

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Essa Fire Department Statistics – November 2020.
- p. 3 2. Essa Township Building Department Statistics – November 2020.
- p. 4 3. Resolution from the Municipality of Leamington dated November 23, 2020, re: Support of Municipality of Tweed Resolution 343 regarding Cannabis Production Facilities, the *Cannabis Act*, and Health Canada Guidelines.
- p. 6 4. Resolutions from the City of Hamilton:
p. 8 a) November 24, 2020 – Temporary Cap on Food Delivery Service Charges (Item 10.1).
b) November 24, 2020 – Request for an Interim Cap on Gas Plant and Greenhouse Gas Pollution and the Development and Implementation of a Plan to Phase-Out Gas-Fired Electricity Generations (Item 10.2).
- p.10 5. Correspondence from the Region of Peel dated November 26, 2020, re: Motion Regarding Property Tax Exemptions for Veteran Clubs.
- p. 12 6. NVCA Board Meeting Highlights – November 27, 2020.
- p. 15 7. Correspondence from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA):
p. 17 a) November 30, 2020 – Opinion “Managing the Nottawasaga River to Appease All Takes Many Hands”.
p. 18 b) December 2, 2020 – Media Release “NVCA Raises Fees to Conservation Areas to Help Upkeep Maintenance”.
c) December 6, 2020 – Media Release “Changes to *Conservation Authorities Act* Fall Very Short of Addressing Concerns”.
- p. 20 8. AMO Communications – Policy Updates:
p. 22 a) November 30, 2020 – Bill 229, Schedule 6 (CA Act) Proposed Amendments.
p. 24 b) December 1, 2020 – Federal Fall Economic Statement.
c) December 4, 2020 - COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force, New COVID-19 Measures, Long-Term Care Commission, and AMO-Ontario Annual Joint MOU Statement.
p. 27 d) December 7, 2020 - Initial Vaccination Approach, AG Annual Report, Wetland Conservation Program.
- p. 29 9. Correspondence from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) dated December 2, 2020, re: SMDHU Instructions to person Responsible for Business/Organization.
- p. 33 10. Correspondence from the Township of Howick dated December 3, 2020, re: Resolution No. 288-20 and Background Information – Request for Amendments to *Agricultural Tile Drainage Installation Act*.
- p. 36 11. Resolution from the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex date December 7, 2020, re: Drainage Matters – CN Rail.

- p. 38 12. Resolution from the Township of Georgian Bluffs dated December 7, 2020, re: Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and *Municipal Elections Act*, 2020.
- p. 40 13. Correspondence from Brookfield Properties Development dated December 8, 2020, re: Brookfield Subdivision – Community Update and Request for Consideration.
- p. 43 14. AMO Communication dated December 10, 2020, re: AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Municipal Financial Impacts, Supportive Housing Expansion, COVID-19 Modelling and Emergency Orders Extended, and Fall Legislative Session Adjourned.
- p. 46 15. Email from the Ontario Ministry of Infrastructure dated December 11, 2020, re: ICIP: COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream – Local Government Intake Reminder.
- p. 48 16. Media Release from the County of Simcoe dated December 11, 2020, re: Simcoe County to Receive \$41 Million in Broadband Upgrades.

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.

ESSA FIRE DEPARTMENT 2020 – NOVEMBER STATISTICS

TYPE	STATION	DATE	TIME	MULTI-CALL
NOVEMBER 1ST – 7TH				
Fire alarm,	Stn 2	Sunday	10:34hrs	Non-concurrent
Medical	Stn 1	Sunday	21:59hrs	Non-concurrent
Medical	Stn 2	Monday	10:46hrs	Non-concurrent
Industrial accid	Stn 2	Monday	21:31	Non-concurrent
Fire alarm	Stn 2	Saturday	14:33	Concurrent
Seizure	Stn 1	Saturday	14:47	Concurrent
VSA	Stn 2	Saturday	20:01	Non-concurrent
NOVEMBER 8TH -14TH				
Seizure	Stn 2	Monday	12:30	Non-concurrent
Medical	Stn 2	Monday	16:15	Non-concurrent
MVC	Stn 2	Tuesday	09:10	Non-concurrent
Overheat	Stn 2	Wednesday	08:21	Non-concurrent
MVC	Stn 2	Thursday	13:20	Non-concurrent
Power lines	Stn 1	Friday	05:50	Concurrent
MVC	Stn 1	Friday	06:05	Concurrent
MVC	Stn 2	Saturday	15:23	Non-concurrent
Fire alarm	Stn 2	Saturday	17:17	Non-concurrent
NOVEMBER 15TH – 21ST				
Power lines	Stn 2	Sunday	15:11	Concurrent
Power lines	Stn 1	Sunday	15:13	Concurrent
Power lines	Stn 1	Sunday	16:11	Concurrent
Power lines	Stn 1	Sunday	20:15	Concurrent
Power lines	Stn 1	Monday	08:48	Non-concurrent
Fire alarm	Stn 1	Tuesday	15:13	Non-concurrent
Medical	Stn 2	Wednesday	10:06	Non-concurrent
Medical	Stn 2	Thursday	07:56	Non-concurrent
Overdose	Stn 2	Thursday	21:19	Non-concurrent
VSA	Stn 2	Friday	03:13	Non-concurrent
MVC	Stn 2	Friday	22:15	Non-concurrent

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NOVEMBER 22ND – 28TH				
Medical	Stn 1	Sunday	02:15	Non-concurrent
MVC	Stn 1	Sunday	18:30	Non-concurrent
Fire Alarm	Stn 1	Monday	22:07	Non-concurrent
OD	Stn 2	Wednesday	19:54	Non-concurrent
OD	Stn 2	Wednesday	23:23	Non-concurrent
Gas leak	Stn 2	Thursday	08:19	Non-concurrent
Fire Alarm	Stn 1	Saturday	16:07	Non-concurrent

NOVEMBER 29TH – 30TH				
Medical	Stn 1	Sunday	18:54	Non-concurrent
VSA	Stn 2	Monday	09:42	Non-concurrent
OD	Stn 2	Monday	19:09	Non-concurrent

Nov-20

Current

Permits Issued	# Permits Issued	# Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Construction Value of Permits Issued	Construction Value of Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Building Permit Fees	Building Permit Fees YTD
Residential	38	344	\$0.00	\$27,494,915.00	\$0.00	\$343,282.92
Commercial	4	22	\$570,000.00	\$1,308,136.00	\$6,522.88	\$16,909.17
Industrial	0	1	\$0.00	\$167,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,639.06
Institutional	0	3	\$0.00	\$130,000.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Public Utilities	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Agricultural	0	4	\$0.00	\$520,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,008.11
TOTAL	42	374	\$570,000.00	\$ 29,620,051.00	\$6,522.88	

Y.O.Y.	17	299	\$1,802,050.00	\$ 20,487,969.00	\$19,117.65	\$ 217,190.86	67.16%
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NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

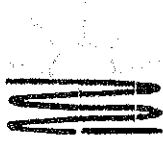
Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	23	123	\$5,799,000.00	\$27,835,000.00
Mult Res Bldgs	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accessory Apt within Existing Res Bldg	0	0	\$ -	\$0.00
TOTAL	23	123	\$5,799,000.00	

Drew Brooks

Reviewed by Chief Building Official Drew Brooks

Y.O.Y	3	39	\$ 690,000.00	\$ 11,011,030.00
	666.67%	215.38%	740.43%	152.79%



Municipality of
Leamington
live | play | work

Legislative Services
111 Erie Street North
Leamington, ON N8H 2Z9
519-326-5761
clerks@leamington.ca

November 23, 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL

RE: Support of Municipality of Tweed Resolution 343 regarding Cannabis Production Facilities, the Cannabis Act, and Health Canada Guidelines

Please be advised that the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington, at its meeting held Tuesday, November 17, 2020 enacted the following resolution:

No. C-355-20

WHEREAS federal parliament passed the Cannabis Act S.C. 2018, c. 16; and

WHEREAS pharmaceutical companies and industries are required to follow strict regulations and governing legislation including Narcotic Control Regulations C.R.C., c 1041 and Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Police Enforcement) Regulations SOR/9-234 in order to produce medicinal products pursuant to a licence issued by Health Canada; and

WHEREAS Health Canada issues registrations and certificates for individual medicinal cannabis production without municipal consultation and regardless of land use planning regulations or other municipal regulations that may be in place; and

WHEREAS municipalities are authorized under the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. P 13 to pass a comprehensive zoning by-law that is in compliance with the appropriate County Official Plan which must be in compliance with the Provincial Policy Statement; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement, Official Plan and Zoning By-Law in effect for each area is designed to secure the long-term safety and best use of the land, water and other natural resources found in that area's natural landscape; and

WHEREAS section 128 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 authorizes a municipality to prohibit and regulate with respect to public nuisances, including matters that, in the opinion of council, are or could become or cause public nuisances; and

WHEREAS The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington has passed Comprehensive Zoning By-Law 890-09 and By-law 35-18, regulating certain matters related to cannabis which limits Part II Cannabis Facilities to Industrial Zones; and

www.leamington.ca

WHEREAS The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington has not been consulted by Health Canada prior to the issuance of registrations or certificates for the production of cannabis by individuals within the Municipality; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington requests that immediate action be taken by all levels of government to require that those individuals who may be issued a registration or certificate to produce medical cannabis adhere to the same strict regulations and legislation as licensed pharmaceutical companies and industries;

AND FURTHER, that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario advocate with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to the Government of Canada that similar regulations and guidelines for medical cannabis licensing in alignment with other pharmaceutical industries;

AND FURTHER, that the distribution of medical cannabis be controlled through pharmacies in consistent with other medications;

AND FURTHER, that all properties which are the subject of an application to produce cannabis be disclosed in advance to the municipalities within which the property is situated; and

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Health Canada, the Premier of the Province of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all upper, lower and single tier municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

Carried



Sincerely,
Brenda M. Percy, Clerk

cc: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister
Health Canada
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Provincial Police
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

November 24, 2020

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

Paul Miller
M.P.P. Hamilton East-Stoney Creek
289 Queenston Road
Hamilton, Ontario L8K 1H2

Andrea Horwath
Opposition Party Leader
New Democratic Party of Ontario
M.P.P Hamilton Centre
20 Hughson St. S., Suite 200
Hamilton ON L8N 2A1

Donna Skelly
M.P.P. Flamborough-Glanbrook
2000 Garth Street, Suite 104
Hamilton, ON L9B 0C1

Monique Taylor
M.P.P. Hamilton Mountain
2-555 Concession Street
(Royal Bank Building)
Hamilton, Ontario L8V 1G2

Sandy Shaw
M.P.P. Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas
177 King Street West
Dundas, ON L9H 1V3

Dear Premier Ford and Members of Provincial Parliament,

At its meeting of November 11, 2020, Hamilton City Council approved Item 8 of the General Issues Committee Report 20-018, which reads as follows:

9. Temporary Cap on Food Delivery Service Charges (Item 10.1)

WHEREAS, the restaurant industry plays a crucial role in the City's economy, as well as the livelihoods of residents, families and communities;

WHEREAS, the restaurant industry has been severely impacted throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly due to substantially decreased indoor dining;

WHEREAS, restaurant owners have become increasingly dependent on delivery and take-out services for the viability of their businesses;

WHEREAS, restaurants are under pressure from high commission fees being charged by the major food delivery service apps;

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WHEREAS, major cities throughout the United States have implemented temporary caps on the fees charged by food delivery service apps, as an option to assist the restaurant industry throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton does not have the authority to regulate food delivery service company fees or cap the fees that they charge;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Mayor correspond with the Premier of Ontario, and local Members of Provincial Parliament to ask that the Province implement a temporary cap on commissions for food service delivery companies; and,
- (b) That a copy of that request be sent to other municipalities in Ontario and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for their endorsement.

Therefore, the City of Hamilton respectfully requests your timely consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

Copied: Municipalities of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

November 24, 2020

The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Energy, Northern Development
& Mines and Minister of Indigenous Affairs
Whitney Block, Room 5630
5th Floor, 99 Wellesley St. W.
Toronto, ON M7A 1W1

Dear Minister Rickford:

At its meeting of November 11, 2020, Hamilton City Council approved Item 10 of the General Issues Committee Report 20-018, which reads as follows:

10. Request for an Interim Cap on Gas Plant and Greenhouse Gas Pollution and the Development and Implementation of a Plan to Phase-Out Gas-Fired Electricity Generation (Item 10.2)

WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario is planning to increase reliance on gas-fired electricity generation from Ontario's gas-fired power plants, which is anticipated to increase greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution by more than 300% by 2025 and by more than 400% by 2040;

WHEREAS, Canada's temperature is rising more than double the rate of the rest of the world (which is in alignment with climate models and projections impacting northern climates most significantly);

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario will adversely impact more than a third of the greenhouse gas reductions it achieved by phasing-out its dirty coal-fired power plants, due to a power plan built around ramping up gas-fired generation to replace the output of the Pickering Nuclear Station (scheduled to close in 2024);

WHEREAS, alternative options are available to reversing short sighted cuts to energy efficiency programs and stop under-investing in this quick to deploy and low-cost resource, which include maximizing our energy efficiency efforts by paying up to the same price per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for energy efficiency measures as we are currently paying for power from nuclear plants (e.g., up to 9.5 cents per kWh);

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario should continue to support renewable energy projects that have costs that are below what we are paying for nuclear power and work with communities to make the most of these economic opportunities;

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario has alternative options to increasing gas-fired electricity generation, such as the Province of Quebec's offer to receive low-cost 24/7 power from its water powered reservoir system as a possible alternative;

WHEREAS, a fossil-free electricity system is critically important to Hamilton's efforts to reduce GHG emissions by replacing fossil fuel use with electric vehicles, electric buses, electric heat pumps, and other steps dependent on a fossil-free electricity supply; and,

WHEREAS, our staff have noted this problem in their report on Updated Timelines and SMART Corporate Goals and Areas of Focus for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation where they warn that "Unless the Province of Ontario changes direction on Ontario's fuel supply mix, it is expected natural gas, and therefore GHG emissions, may continue to increase as the nuclear facilities are refurbished and the Province of Ontario further supplements the electricity grid with natural gas inputs";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton request the Government of Ontario to place an interim cap of 2.5 mega tonnes per year on our gas plant and greenhouse gas pollution and develop and implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 to ensure that Ontario meets its climate targets; and,
- (b) That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, to the local MPP's, to the Region of Waterloo and local area municipalities.

Therefore, the City of Hamilton respectfully requests your consideration of this matter and looks forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

Copied: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Andrea Horwath, Opposition Party Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario,
M.P.P Hamilton Centre
Monique Taylor, M.P.P. Hamilton Mountain
Paul Miller, M.P.P. Hamilton East-Stoney Creek
Donna Skelly, M.P.P. Flamborough-Glanbrook
Sandy Shaw, M.P.P. Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas
Region of Waterloo
Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



November 26, 2020

The Honourable Rod Phillips
Minister of Finance
95 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y8

Dear Minister Phillips:

Re: Motion Regarding Property Tax Exemptions for Veteran Clubs

Each year on November 11th we pause to remember the heroic efforts of Canadians who fought in wars and military conflicts and served in peacekeeping missions around the world to defend our freedoms and secure our peace and prosperity. One way that the Province and Ontario municipalities have recognized veterans and veteran groups is by exempting their properties from property taxation.

In late 2018, your government introduced a change to the *Assessment Act* that exempted Royal Canadian Legion Ontario branches from property taxes effective January 1, 2019. Veterans clubs however were not included under this exemption. While veterans' clubs in Peel are already exempt from Regional and local property taxes, they still pay the education portion of property taxes.

To address this gap, your government has proposed in the 2020 budget bill (*Bill 229*) to amend the *Assessment Act* that would provide a full property tax exemption to veterans' clubs retroactive to January 1, 2019. The Region of Peel thanks you for introducing this change in recognition of our veterans.

At its November 12, 2020 meeting, Peel Regional Council approved the attached resolution regarding this exemption and look forward to this change coming into effect as soon as possible after Bill 229 is passed. This would ensure that veteran clubs benefit from the exemption in a timely way.

I thank your government for moving quickly to address this gap and for your support of veterans.

Kindest personal regards,

Nando Iannicca,
Regional Chair and CEO

CC: Peel-area MPPs
Ontario Municipalities
Stephen Van Ofwegen, Commissioner of Finance and CFO

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair & CEO

10 Peel Centre Dr.
Suite A, 5th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
905-791-7800 ext. 4310



Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair & CEO

10 Peel Centre Dr.
Suite A, 5th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
905-791-7800 ext. 4310

Resolution Number 2020-939

Whereas each year on November 11, Canadians pause to remember the heroic efforts of Canadian veterans who fought in wars and military conflicts, and served in peacekeeping missions around the world to defend our freedoms and democracy so that we can live in peace and prosperity;

And whereas, it is important to appreciate and recognize the achievements and sacrifices of those armed forces veterans who served Canada in times of war, military conflict and peace;

And whereas, Section 6.1 of the Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. A31 as amended, Regional Council may exempt from Regional taxation land that is used and occupied as a memorial home, clubhouse or athletic grounds by persons who served in the armed forces of His or Her Majesty or an ally of His or Her Majesty in any war;

And whereas, through By-Law Number 62-2017 Regional Council has provided an exemption from Regional taxation to Royal Canadian Legions and the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Clubs that have qualified properties used and occupied as a memorial home, clubhouse or athletic grounds;

And whereas, local municipal councils in Peel have provided a similar exemption for local property taxes;

And whereas, Royal Canadian Legion branches in Ontario are exempt from all property taxation, including the education portion of property taxes, under Section 3 (1) paragraph 15.1 of the Assessment Act, and that a municipal by-law is not required to provide such an exemption;

And whereas, the 2020 Ontario Budget provides for amendments to the Assessment Act to apply the existing property tax exemption for Ontario branches of the Royal Canadian Legion, for 2019 and subsequent tax years, to Ontario units of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Regional Chair write to the Minister of Finance, on behalf of Regional Council, to request that upon passage of the 2020 Ontario Budget, the amendment to the Assessment Act be implemented as soon as possible;

And further, that copies of this resolution be sent to Peel-area Members of Provincial Parliament as well as to all Ontario municipalities for consideration and action.



NVCA Board Meeting Highlights November 27, 2020

Next Meeting: December 11, 2020, location to be determined

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

The November 27, 2020 Board meeting was held electronically through WebEx, and streamed on YouTube for public viewing due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Our next scheduled board meeting will be held on December 11, 2020.

Response to Bill 229

NVCA's Board of Directors issued a resolution in response to the Province of Ontario's Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measurers), 2020

[Click here for the resolution](#)

Presentation on Watershed Science

The Manager of Watershed Science provided a program overview and outlined program direction along with implications of Bill 108.

The working mission of the program is to: Undertake water (surface water and groundwater) and ecological monitoring and to ensure that the organization has adequate and accurate scientific information to support both internal and external partners while championing the Source Water Protection Program.

Complemented by three full time staff and one contract staff with over 50 years of collective experience, the program mission is completed through five program-specific strategic areas: Field Monitoring, Source Water Protection, Information and Data Management, Communication, and Business Excellence and Development.

The watershed science program staff offer a very unique skill set which can be beneficially utilized in partnered program delivery while offering a value added, watershed perspective.

Presently, the program is exploring potential business opportunities related to storm water management, planting plan inspections, and if directed, post development monitoring opportunities.

Depending on the status of the regulations associated to Bill 108, once announced, the Watershed Science program recognizes that program components may need to be a part of a larger MOU between the NVCA and the municipalities.

Response to the Township of Oro-Medonte's correspondence

The mayor of Oro-Medonte sent a letter to NVCA CAO Doug Hevenor requesting the following:

- NVCA include a column in the budget to reflect the amount of revenue received by municipalities for Planning and Permit User fees
- NVCA removing per diem and mileage for board members to attend board meetings from the budget, and that the per diems and mileage be paid by each individual municipality of behalf of their representatives.

NVCA staff will provide more information in two staff reports regarding these matters.

Conservation Services Permit Fees

The Board of Directors approved the increase of fees to NVCA conservation areas starting on January 1, 2020.

The fees collected for use of our lands and infrastructure are applied towards general ownership costs including maintenance, health/safety and helping to conserve property features. NVCA staff have always balanced our land protection needs with an entrepreneurial mind set.

As our watershed population grows, the desired use of our properties increases. Activities taking place on our lands go beyond a leisurely hike, and include hunting, angling, professional photography, movie shoots and weddings, among others. To ensure cost recovery and competitiveness we are in need of updating/creating fee structures for some of these activities.

In the last few years, Lands staff have built new trails, bathrooms and installed signage to help visitors have a better experience in NVCA conservation areas.

Below are the new fees, effective January 1, 2021.

Group Camping

Current	New
\$8.50/night	\$10.00/night

Day Parking Pass

Current	New
\$6.50/day	\$10.00/day

Seasonal Parking Pass

Current	New
\$45.50/year	\$70.00/year

Photography (Professional sessions)

Visitors are welcome to take photographs at our conservation areas. Professional photographers are required to obtain a photography permit prior to their session and to schedule their visit

to avoid conflict with other NVCA events and activities.

Pass type	Fees
Annual Pass	\$150
Special Event	\$150
Single Family (1hr)	\$50
Single Family (full day)	\$100

The estimated annual increase in revenues as a result of the parking fee increase is anticipated to be in the magnitude of \$10,000. With the COVID-19 pandemic expected to continue into 2021, we are forecasting enhanced day use visits and would see that figure rise substantially.

Great Lakes Local Action Fund

The Board has provided support for two NVCA proposals submitted to the Great Lakes Local Action Fund:

1. **Take a Load Off: Restoring Green Infrastructure to Reduce Phosphorus, Bacteria and Thermal Pollution and Flooding the Nottawasaga Valley and Georgian Bay, Lake Huron**
If approved, this funding will be used to reduce barriers our landowners face to restore natural infrastructure to 'Take a Load Off' our communities' freshwater systems – reducing phosphorus, nitrate, sediment, fecal bacteria, agriculture spill and thermal pollution loading to surface and groundwater. This project addresses many complex issues facing this watershed by reducing thermal impacts, mitigating non-point source pollution, improving stream connectivity, and enhancing biodiversity and habitat.
2. **Collingwood Urban Water Quality Characterization**
If approved for the funding, NVCA will partner with Blue Mountain Trust Foundation and Environment Network to conduct year-round water quality sampling on both of Collingwood's urban rivers - Black Ash Creek and Pretty River.

The goal is to map urban pollution sources and areas of elevated concentrations in rivers.

The public documents created by this project will be tools for local community and government action to work together to retrofit and rehabilitate urban runoff problem areas.

Educational material will be produced to targeting the general public and school-age children will be produced and disseminated through project partners and NVCA's existing school board contacts to teach about the urban pollution and urban watercourses.

Upcoming events

December NVCA Board Meeting

Friday, December 11 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Lisa Lehr

From: Maria Leung <mleung@nvca.on.ca>
Sent: November 30, 2020 1:23 PM
To: Maria Leung
Subject: NVCA Op-Ed - Managing the Nottawasaga River to appease all takes many hands
Attachments: nott river 2.jpg; Byron Wesson.jpg

Opinion

Managing the Nottawasaga River to appease all takes many hands

By Byron Wesson

The Nottawasaga River starts with humble beginnings, surfacing from a wetland just west of the Niagara Escarpment. It takes never ending twists and turns for an approximate 160 kilometers, and lands on the shore of Lake Huron in the Town of Wasaga Beach. This river is considered crucial life blood for the entire Nottawasaga Valley watershed. The loss of this river would be tragic to life as we know it. Fear mongering? No. Got your attention? I hope so. Never in our lifetime has it been more important to hang on to our natural resources and protect them like they protect us. As a society, we cannot take our natural environment for granted as our current and future quality of life depends on it.

So how does one go about protecting and enhancing such a large river and its rivers and streams? One that flows through a watershed of 3,700 square kilometers, touching on 18 distinct municipalities and impacting approximately 200,000 residents, plus millions of annual seasonal visitors?

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) calls it "integrated watershed management" or IWM and it works. In short IWM is the process of managing human activities and natural resources on a watershed basis, taking into account social, economic and environmental concerns, as well as local community interests and issues, such as the impacts of growth and climate change. IWM is a balancing act that receives input from all sectors with an end goal that strives to ensure the best for all.

We start the process by pulling from a tight group of talented professionals who have made it their mission to ensure the health and integrity of one of the fastest growing watersheds in Ontario. This talent pool includes biologists, foresters, teachers, hydrogeologists, engineers, ecologists, land management and professional planners, mapping, enforcement and communication specialists.

It is time that people recognize that NVCA's involvement with development and watershed management will benefit their lives immensely and the lives of many generations to come.

Byron Wesson is the Director, Conservation Services at NVCA

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

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

Maria Leung | Communications Coordinator

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

8195 8th Line, Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

T 705-424-1479, ext. 254 | **F** 705-424-2115

mleung@nvca.on.ca | nvca.on.ca

Important note: I am currently working remotely as the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is taking preventative measures to limit the spread of COVID-19. You may experience some delays or disruptions as we follow recommendations of public health experts.

Stay the Course

1. Wash hands
2. Social distance and use masks when distancing is not possible
3. Respect Others
4. Shop Local

This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the original message.

[EXTERNAL]

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Lisa Lehr

From: Maria Leung <mleung@nvca.on.ca>
Sent: December 2, 2020 10:29 AM
To: Maria Leung
Subject: NVCA Media Release - NVCA raises fees to conservation areas to help upkeep maintenance
Attachments: NVCA Op-ed - Managing the Nottawasaga River to appease all takes many ha....pdf; Trail grading.jpg; Hazard tree identification.jpg

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NVCA raises fees to conservation areas to help upkeep maintenance

UTOPIA, Ontario (December 2, 2020) — User fees for Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) conservation areas are set to increase on January 1, 2021. All fees collected are annually reinvested into general and enhanced maintenance needs. Visitor safety in the conservation areas is paramount and is one of the bigger maintenance costs.

“The past few years, and especially in 2020, we have had exponential growth in the number of visitors to our conservation areas,” said Byron Wesson, Director of Conservation Services at NVCA. “New visitors are always welcome, as we sincerely encourage the exploration of outdoor spaces. However, this also means that there are increased maintenance and management costs to upkeep the properties.”

The maintenance list for trails and other recreational areas is long and constantly being addressed. Many NVCA’s trails are accessible and require a high degree of attention. Hazard tree removals or maintenance have always been a key item for safety assurances. Accessible boardwalks, bridges, washrooms and interpretive signage are all part of a positive visitor experience. To better accommodate this new surge of visitor numbers the NVCA will be building new and enhancing existing parking lots.

“We are now seeing more trash being left behind, and that has to be looked after by someone,” continued Wesson. “Usually, our signage highlights the wonders of the natural world, but now it includes COVID precautions.”

NVCA’s conservation areas offer activities beyond a leisurely hike. Visitors also enjoy hunting, angling, paddling and snowshoeing. Professional photography, movie shoots and weddings are also among the many other activities that occur in the conservation areas.

Daily and seasonal parking passes are only required per vehicle. Occupants of the vehicle do not need to purchase additional passes. For a list of new fees, [please visit the NVCA website](#).

- 30 -

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

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

From: Maria Leung <mleung@nvca.on.ca>

Sent: December 6, 2020 9:26 AM

To: Maria Leung <mleung@nvca.on.ca>

Subject: NVCA Media Release - Changes to Conservation Authorities Act fall very short of addressing concerns

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Changes to *Conservation Authorities Act* fall very short of addressing concerns

UTOPIA, Ontario (December 6, 2020) – On December 4, 2020, new proposed changes to Schedule 6 of Bill 229, *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020* were announced. The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) will continue to request the Province to remove Schedule 6 from the bill as it falls very short of addressing previous concerns, and even includes new additions. These additions create more delays and costs, and will allow the Minister to disregard science-based decision making in regards to development.

“While it appears that a few amendments around board governance may address some of NVCA’s concerns, the proposed changes don’t go far enough, particularly around planning, permitting and enforcement,” said Keith White, NVCA Chair and Councillor at the Township of Essa. “Currently, NVCA issues permits to protect lives and property against flooding and erosion in 18 distinct municipalities in the Nottawasaga Valley watershed. Not only do the new changes to Schedule 6 not address our concerns, they further erode our ability to protect the people and environment in our watershed.”

When reviewing development applications, conservation authorities use scientific studies to ensure new development is located outside of natural hazard areas, and that wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat and drinking water resources are protected and enhanced.

However, one of the new sections added requires NVCA to issue permits when the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing issues Minister’s Zoning Orders (MZO). Under this requirement, the Ministry can override NVCA’s science-based decisions, even if the application does not meet the criteria for issuing a permit, or contravenes provincial policies and plans. Combined with all the other changes, there will be even more delays and costs for municipalities, applicants and NVCA.

Furthermore, many items in Schedule 6 remain unchanged, which significantly hinders NVCA's ability to regulate development. The Minister will still be allowed to make decisions on permit appeals and issue permits without watershed data and expertise from the conservation authorities.

"With the new changes, NVCA and Ontario's 35 other conservation authorities are basically the only landowners in Ontario who cannot appeal most planning decisions which affect their lands," continued White. "We are the second largest landowners in Ontario and this is in conflict with one of the proposed mandatory programs for conservation authorities, which is to manage their own lands to protect sensitive ecosystems.

"These amendments go beyond simple changes," stated Doug Hevenor, CAO of NVCA. "They remove science from the equation by politicizing these decisions, effectively eliminating the local knowledge to accurately forecast the risk to the environment, infrastructure and human life."

Hevenor also noted that David Crombie, former chair of the Greenbelt Council, clearly identified the problem in his resignation letter dated on December 5, 2020: "It is now clear that the Government's direction under Schedule 6 of Bill 229 disastrously assaults all three of these primary conditions. It cuts out the heart of integrated watershed planning and management; severely cripples the Conservation Authorities in the pursuit of their historic stewardship of environmental issues, and now with the grossly expanded use of MZOs and other procedural revisions, essential public discussion and debate will be stifled or shut down."

Schedule 6 was debated in the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs, which resulted in the new changes. Conservation Ontario made a presentation to the committee on behalf Ontario's 36 conservation authorities. It will go to third and final reading on Monday, December 7.

NVCA encourages Ontarians to reach out to local MPPs to request them to vote to remove Schedule 6 from Bill 229.

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 30, 2020 3:20 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Bill 229, Schedule 6 (CA Act) Proposed Amendments

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November 30, 2020

AMO Policy Update – Bill 229, Schedule 6 (CA Act) Proposed Amendments

Conservation Authorities Act Proposed Amendments – Schedule 6, Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020

AMO President, Graydon Smith, wrote to the Premier last week, and today has made a submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs asking that Schedule 6 of Bill 229 be withdrawn so that matters of concern can be resolved.

The changes proposed in Schedule 6 are raising alarm for many municipal leaders, and others, about how the proposed amendments can be implemented and how these changes would improve conservation authority effectiveness and efficiencies.

Of significant concern is the creation of an apparent conflict between the fiduciary duty of Conservation Authority Board members and the proposed amendment requiring board members to act on behalf of their respective municipal councils.

The submission also seems to provide the potential to bypass the local development approval process, resulting in the loss of local scientific analysis. Other amendments open the door to possible reductions in user fees (which are designed to recoup costs). It also addresses the removal of the (un-proclaimed) section giving conservation authorities the power to issue stop work orders. The power for conservation authorities to issue stop work orders is needed to harmonize municipal and conservation authority enforcement actions on illegal dumping.

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Tremendous effort has been put forward by municipal governments to find a collective path forward that addresses certain issues and bolsters the ability to protect the environment in a meaningful way. Municipal leaders were looking for needed *Conservation Authorities Act* refinements, not this proposed wholesale change.

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.

*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.

Lisa Lehr

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Lisa Lehr
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Federal Fall Economic Statement

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December 1, 2020

AMO Policy Update – Federal Fall Economic Statement

Yesterday, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland, delivered Canada's Fall Economic Statement titled *Supporting Canadians and Fighting COVID-19*. It outlined the government strategy for managing the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and provided its focus for economic recovery.

The fiscal deficit for 2020-21 is to reach \$381 billion with the expectation that it could climb with the severity of the second wave and associated lockdowns. Much of the economic statement reiterated ongoing support programs put in place to help Canadians weather the pandemic while committing to nearly \$100 billion over three years in stimulus to target a post-pandemic economic recovery.

New announcements of interest for municipal governments include:

- In 2021-22, the government will provide additional funding of \$299.4 million through the Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy to help shelters to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- New investments for long-term care include committing up to \$1 billion for a Safe Long-Term Care Fund, which will help provinces and territories protect people in long-term care and support infection prevention and control.
- The government has committed to establish a Federal Secretariat on Early Learning and Child Care to support development of a national system. In addition, previous investments in early learning and child care will be sustained into future years and it will provide funding to provinces and territories to

support attraction and retention of workers in support of the Early Childhood Educator Workforce Strategy.

- Starting in 2021-22, an additional \$12 billion is proposed for the Rental Construction Financing Initiative to support new lending over seven years which includes municipalities.
- Building on investments through the COVID-19 Resilience Stream, the government proposes to provide \$150 million over three years, beginning in 2020-21, to improve ventilation in public buildings and help reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- The government indicated that it plans to outline the next steps on public transit that include efforts to electrify public transit systems and provide permanent public transit funding with the provinces and territories.
- To tackle gun crime, the government proposes to provide dedicated funding of \$250 million over 5 years beginning in 2021-22. This will target municipalities, community-led initiatives, and Indigenous communities to support anti-gang programming.
- To support small and regional airports make critical investments in health and safety, the government is proposing to provide an additional \$186 million over two years for the Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP) which will begin in 2021-22.
- Starting on 2020-21, the government proposes to provide \$2.6 billion over 7 years to help homeowners improve their home energy efficiency by providing up to 700,000 grants of up to \$5,000 to encourage energy-efficient improvements to homes.
- The government proposes to accelerate previous investments in recharging and refueling infrastructure along highways and communities to encourage Canadians to choose zero-emission vehicles. Beginning in 2021-22, the government will provide \$150 million over 3 years.

AMO is pleased to see a number of key investments within the Fall Economic Statement including additional support for long-term care, homelessness, a path toward a national system for child care, energy retrofits, and further investments in the infrastructure to support zero-emission vehicles.

For more information, please visit the [Government of Canada website](#) to access the full [Fall Economic Statement](#).

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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AGC

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: December 4, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force, New COVID-19 Measures, Long-Term Care Commission, and AMO-Ontario Annual Joint MOU Statement

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December 4, 2020

AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force, New COVID-19 Measures, Long-Term Care Commission, and AMO-Ontario Annual Joint MOU Statement

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force

The Ontario government has announced the appointment of nine members of the new Ministers' COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. The task force, chaired by General (Retired) Rick Hillier, former Chief of Defence Staff for the Canadian Forces, will oversee the delivery, storage, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

This task force will work with General Hillier (Ret.) to advise the Province on the planning and execution of the Province's COVID-19 immunization program. It is understood that the task force will work across several ministries for the needed expertise in operations and logistics, federal-provincial and Indigenous relations, health and clinical domains, behavioural science, public health and immunization, ethics, and information technology and data. We also know that the Province will be working in partnership with AMO and municipal leaders with respect to local implementation and public education efforts.

New COVID-19 Measures for Three Regions

After consultation with provincial and local public health officials, the Province is moving three public health regions to new levels with stronger public health measures as set out in the Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework.

Based on the latest data, the following public health regions will move from their current level in the framework to the following levels **effective Monday, December 7, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.**

- Orange - Restrict
 - Middlesex-London Health Unit; and
 - Thunder Bay District Health Unit
- Yellow - Protect
 - Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

All other public health regions are remaining at their current levels. For further information please see COVID-19 Response Framework for the full list of public health region classifications.

Long-Term Care Commission Releases Second Set of Recommendations

Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission issued a letter today to the government outlining a second set of recommendations for implementation to mitigate the impact of the second wave of the pandemic. The recommendations focus on three areas: leadership and accountability; using performance indicators to assess each home's readiness to prevent and manage outbreaks; and, focused inspections by the Ministry of Long-Term Care to assess compliance with measures known to reduce the impact of the virus.

AMO continues to engage with the Commission to provide a municipal perspective on lessons learned and recommendations. An initial submission was provided. To view this document and other resources about long-term care and seniors, see the AMO website.

AMO-Ontario Annual Joint MOU Statement

In 2008, Ontario and AMO released the first joint statement on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AMO and the Province of Ontario and have done it annually since that time. The 2019/2020 MOU Joint Statement is now available.

Since November 2019 (the last Annual Statement), AMO and Ontario had a record 16 formal MOU meetings, covering over 70 agenda items. It should be noted that in

addition to these formal MOU meetings the Province has continually engaged AMO and its members on the government's COVID-19 response.

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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From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: December 7, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Initial Vaccination Approach, AG Annual Report, Wetland Conservation Program

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December 7, 2020

AMO Policy Update – Initial Vaccination Approach, AG Annual Report, Wetland Conservation Program

Ontario Approach on Key Populations to Vaccinate First

The Ontario government is getting ready to distribute COVID-19 vaccines as soon as they are received, beginning with vaccinating vulnerable populations and those who care for them. As recommended by the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force, the Province has now identified key populations to receive the vaccine first, including long-term care and retirement home residents and the staff who provide care to these groups. The government has stated that this approach is informed by science and prioritizes population groups that are at greatest risks of COVID-19.

Groups to receive the early vaccine doses in the first few months of the Ontario immunization program will include:

- residents, staff, essential caregivers, and other employees of congregate living settings (e.g. long-term care homes and retirement homes) that provide care for seniors as they are at higher risk of infection and serious illness from COVID-19;
- health care workers, including hospital employees, other staff who work or study in hospitals, and other health care personnel;
- adults in Indigenous communities, including remote communities where risk of transmission is high; and
- adult recipients of chronic home health care.

ABd

As well, the Province will be prioritizing the rollout of the vaccine in regions with the highest rates of COVID-19 infection, including those in the Red-Control and Lockdown zones. The immunization program will focus on health care workers and the most vulnerable populations in those regions.

It is expected that clarification on who comprises the group of staff who work/study in hospitals and other health care personnel will be provided shortly (i.e. inclusion of paramedics in this grouping).

We have been assured that as further information is available about the various type of vaccines and availability of doses, additional details related to the implementation of the COVID-19 immunization program will be provided by the Province.

Auditor General 2020 Annual Report

The Auditor General, Bonnie Lysyk, has released her reflections and the *2020 Annual Report*. It focuses on consumer protection, oversight, and operational effectiveness. The Report also includes follow up reports on recommendations from previous Annual Reports. The 13 value-for-money audits in the *2020 Annual Report* are summarized in this News Release. AMO staff will review the Report and follow up with any analysis from a municipal lens if required.

New Ontario Wetland Conservation Program

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, has announced a new \$30 million, five-year Wetlands Conservation Partner Program to help create and restore wetlands in the Great Lakes watershed. In the first year, Ontario is providing \$6 million to Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) focusing on restoration projects in the Lake Ontario and Lake Erie watersheds. Later years of the program will focus on wetlands in other Great Lakes watersheds and inland waterways. Wetlands help to improve water quality and to manage stormwater as well as play an important role in ecosystem health.

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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December 2, 2020

To persons responsible for a business or organization in the municipalities in the County of Simcoe, the District of Muskoka, and the Cities of Orillia and Barrie:

Re: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Instructions to persons responsible for a business or organization, in the County of Simcoe, the District of Muskoka, and the Cities of Orillia and Barrie, that are permitted to open under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, S.O. 2020, c.17, as amended, and associated Regulations, as amended.

Please note that this letter of instruction replaces my letter on this matter dated November 26, 2020.

The following businesses or organizations are currently exempt from the instructions issued below due to sector specific legislation, directives and/or guidelines currently governing these workplaces COVID-19 measures:

- A licensed child care program that is in compliance with guidance issued by the Ministry of Education;
- Health care providers and health care entities as defined in Section 77.7 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990*, who are subject to the Chief Medical Officer of Health’s Directives issued thereunder;
- Personal care service providers as described in and regulated by the O. Reg. 364/20;
- Schools and school boards licensed under the *Education Act, 1990*; and
- Schools and Private schools within the meaning of the *Education Act*, that are operated in accordance with a return to school direction issued by the Ministry of Education and approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Instructions for Additional Public Health Measures in the County of Simcoe, the District of Muskoka and Cities of Orillia and Barrie.

As the transmission of COVID-19 continues to grow within Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), and indeed throughout the rest of the province and the country, we are facing a critical time in our fight against this disease. We must reinforce and increase our efforts to contain its spread. This second wave of transmission impacts our lives, our businesses, our work, and the ability of our healthcare system to manage the increased demands on its services.

Our local data indicates that COVID-19 cases in our area are at the highest levels to date, confirming the upward surge of this disease, currently placing us in the Orange/Restrict level of the province’s current COVID-19 Response Framework. Furthermore, in keeping with provincial projections we are on track for much higher disease levels unless we take more action to curb its spread.

Key factors contributing to transmission is close contact between individuals in both work and social settings, which then spreads the disease easily to individuals within households. In particular, since September 2020, SMDHU has observed a substantial increase in workplace transmission, often resulting in outbreaks. This is due, in part, to a failure of workplaces to meet the requirements of the provincial health and safety legislation and the public health preventive measures for the workplace.

As a result, I am issuing the following Instruction to the businesses and organizations within the municipalities serviced by SMDHU requiring them to take additional measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 as provided below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Barrie: 15 Spurling Drive Barrie, ON L4M 6K9 705-721-7520 FAX: 705-721-1405	<input type="checkbox"/> Collingwood: 260 Pretty River Pkwy. Collingwood, ON L9Y 4J5 705-445-0804 FAX: 705-445-6498	<input type="checkbox"/> Cookstown: 2-26 King Street S. Cookstown, ON L0L 1L0 705-458-1103 FAX: 705-458-0105	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravenhurst: 2-5 Pineridge Gate Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1Z9 705-684-9090 FAX: 705-684-0997	<input type="checkbox"/> Huntsville: 34 Chaffoy St. Huntsville, ON P1H 1K1 705-780-8813 FAX: 705-780-7245	<input type="checkbox"/> Midland: A-925 Hugel Ave. Midland, ON L4R 1X8 705-523-8324 FAX: 705-526-1513	<input type="checkbox"/> Orillia: 120-168 Front St. S. Orillia, ON L3V 4S9 705-325-9565 FAX: 705-325-2001
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Instructions to persons responsible for businesses and organizations:

Effective **December 5th, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.**, I am instructing all persons responsible for a business or organization in the County of Simcoe, District of Muskoka, City of Barrie, and the City of Orillia to implement the following measures:

1. Appoint a **Compliance Officer** responsible for the implementation of a COVID-19 safety plan (as described in section 5 of Schedule 1 of O.Reg. 364/20) and the compliance with that safety plan, as well as the implementation and compliance with all required and recommended occupational health and safety and infection prevention and control measures.
2. Enable **remote work** for workers, where reasonably possible, to reduce the number of workers exposed to the workplace.
3. Ensure workplace **active screening**¹ is conducted daily for all workers attending the workplace. Screening should occur before or when a worker enters the workplace at the beginning of their day or shift. Workers with COVID-19 symptoms, or who have been identified as a close contact of a person diagnosed with COVID-19, are to be immediately excluded from work and encouraged to self-isolate and seek assessment and testing.
4. Ensure that **physical distancing** of workers takes place by at least 2 metres throughout the workplace, where reasonably possible, and during eating and rest periods (i.e. lunchrooms, change rooms). One-way walkways and workflows shall be provided where applicable to reduce the potential for and occurrence of close physical interaction between individuals, including between workers.
5. **Physical barriers**² (such as plexiglas) should be used where reasonably possible, in particular in environments where physical distancing cannot take place. Physical distancing is preferable to the use of barriers where reasonably possible.
6. For the indoor area of the premises, **which is accessible to members of the public**, ensure each worker wears a **face covering** in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin, and as best as possible, maintains a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person while in the indoor area. A face shield alone is not

¹ Screening questions can be asked in-person, or can be answered remotely and reviewed by the workplace before workers arrive onsite.

If screening is to occur in-person:

- Limit points of entry into the setting to help facilitate screening.
- Space and layout the entrance so that physical distancing can be maintained during screenings.
- Encourage all staff to use Alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR)/hand sanitizer before entering.
- If physical distancing cannot be maintained during screening the following is required:
 - Placing a physical barrier (i.e. plexiglas) that staff can be behind in order to conduct screening at entrances to protect from droplets; OR
 - The need for medical (surgical/procedure) masks and eye protection, ABHR, tissue, and lined no-touch waste basket or bin to screen staff in situations where a physical barrier is not available and close contact with an individual is likely to occur.

² Physical barriers should include:

- Adequate dimensions that protect the breathing zone of the tallest person using the partition. The breathing zone can be thought of as a bubble with a radius of 30 cm extending out from the mouth and nose;
- Pass-throughs or openings that are as small as possible and not located in the breathing zone of either user (these do not include speaking ports or grates);
- Secure installations, such that they cannot tip or fall, and do not block or impede emergency egress;
- Surface-mounted partitions with small openings and wings/surrounds being preferred over hanging partitions that can swing or waft air; and
- A plan for regular cleaning at least daily with mild soap and water and a compatible disinfectant.

Adapted from: The National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health *Physical Barriers for COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control in Commercial Settings*; May 2020

considered adequate covering of the face. Reasonable exceptions are permitted for those who cannot tolerate face coverings.

7. For the indoor area of the premises, **which is not accessible to members of the public**, ensure each worker wears a **face covering** in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin, unless they are able to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other worker. Even with the use of a face covering, if two metres distance is not maintained, then workers may be considered close contacts requiring 14 days of self-isolation, upon public health investigation of a co-worker diagnosed with COVID-19. A face shield alone is not considered adequate covering of the face.
8. If a worker is providing direct care to a suspect or confirmed case of COVID-19, regardless of where in the premises this occurs, ensure the worker wears **appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)**. A point-of-care risk assessment must occur and at a minimum, PPE must include a medical mask and eye protection. A face shield is not a replacement for a medical mask.
9. If a worker, in the course of providing a service indoors, is required to come within two metres of another person who is not wearing a face covering and there is no separation (by physical barrier) between the worker and the other person, ensure the worker wears **appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)**. At a minimum, this would include a medical mask and eye protection. A face shield is not a replacement for a medical mask.
10. Ensure supplies and facilities are provided for adequate **hand hygiene** to take place in work and rest/eating areas within the workplace including the supply of 60-90% alcohol-based hand rub for workers and clients.
11. Take appropriate **infection prevention and control measures** such as environmental cleaning in all areas accessible to the public, including washrooms, check-out counters, concession stands, and other high-touch surfaces (i.e. doorknobs, accessible/elevator buttons, pay machines, etc.).
12. Minimize instances of more than one individual per vehicle for **driving associated with work**, and when unavoidable, ensure face coverings (preferably medical masks) are supplied to and used by each individual, ensure distancing to the degree most possible, and ensure the use of increased ventilation to the outdoors (i.e. through a partially open window) in vehicles, where possible.
13. Conduct, or have the property owner or landlord conduct a regular review of **heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems** in the workplace, except motor vehicles, to ensure they are functioning and in good working order.
14. Ensure that accurate and updated **contact information** for all workers (and clients if prescribed in O.Reg. 364/20) is available to be produced to SMDHU within 24 hours of request from SMDHU in support of case management and contact tracing requirements for COVID-19.
15. In addition to **legislated requirements** under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1990*, ensure any further instructions, directions and guidance provided by SMDHU, the Government of Ontario and/or the Government of Canada pertaining to COVID-19 are followed. This may include ensuring adherence to isolation orders issued to employees, ensuring the required public health measures such as active screening and physical distancing

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are always maintained within a workplace and supporting all aspects of investigations and outbreak management related to communicable diseases, including COVID-19, conducted by SMDHU.

Please be reminded that you are required to comply with the above instructions as set out in the Regulations under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.

For the purpose of these Instructions:

- “worker” means any employee, independent contractor, manager, director, officer, owner, partner, shareholder, volunteer, student or any other person engaged in the business or organization activity at the workplace.
- “workplace” means any land, premises, location or thing at, upon, in or near which a worker works
- Enforcement associated with these instructions may be conducted by police officers as well as provincial offences officers (which includes municipal bylaw officers and public health enforcement personnel).

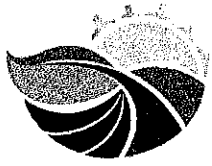
These measures are intended to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 where the collective efforts of various sectors, including workplaces are required to protect our communities.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Charles Gardner, MD, CCFP, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

CG:cm



Howick
TOWNSHIP

44818 Harriston Road, RR 1, Gorrie On N0G 1X0
Tel: 519-335-3208 ext 2 Fax: 519-335-6208
www.howick.ca

December 3, 2020

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

By email only minister.omafra@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Hardeman:

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the December 1, 2020 Howick Council meeting:

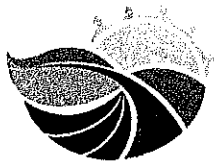
**Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded by Councillor Ilman:
Be it resolved that Council request the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs amend the Tile Drainage Installation Act and/or the regulations under the Act that would require tile drainage contractors file farm tile drainage installation plans with the local municipality; and further, this resolution be forwarded to Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson, Perth-Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Christian Farmers Federation Of Ontario, Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario, Drainage Superintendents of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities. Carried. Resolution No. 288/20**

If you require any further information, please contact this office, thank you.

Yours truly,

Carol Watson

Carol Watson, Clerk
Township of Howick



Howick
TOWNSHIP

44816 Harriston Road, RR 1, Gorrie On N0G 1X0
Tel: 519-335-3208 Fax: 519-335-6208
www.howick.ca

**Background Information to the Township of Howick
Resolution No. 288-20 Requesting Amendments to the
Agricultural Tile Drainage Installation Act**

Rational for Proposed Amendments

Over the years, Howick Township staff have received many requests for tile drainage information on farmland. Usually these requests come after a change in ownership of the farm. Some of these drainage systems were installed recently but many are 30 to 40 or more years old. Many were installed by contractors who are no longer in business or who have sold the business and records are not available.

Information is generally available if the tile was installed under the Tile Drain Loan Program because a drainage plan is required to be filed with the municipality. If the tile system was installed on a farm without using the Tile Drain Loan Program, there likely are no records on file at the municipal office.

The other benefits to filing tile drainage plans with the municipality are identified in Section 65 of the Drainage Act.

- 65(1) – Subsequent subdivision of land (severance or subdivision)
- 65(3) – Drainage connection into a drain from lands not assessed to the drain
- 65(4) – Drainage disconnection of assessed lands from a drain
- 65(5) – Connecting to a municipal drain without approval from council

Section 14 of the Act states:

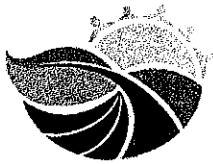
(1) "The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations,

(a) providing for the manner of issuing licences and prescribing their duration, the fees payable therefor and the terms and conditions on which they are issued;

(a.1) exempting classes of persons from the requirement under section 2 to hold a licence, in such circumstances as may be prescribed and subject to such restrictions as may be prescribed;

(b) Repealed: 1994, c. 27, s. 8 (5).

(c) establishing classes of machine operators and prescribing the qualifications for each class and the duties that may be performed by each class;



Howick
TOWNSHIP

44816 Harriston Road, RR 1, Gorrie On N0G 1X0
Tel: 519-335-3208 Fax: 519-335-6208
www.howick.ca

- (d) providing for courses of instruction and examinations and requiring licence holders or applicants for a licence under this Act to attend such courses and pass such examinations;
- (e) prescribing the facilities and equipment to be provided by persons engaged in the business of installing drainage works;
- (f) prescribing standards and procedures for the installation of drainage works;
- (g) prescribing performance standards for machines used in installing drainage works;
- (h) prescribing forms and providing for their use;
- (i) respecting any matter necessary or advisable to carry out effectively the intent and purpose of this Act. R.S.O. 1990, c. A.14, s. 14; 1994, c. 27, s. 8 (4, 5)."

I believe it would be beneficial if a regulation required the installer, of agricultural drainage, to file a plan of the drainage system with the municipality following completion of the work.

While most of Section 14 deals with contractor, machine and installer licences, I think that Section 14(f) or 14(i) may allow a regulation change. This would be a better solution than an amendment to the Act.

Recommendations:

- Request by municipal resolution that the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs amend the Tile Drainage Installation Act and/or the regulations, under the Act, that would require tile drainage contractors file all farm tile drainage installation plans in the Municipality where the installation took place
- Send the municipal resolution to:
 - Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
 - Lisa Thompson, MPP Huron Bruce
 - Randy Pettapiece, MPP Perth Wellington
 - Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
 - OFA
 - CFFO
 - All Ontario municipalities
 - the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario (LICO), and
 - the Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario (DSAO)

Wray Wilson, Drainage Superintendent
Township of Howick
drainage@howick.ca



Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

December 7, 2020

Please be advised that the Council of Southwest Middlesex passed the following resolution at it's November 25 2020 Council meeting:

Drainage Matters: CN Rail

Moved by Councillor McGill
Seconded by Councillor Vink

"WHEREAS municipalities are facilitators of the provincial process under the *Drainage Act* providing land owners to enter into agreements to construct or improve drains, and for the democratic procedure for the construction, improvement and maintenance of drainage works; and

WHEREAS municipal drain infrastructure and railway track infrastructure intersect in many areas in Ontario; and

WHEREAS coordination with national railways is required for the construction or improvement of drains that benefit or intersect with national railways; and

WHEREAS the national railways have historically participated in the process for construction, improvement and maintenance of drainage works; and

WHEREAS currently municipalities are experiencing a lack of coordination with national railways on drainage projects; and

WHEREAS the lack of coordination is resulting in projects being significantly delayed or cancelled within a year; and

WHEREAS municipal drains remove excess water to support public and private infrastructure and agricultural operations;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Province of Ontario work with the Federal Minister of Transportation to address concerns regarding municipal drainage matters and need for coordination with the national railways; and

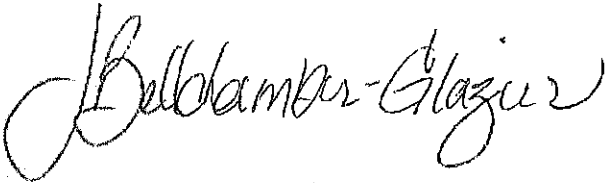
THAT Council circulate the resolution to the Provincial Ministers of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, and Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Federal Minister of Transportation, the local MP and MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities."

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Municipality of Southwest Middlesex Resolution #2020-274

Carried

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bellchamber-Glazier".

Jillene Bellchamber-Glazier
CAO-Clerk

Cc: The Honorable Marc Gardeau, Minister of Transport
The Honorable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Monte McNaughton, MPP Lambton-Middlesex-London
Lianne Rood, MP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the
Township of Georgian Bluffs

December 7, 2020

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

RE: Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020

At its meeting on November 25, 2020, Council of the Township of Georgian Bluffs passed resolution number RES2020-356:

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Sue Carleton
Seconded By: Councillor Grant Pringle

Whereas municipalities in Ontario are responsible for conducting fair and democratic elections of local representatives, and

Whereas the Province of Ontario, through Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020 is proposing changes to the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, to extend Nomination Day from the end of July to the second Friday in September, and

Whereas Bill 218 also proposes amendments to ranked ballot voting methods, and

Whereas the operation, finance and regulatory compliance of municipal elections are the sole responsibility of municipalities, and

Whereas local governments understand the needs of local voters, election officials and public officials, and

Whereas Bill 218 also proposes to eliminate ranked ballots

Now Therefore, the Council of the Township of Georgian Bluffs hereby opposes the proposed amendments to the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as included in Bill 218, and

That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ministry of the Attorney General, Office of the Premier of Ontario, AMO, AMCTO and all Ontario Municipalities.

A12



The Corporation of the
Township of Georgian Bluffs

Carried.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brittany Drury
Clerk
519 376 2729 x. 244
bdrury@georgianbluffs.ca

Cc Via Email:

Ministry of the Attorney General

Office of the Premier of Ontario

AMO

AMCTO

All Ontario Municipalities

Brookfield Properties

December 8, 2020

Mayor Sandie Macdonald
Township of Essa
5786 County Road 21
Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

Dear Mayor Macdonald and Members of Council,

Re: Brookfield Subdivision – Community Update and Request for Consideration

Community Update

As we move toward 2021, we wanted to take this opportunity to provide Council with an update on a number of initiatives relating to delivery of our new community in Baxter.

Firstly, we are pleased to be in a position to move forward in working with the Township on the awarding of the water booster station and holding tanks that are to be built near Murphy Road and County Road 10. This new facility will not only provide our new subdivision with water, but it will also provide the existing community of Baxter with an operational fire protection system and an opportunity for current residents to connect to the municipal drinking water system. We see this as a beneficial improvement to the community, which should allow the residents to enjoy lower home insurance rates and provide them immediate access to clean water in the event that they experience well issues currently, or in the future.

Together, we have taken positive steps toward a sanitary solution for the community that is mutually beneficial to both Brookfield and the Township. Should a standalone treatment plant become the ultimate solution, it will have the ability not only to serve the 253 new families that will be calling Baxter home, but also provide an opportunity to safeguard the Township and its residents against future septic system failures through provision of an alternative future sewage connection. We look forward to finalizing this strategy in the coming year.

As far as our project specifically, you will see that our stormwater management pond is almost constructed on the east side of Denny Drive. Completion of the pond, along with our recently installed storm sewer outfall, will finally provide the opportunity to commence the park construction that is so long overdue; we were eager to start construction two years ago! We are aiming to begin construction of the park next spring/summer in the hopes that this new amenity will be enjoyed by both new and existing residents alike.

In addition to the new park construction, we have scheduled our internal servicing and roadworks program for the first half of 2021 in anticipation of delivering our first new home building lots by late next year. 2021 will be an active year, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Township on these initiatives.

Request for Consideration

Finally, we would like to bring to your attention one item for which we would request Council's consideration. Specifically, our request relates to Council's 2019 Resolution regarding signalization contribution at the intersection of Murphy Road (County Road 21) and Denny Drive. The final motion passed at Council on November 20, 2019, requires Brookfield to provide the Township with the difference between the cost of an Intersection Pedestrian Signal (IPS) and the ultimate signalization and improvement of a County owned intersection, which we deem to be unfair.

Brookfield delegated to Council in September of 2019, requesting a change from signalization of the intersection to an IPS when it became evident that the intersection was going to have to be built to full County standards for the ultimate intersection configuration, which includes for turn lanes on Murphy Road (County Road 21). As discussions developed between Brookfield and Council following the delegation, Brookfield offered to provide the cost difference between an IPS and the previously agreed to intersection signalization, worth approximately \$200,000. The spirit of the offer was to make the Township whole, while acknowledging that an IPS would result in cost savings for Brookfield. The discussion relied on the configuration outlined in the Traffic Study that supported the draft plan, whereby a **simple intersection signalization** was proposed, i.e. addition of signals to the existing intersection. This was the same intersection design discussed when Brookfield agreed to signalize the intersection during the May of 2018 update to our project's draft plan conditions. Although the value of the difference between the two was mentioned at Council that evening, it was not minuted and did not make it into the motion or subsequent resolution. Council's Resolution now implies that Brookfield is responsible for the difference between the cost to construct the County's **ultimate intersection and signalization** improvement and an IPS, or a difference of approximately \$1,000,000. We respectfully submit that our project should not be responsible for this additional cost, and that the current Resolution is not reflective of the spirit of our discussions. This project is already absorbing a number of significant cost increases relating to delivering water and wastewater infrastructure that we believe provides a significant benefit to the existing community of Baxter. On this one item, we would ask that you please reconsider your position given the additional cost implications.

In the future, when the County identifies this intersection as requiring an upgrade, it will be by way of a capital works/traffic study, added to the County's Development Charge Background Study and by-law accordingly, and be built by the County. Considering this, we feel that Brookfield should not be responsible to contribute to the Township the full amount of what ultimately should be attributable to County-owned infrastructure, particularly when signalization is not currently warranted.

We are asking that Council reconsider its resolution by reducing the amount to consider an IPS in lieu of traffic signals at this intersection to a value of \$200,000.

We have been working diligently with Staff and the Residents to make our presence as painless as possible, and expect that by the end of 2021 the biggest growing pains will be behind all of us.

Please inform us if Council will consider our request, and if we are able to be present should Council decide to discuss this in quorum.

Sincerely,

Brookfield Properties Development



David Murphy, P.Eng.
Vice President, Land Development

AL4

Lisa Lehr

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: December 10, 2020 4:42 PM
To: Lisa Lehr
Subject: AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Municipal Financial Impacts, Supportive Housing Expansion, COVID-19 Modelling and Emergency Orders Extended, Fall Legislative Session Adjourned

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



December 10, 2020

AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Municipal Financial Impacts, Supportive Housing Expansion, COVID-19 Modelling and Emergency Orders Extended, and Fall Legislative Session Adjourned

Financial Accountability Office Reports on Financial Impacts of COVID-19 on Ontario Municipalities

Today, the Financial Accountability Office (FAO) released its report on COVID-19 and Ontario's Municipal Finances, finding that the pandemic will ultimately result in a cost of \$6.8 billion in lost revenues and expenses for municipal governments. The report also affirms the importance of federal and provincial support through the Safe Restart Agreement (SRA) which provides \$4 billion in critical assistance to municipalities which, together with municipal cost saving measures, has mitigated the negative financial impact in 2020. However, support in 2021 is limited to transit impacts in the first quarter.

The FAO report's conclusions are consistent with AMO's understanding of the pandemic's financial impact on municipalities and the importance of access to continued support to avoid service reductions, use of reserves for capital projects, increased property taxes, or resort to deficit budgets.

AMO responded to the report through a new release acknowledging the financial impacts and noting that AMO and FCM continue to advocate for the extension of the Safe Restart Agreement to address 2021 financial impacts.

Report Highlights:

COVID-19 Impact on Municipal Finances:

- COVID-19 will have a negative impact on municipal budgets of \$6.8 billion ultimately, projected to be \$4.1 billion in 2020 and \$2.7 billion in 2021.
- The pandemic reduced revenues by \$4.7 billion and will likely increase expenses by 2.1 billion over the two years.
- Municipalities saved of \$1.1 billion through layoffs, reduced transit, recreation services, and cancelled programming in 2020.
- The Safe Restart Agreement funding provided \$2 billion to municipalities to date. The remaining \$2 billion is to be provided for those able to demonstrate outstanding general operating pressures in 2020 and transit pressures in 2020 and Q1 of 2021.

2021 Implications:

- Together municipal cost savings and federal and provincial financial support have mitigated negative municipal budget impacts in 2020, but the projected \$2.7 billion (\$0.9 billion transit and \$1.8 billion operating) in 2021 will only be partially offset by SRA support.
- This may require municipalities to access reserves, the availability of which will vary throughout the sector; reduce services or other measures to contain costs; or reduce budget surpluses/run deficits to manage financial needs.

AMO has cautioned that service reductions or deferring capital investments because of COVID-19 cost pressures would have the affect of undermining Ontario's economic recovery.

Ontario Expanding Supportive Housing

The government announced it is expanding funding for Supportive Housing. Over \$47 million in investments will strengthen supports for individuals with mental health and addictions issues who are either homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. The initiative is part of the implementation of the Roadmap to Wellness plan.

COVID-19 Modelling and Emergency Order Extension

Solicitor General, Sylvia Jones, announced today that the Province would extend all Emergency Orders under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020 (ROA) until January 20, 2021. These include orders related to the reopening stages and areas currently in lockdown.

Later in the day, the Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, released updated pandemic modelling showing growth in cases, ICU bed occupancy, and mortality. The modelling suggests that relaxing current public health restrictions

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would increase cases, ICU demand and mortality, and noted that current restrictions were much less restrictive on mobility than during the spring.

In addition, the presentation noted that inadequate housing, multi-generational housing, and the prevalence of essential workers outside of health care settings all presented risks for case growth.

Ontario Legislature Adjourned

The Fall session of the Legislature wrapped up on Tuesday. The next session will begin on February 16th, 2021.

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.

*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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Lisa Lehr

From: ICIPCOVID (MOI) <ICIPCOVID@ontario.ca>
Sent: December 11, 2020 11:12 AM
Subject: ICIP: COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream – Local Government Intake Reminder
Attachments: ICIP - COVID Stream Webinar - Fall 2020 Final.pdf; ICIP - Webinaire sur le volet COVID - Automne2020.pdf

On November 16, 2020, Ontario launched the Local Government Intake – COVID stream under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) in Ontario. Under the new COVID stream, \$250 million in combined federal-provincial funding will be dedicated to local governments across the province.

All municipalities were notified of the launch and their allocation in advance on November 6, 2020 through an email to their CAO or other senior representative. We are sending this to you as well to further spread the word as a reminder with deadlines for funding requests coming up soon. More information is below, but please reach out to your senior officials / municipality for more information if needed.

The federal government has indicated that investments under this stream are to support public infrastructure, defined as tangible capital assets, including temporary infrastructure related to pandemic response, primarily for public use and/or benefit. According to federal parameters, eligible projects include:

- **Retrofits, Repairs and Upgrades** for municipal, provincial, territorial and indigenous buildings, health infrastructure and educational infrastructure;
- **COVID-19 Response Infrastructure**, including measures to support physical distancing;
- **Active Transportation Infrastructure**, including parks, trails, foot bridges, bike lanes and multi-use paths; and
- **Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation**, including natural infrastructure, flood and fire mitigation, tree planting and related infrastructure.

There is a project cap based on your municipal allocation:

- 1 project submission for those receiving a maximum of \$100,000;
- 2 project submissions for those receiving \$100,001 to a maximum of \$500,000; and,
- 5 project submissions for those receiving \$500,001 and above.

Conservation Authorities and Local Services Boards, as well as other non-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for funding directly – they must apply as a joint partner through their local municipality, at the discretion of the municipality. Please contact your local municipality directly if you have questions on this.

The federal timelines of this program require all parties to work together quickly to implement funding. Applications will be reviewed and prioritized by the province based on a rolling intake, but the following deadlines will apply:

- Applications for a single project must be submitted to the province through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system by December 21, 2020;
- Applications for multiple projects must be submitted to the province through the TPON system by January 7, 2021;
- Projects must have started construction by September 30, 2021; and,
- Projects must have completed construction by December 31, 2021; except for remote communities which will have until December 31, 2022.

Only projects that meet the above criteria, as well as those that will follow in the provincial program guidelines will be considered for nomination by the Province to the federal government. No deadline extensions will be

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considered. If you do not submit your application on time, or your project does not start and/or complete by the deadlines required by the federal government, you will lose any opportunity to access this funding allocation.

More information on the stream, including program guidelines and Q&As are available here:
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/available-funding-opportunities-ontario-government#section-7>.

We are also pleased to share content discussed in last week's information sessions for municipalities. The webinar slides are attached to this email and we have posted a video recording online.

If you have questions about your municipality's allocation, program eligibility, getting prepared for project submission or would like a copy of this communication in French, please contact ICIPCOVID@ontario.ca for support.

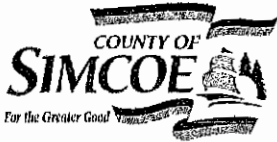
We look forward to working with you as you submit projects.

Regards,

ICIP COVID-19 – Local Government Intake team
Ontario Ministry of Infrastructure
ICIPCOVID@ontario.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 receive \$41 million in broadband upgrades

Midhurst/December 11, 2020 – Today Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) announced it has awarded \$41.1 million in funding to support six fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) projects across Simcoe County. This investment is set to expand broadband services for almost 13,000 households and businesses in Simcoe County that have limited to no connectivity.

“As a region with a diverse range of rural and urban communities, access to reliable, high-speed connectivity is essential, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic as many of our businesses and residents are adapting to a new virtual environment,” said Warden George Cornell. “We are grateful to the Federal and Provincial governments, as well as our future private-sector partners, for their generous investment in expanding broadband connectivity in our region.”

“County Council has been a strong supporter of SWIFT from the outset, and today these collaborative efforts paid off for the residents and businesses of Simcoe County. It’s important to recognize past and present Councillors, municipal staff and partners who have worked for many years to make SWIFT a reality.”

The project was funded by a joint federal and provincial infrastructure funding program. Municipal partners and private sector investors have also supported improved access to broadband services across the region, including the County of Simcoe, which has provided approximately \$2.5 million in funding to SWIFT since 2015.

Highlights from SWIFT Announcement:

- More than 12,700 households and businesses, approximately 31,750 residents, across Simcoe County to see improvements in broadband internet services.
- Simcoe County will receive \$41.1 million in broadband upgrades.
- As a result of SWIFT’s competitive tendering process, the total County project value increased by 47 per cent, delivering an additional \$13 million in infrastructure investments.
- The newly announced projects will collectively service approximately 500 kilometres of roadway across 60 communities within Simcoe County.
- Bell Canada has been awarded funding to support three fibre-to-the-home projects. The newly awarded projects will collectively service 389 kilometres of underserved roadway to bring high-speed internet to 10,604 homes and businesses throughout the Townships of Clearview, Adjala-Tosorontio, Essa, Springwater, Oro-Medonte, Tiny, Tay, Severn, Ramara and within the Towns of Midland, Penetanguishene and Innisfil. The projects represent a collective total investment of approximately \$32 million and will be completed with service available by mid-2022.
- SWIFT has signed an agreement with Vianet to deploy fibre cabling along more than 73 kilometres of underserved roadway throughout the Towns of New Tecumseth and Bradford West Gwillimbury and within the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio to deliver high-speed internet to 1,207 businesses and homes. Construction of the \$5.8-million fibre-to-the-home solution is expected to be completed with service available early-2022.
- Cogeco Communications will receive funding to deploy fibre-optic cabling along 19 kilometres of underserved roads within the Township of Severn. The \$1.5-million fibre-to-the-home network will deliver high-speed connectivity to 467 households and businesses by late-2022.

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- Rogers Communications was awarded a contract to deploy fibre-optic cabling along 15 kilometres of underserved roads in the Township of Clearview. The \$1.8-million fibre-to-the-home solution will deliver high-speed connectivity to 422 households and businesses by early-2022.

About SWIFT

Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) is a non-profit regional broadband project initiated by the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to subsidize the construction of high-speed broadband networks across Southwestern Ontario, Caledon and the Niagara Region. <https://swiftruralbroadband.ca/>

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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