Events & Attendance

Adults

Zoom Cercel de Conversation
Virtuel: 16

Virtual Trivia Night: 31

Bookclub - Angus: 4

Bookclub - Thornton: 8

Cookbook Club: on hiatus

Tech Learning - Angus (in person/phone/email): 20

Tech Learning - Thornton (in person/phone/email): 3

Outreach - Angus Geocache location: offered

Outreach - Thornton Geocache location: 2

Artists' Display: continues

Virtual Simcoe Author Talks: 2

Community Partners

Virtual Trivia program with Essa Township: 26

Virtual Trivia program with York Region CAS: 34

Social Media

Facebook: 8 posts
Reactions: 29
Followers: 1,314

Twitter: 12 tweets
Reactions: 75
Followers: 1,032

Instagram: 2 posts
Reactions: 26
Followers: 449

Youtube Views: 2,836
Reactions: no new posts
Subscribers: 365
Kids' Videos: no new posts
Miscellaneous Videos: no new videos posted

More

Library Zest blog posts, videos & email campaigns: 4

Library Zest blog traffic: 58

Library Zest unique visitors: 16

Makerspace: 2

Kids

Beanstack

1,000 Books before Kindergarten

Active readers: 2

Books read: 22

Badges earned: 3

Beanstack's 2021 Reading Challenge

Active readers: 7

Books read: 73

Badges earned: 18

Beanstack challenges offered: 46

Virtual

Storytime: 41

Growing together Indigenous Partnered Storytime: 5

Other

Baby Group - Angus: 28

Winter Book Bundles: 11

Character Search: 6

Connect in the Kids' Room - Angus: 23

Connect in the Kids' Room - Thornton: offered

Painted Tree kit: 50

Tween Loot Kits: 14

Young Adults - Unleash Your Future: Grant

Book reviews: offered

Pen Pal Program letters: 5

Virtual programs:

- First Aid, Part 2: 8
- Speaker, Cody Deaner: 145
- Unicorn Labs - Leadership & Careers with Fahd Alhattab: 14
- Leader within Youth Volunteering: 13

Circulation Totals & Analysis

| CIRCULATION | Dec. 2020 | Dec. 2021 | YTD 2021 |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Angus Branch | 5,923 | 5,913 | 61,883 |
| Thornton Branch | 1,483 | 1,473 | 16,967 |
| Angus Branch Computer Use | 176 | 64 | 840 |
| Thornton Branch Computer Use | 30 | 16 | 126 |
| Angus Branch Wireless Use | 879 | 31 | 2,263 |
| Thornton Branch Wireless Use | 166 | 27 | 984 |
| eAudio & eBooks | 845 | 836 | 11,819 |
| TOTALS: | 9,502 | 8,360 | 94,882 |

| Circulation Analysis | Dec. 2020 | Dec. 2021 | YTD 2021 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Print | 4,397 | 4,788 | 51,656 |
| Non-Print | 2,951 | 2,525 | 26,251 |
| Computer Use/Internet/Wireless | 1,251 | 138 | 4,213 |
| eAudio Books | 208 | 186 | 2,562 |
| eBooks | 637 | 650 | 9,257 |
| Interlibrary Loan: Borrowed | 30 | 57 | 627 |
| Interlibrary Loan: Lent | 28 | 16 | 316 |

| Materials Used In-Library | Dec. 2021 | YTD 2021 |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Angus Branch | 221 | 1,539 |
| Thornton Branch | 38 | 238 |

Online Resources & New Members

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Library website visits | YTD 2021 |
| 2,748 | 42,894 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| BlueCloud Mobile visits | YTD 2021 |
| Nov: 100 & Dec: 178 | 1,783 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Digital Library visits | YTD 2021 |
| 1,772 | 31,963 |

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-----------------|
| New Members | | YTD 2021 |
| Angus Branch | 45 | 731 |
| Thornton Branch | 2 | 45 |

Library Highlights



Teens were so excited with their Book Sale finds.

Winter Book Bundles

Filled with items based on children's interests and age, this project was a hit!



A new feature in the children's collection are the Codable Books to support emerging readers.



"We really enjoyed the Winter Book Bundles, especially that we got a free little book. Thanks so much."

Canada



January 25, 2022

Colleen Healey-Dowdall
 CAO
 Township of Essa
 chealey@essatownship.on.ca

Dear Mrs. Healey-Dowdall:

Strengthening the agriculture and agri-food sector is critical to Canada's economic growth. In partnership, the Governments of Canada and Ontario are working to deliver the greatest benefits for farmers, food processors and Canadian families.

As part of these ongoing efforts, we would like to share with you that today we are boosting the per claim administration payment amount provided to municipalities through the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP).

We understand the important role OWDCP plays in supporting farmers by providing compensation when their livestock and/or poultry has been injured or killed by wildlife, and to beekeepers whose beehives, bee colonies and related equipment are damaged by wildlife.

Municipalities are valued partners in delivering the OWDCP, and we appreciate your commitment to administering this program. In recognition of the crucial role municipalities play, the payment amount provided to municipalities will increase to \$50 per application, from the previous \$30, for any application with an injury/kill date of February 1, 2022 onwards. This increase recognizes that municipalities' incremental costs of program delivery have increased because of changes made over the past few years to strengthen the program.

To ensure a smooth transition date, February 1, 2022, municipalities will be able to begin accessing the increased payment amount through OWDCP. This coming into force date will also ensure a smooth transition, as well as minimize any potential errors in payments or financial reporting.

This timely investment will help to sustain one of the business risk management supports that our livestock farmers count on to do the invaluable work that they do in supplying safe, high-quality food for the people of the province.

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- 2 -

This initiative builds on other supports extended to the province's agricultural sector to protect its progress as we move forward during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would like to recognize Mayor Kevin Holland, of the Township of Conmee, who has advocated for these improvements during meetings of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Updated program guidelines are available at www.ontario.ca/predation. Should you have any questions, please contact wildlife.damage@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Marie-Claude Bibeau
Federal Minister of Agriculture
and Agri-Food



Lisa M. Thompson
Ontario Minister of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs

Krista Pascoe

From: Lisa Lehr
Sent: January 26, 2022 2:25 PM
To: Krista Pascoe
Subject: FW: Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Consent please

Sincerely,

Lisa Lehr, CMO

Manager of Legislative Services
 Township of Essa
 Phone 705-424-9917 ext 117

Please be advised that the Township of Essa Administration Centre is closed to walk-ins effective January 4, 2022. We encourage residents to use our website and online services where possible. Residents can contact staff directly by email or by phone.

Information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: ca.office (MECP) <ca.office@ontario.ca>
Sent: January 26, 2022 11:40 AM
Subject: Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

**Ministry of the Environment,
 Conservation and Parks**
 Conservation and Source Protection
 Branch
 14th Floor
 40 St. Clair Ave. West
 Toronto ON M4V 1M2

**Ministère de l'Environnement, de la
 Protection de la nature et des Parcs**
 Direction de la protection de la nature et des
 sources
 14^e étage
 40, avenue St. Clair Ouest
 Toronto (Ontario) M4V 1M2



Our government is committed to ensuring that conservation authorities are focused on helping protect people and property from natural hazards, the conservation and management of conservation authority-owned lands, and their roles in drinking water source protection.

To implement recent changes made to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA), three new regulations were filed on October 1, 2021 as part of the first phase of regulations. These regulations set out details of the new framework for programs and services that support the core mandate of conservation authorities and consolidated the 'conservation area' regulations.

Building on that progress and to support a smooth transition by conservation authorities to the new funding framework by January 1, 2024, the second phase of regulatory and policy proposals have

A9

been posted for consultation on the Environmental Registry of Ontario ([notice number 019-4610](#)). The government is making these proposals to improve overall governance, oversight, transparency, and accountability of conservation authority operations, and the proposals include municipal levy provisions, proposed budget process, and classes of programs and services for which conservation authorities can charge a fee.

The government is proposing regulations and a policy that would include:

- Details, through a Lieutenant Governor in Council regulation, governing the apportionment by conservation authorities of their capital costs and operating expenses to be paid by their participating municipalities through municipal levies, as well as related conservation authority budgetary matters, including requirements that conservation authorities distribute their draft and final budgets to relevant municipalities and make them publicly available – i.e. ‘Municipal Levies regulation’;
- Details, through a Minister’s regulation, governing the methods available for CAs to determine costs specified municipalities may need to contribute for the authority’s mandatory programs and services under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, and the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008* – i.e. ‘Determining Amounts Owed by Specified Municipalities regulation’;
- Classes of programs and services, through a Minister’s published list, in respect of which a conservation authority may charge a user fee – i.e. ‘Fee Classes Policy’, and
- Requirements to increase transparency of authority operations.

The ministry will be hosting a webinar focused for municipalities and municipal associations, as well as general webinars, to provide an overview of the proposals and answer any technical questions you may have about the proposals. Please distribute this email to relevant municipal staff. These webinars will take place on the dates and times listed below:

- Municipalities Focused Webinar: February 8, 2022, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Webinar Session 1: February 4, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Webinar Session 2: February 10, 2022, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

If you wish to attend a webinar, please register by emailing ca.office@ontario.ca with the subject line “CAA Phase 2 Webinars” and indicate your preferred session date. You will receive a reply to your email with information on how to join.

Thank you in advance for your input. You can reach the Conservation Authorities Office at ca.office@ontario.ca if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Corrigan
Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch

[EXTERNAL]

A10

Solicitor General

Office of the Solicitor General

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Toll Free: 1-866-517-0571
SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca

Solliciteur général

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25, rue Grosvenor, 18^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tél. : 416 326-5000
Sans frais : 1-866-517-0571
SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca



132-2022-265
By email

January 21, 2022

Dear Chief Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk:

The Ministry of the Solicitor General is committed to keeping communities across Ontario safe, supported and protected.

In fall 2020, the ministry hired an independent consultant, Goss Gilroy Inc., to conduct a review of court security and prisoner transportation in Ontario, including the design of the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation (CSPT) Transfer Payment (TP) Program. Under the CSPT TP Program, the ministry provides funding to municipalities to assist them in offsetting costs associated with both court security and prisoner transportation.

The review is part of the ministry's ongoing work to leverage technology and improve public safety to build a more responsive and efficient justice system across the province. This includes initiatives such as the Criminal Justice Digital Design (CJDD) and the Criminal Justice Video Strategy (CJVS). CJDD is modernizing the criminal justice sector by digitizing criminal case records and connecting IT systems to ensure data flows seamlessly from police, prosecution, courts and corrections and is readily available to the right people at the right time for decision-making. In addition, CJVS is designed to increase the use of video technology for most types of in-custody court appearances. This reduces the need to transport accused between correctional institutions and courthouses and in turn, improves safety and overall system efficiencies.

Municipalities, police services and other justice sector partners were engaged during the review of court security and prisoner transportation. This review is now complete and in turn, the ministry would like to share the enclosed high-level summary and full report (enclosed). We appreciate the time and effort provided by individuals and organizations during the review process. As a result, valuable feedback on how we can strengthen best practices, as well as explore ways to improve the delivery of court security and prisoner transportation was obtained.

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59

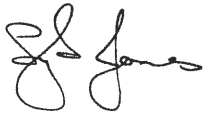
The ministry is taking a phased approach in response to the program review to ensure a pathway for future planning and continuous improvement predicated on good evidence that addresses gaps in the program review. It is important to note that there will be no changes to the overall funding envelope of the CSPT TP Program, subject to the regular fiscal process.

Public safety is a top priority for our government and providing our frontline police and their municipal partners with the tools, resources and financial supports they need to protect our communities is critical to this endeavor.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with you and other municipal and justice sector partners on court security and prisoner transportation and on other shared public safety priorities.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the CSPT program review or if you would like a French version of the full report, please contact Michelina Longo, Director, External Relations Branch at Michelina.Longo@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Sylvia Jones
Solicitor General





Enclosures (2)

- 1- High level Summary of CSPT Program Review
- 2- CSPT Review - Final Report * contact clerk's office for copy

A High-Level Summary of the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program Review

Engagement Approach

A range of consultation activities led by Goss Gilroy Inc., detailed below, took place between fall 2020 and spring 2021. Over 200 individuals participated.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
|  | <p>Interviews with a range of court security and prisoner transportation stakeholders were conducted. The interviews had a dual purpose: 1) scope the exercise and understand what stakeholders wanted to see addressed as part of the review, and 2) collect information to respond to the review's questions about how to improve service delivery.</p> |  <p>31 Interviews</p> |
|  | <p>A survey was administered to all municipal police services (71 per cent response rate) and a survey of Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) detachments (86 per cent response rate) to collect information on the way court security and prisoner transportation is delivered and to obtain input. An online feedback form was also made available to all municipal chief administrative officers and chairs of Ontario police service Boards.</p> |  <p>144 Responses</p> |
|  | <p>Input received from stakeholders through the survey and through online forms was applied to guide a series of focus groups with representatives from a representative cross-section of municipal police services, OPP detachments, First Nation police services, and Police Associations.</p> |  <p>43 Participants</p> |

What We Heard: A Snapshot

Funding Model

- Generally, participants are concerned about the fairness and effectiveness of the current funding model for court security and prisoner transportation. Those with courts located in their jurisdictions bear the full net cost of court security, including overtime outlays, as well, the retrospective nature of the grant does not reflect real-time expenditures.
- First Nations police services in Ontario expressed concern that they are not eligible for funding under the CSPT TP and therefore are assuming these expenses.



Prisoner Transportation

- The expanded use of virtual court appearances, accelerated by the pandemic, should be maintained where feasible, but infrastructure limitations and impacts on human resources must be addressed.
- Special Constables are appropriate resources for conducting prisoner transportation and court security, but not all police services leverage these positions.
- The OPP Offender Transportation Unit is generally seen as an effective model; however, there are exclusions that cause some jurisdictions to have to expend additional resources to meet all prisoner transportation needs.
- The interface with correctional institutions is key in terms of achieving efficient prisoner transportation. Scheduling and the coordination of prisoner pick-up and drop-off at some correctional institutions and courts could be improved—technology solutions should be explored.



Court Security

- While courthouse facility improvements have enhanced security in some locations, outstanding facility issues have not all been addressed in other locations.
- Some concerns about contracting for court security functions exist; however, some jurisdictions demonstrated success in contracting courthouse screening activities.
- Unique challenges for Northern Ontario and remote locations cause disruption to front-line policing services when officers are redeployed to court security or prisoner transportation activities due to geography and resource gaps.
- Conflicts were identified between courthouse stakeholders' requests for additional security and constrained police budgets that cannot accommodate increased expenditures.

