

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

1. Correspondence from the Essa Building Department:
 - p. 1 a) June 2024 Report.
 - p. 2 b) July 2024 Report.
- p. 3 2. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter.
- p. 8 3. Correspondence from the Municipality of Larder Lake dated June 11, 2024, re: Request for the Province of Ontario to provide assistance for Municipalities to complete Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO).
- p. 10 4. Correspondence from the City of St. Catharines dated June 27, 2024, re: File No. 35.72.3 – Green Roads Pilot Project.
- p. 12 5. Correspondence from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, re: Regulations for the Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries.
- p. 14 6. Correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
 - p. 14 a) July 3, 2024 – Planning Act and Development Charges Act Regulations related to the Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185).
 - p. 16 b) August 20, 2024 – Provincial Planning Statement 2024 Notification.
- p. 78 7. Correspondence from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. dated July 3, 2024, re: DC Regulation Changes – Modernizing Public Notice Requirements and Other Housekeeping Changes.
- p. 80 8. Correspondence from the Township of Emo dated July 5, 2024, re: Request for Equivalent Representative Operational Budget Funding Amounts to All Ontario Municipalities.
- p. 82 9. Correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources dated July 10, 2024, re: Proposal regarding Developing a Commercial-scale Framework for Geologic Carbon Storage.
- p. 86 10. Correspondence from the Township of Schreiber dated July 18, 2024, re: Support for Wastewater Treatment Facility Funding Request.
- p. 91 11. Correspondence from the Ontario Provincial Police dated July 19, 2024, re: Ratification of New Uniform and Civilian Collective Agreement for January 1, 2023-December 31, 2026.
- p. 92 12. Correspondence from KICLEI Simcoe County Chapter:
 - p. 92 a) July 24, 2024 – Addressing Concerns and Implications of the ICLEI and PCP Programs in Simcoe County.
 - p. 100 b) August 9, 2024 – Update Report for Simcoe County on the Partners for Climate Protection Program.

- p. 111 13. Email from the Premier of Ontario dated July 24, 2024, re: School Facilities in Essa Township.
- p. 112 14. Correspondence from the City of Toronto dated July 31, 2024, re: Requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians.
- p. 114 15. Correspondence from AMO, re: Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments.
- p. 116 16. Correspondence from Nottawasaga Pines, re: Thank you.
- p. 117 17. Correspondence from the Township of Callender dated May 31, 2024, re: Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle.
- p. 119 18. Correspondence from the Township of Terrance Bay dated August 14, 2024, re: Support a Province-wide Long Service Medals program for Paramedics in Ontario.
- p. 121 19. Correspondence from the Township of Quinte West dated August 15, 2024, re: Funding Model of the Canada Community-Building Fund.
- p. 123 20. Correspondence from the Township of Sterling-Rawdon dated August 21, 2024, re: Public Sector Salary Disclosure Reform.
- p. 124 21. Correspondence from the Ministry of Infrastructure dated August 20, 2024, re: Ontario Investing \$400 Million in Roads and Bridges to Enable More Homes.
- p. 127 22. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
a) August 13, 2024 – Council Meeting Highlights.
- p. 134 b) August 19, 2024 – Advisory – Nominations Open for the 12th Annual Newcomer Recognition Awards.
- p. 135 23. Correspondence from the Town of Bracebridge dated August 26, 2024, re: Support for Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) / Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Joint Resolution Campaign on Physician Shortage.

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.

Jun-24

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	40	137	\$4,619,764.00	\$27,021,516.00	\$73,899.90	\$325,671.10
Commercial	2	10	\$45,000.00	\$1,028,360.00	\$675.00	\$9,817.00
Industrial		1		\$4,000,000.00		\$9,473.00
Institutional		3		\$688,600.00		\$2,296.50
Public Utilities		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Agricultural	2	6	\$285,000.00	\$1,979,000.00	\$2,240.00	\$8,298.80
TOTAL	44	157	\$4,949,764.00	\$ 34,717,476.00	\$76,814.90	\$ 355,556.40

Y.O.Y.	46	174	\$5,109,560.00	\$ 43,920,247.00	\$96,597.80	\$ 405,340.31	-12.28%
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NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	11	52	\$3,704,764.00	\$23,019,345.00
Mult Res Bldgs		0		\$0.00
Accessory Apt within Existing Res Bldg				\$0.00
TOTAL	11	52	\$3,704,764.00	\$23,019,345.00

Reviewed by CBO Pedro Granes



Y.O.Y	7	50	\$ 1,912,560.00	\$ 17,427,177.00
	57.14%	4.00%	93.71%	32.09%

A1a

Jul-24

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	19	156	\$2,244,000.00	\$29,265,516.00	\$18,626.00	\$344,297.10
Commercial	2	12	\$115,000.00	\$1,143,360.00	\$3,987.00	\$13,804.00
Industrial		1		\$4,000,000.00		\$9,473.00
Institutional	2	5	\$30,000.00	\$718,600.00	\$900.00	\$3,196.50
Public Utilities		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Agricultural		6		\$1,979,000.00		\$8,298.80
TOTAL	23	180	\$2,389,000.00	\$ 37,106,476.00	\$23,513.00	\$ 379,069.40

Y.O.Y.	36	210	\$5,503,682.00	\$ 49,423,929.00	\$81,117.67	\$ 486,457.98	-22.08%
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2

NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	2	54	\$1,343,000.00	\$23,019,345.00
Mult Res Bldgs		0		\$0.00
Accessory Apt within Existing Res Bldg		0		\$0.00
TOTAL	2	54	\$1,343,000.00	\$23,019,345.00

Reviewed by CBO Pedro Granes



Y.O.Y	8	57	\$ 2,547,240.00	\$ 17,267,177.00
	-75.00%	-5.26%	-47.28%	33.31%

A16



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

new business or expanding?

Do you have a business opportunity or challenge?

Nottawasaga Futures provides business loans up to **\$300,000.00** to assist with:

Flexible terms to meet your business needs



Business start-up, Maintenance or Expansion



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www.nottawasaga.com
705-502-0311 | ced@nottawasaga.com



WHEN YOUR BUSINESS SUCCEEDS, SO DO WE.

Nottawasaga Futures provides tailored loan products with flexible terms to meet your unique needs. Whether you're looking to upgrade equipment, expand your business, or launch a startup, we can design the ideal loan for you. Contact us at ced@nottawasaga.com.



Manufacturer's Forum – Save the Date

November 5, 2024

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Nottawasaga Inn!

A great opportunity for local manufacturers to network, learn, and discover how to become a Manufacturing Employer of Choice.

Stay tuned for more details.



Questions about financing, business services or consulting?

Did you know Nottawasaga Futures offers an online intake form?

Complete the form and we will contact you to see how we can help!

Click here to access our [intake form](#).

We look forward to connecting with you!



Hire for Talent: Mental Health in the Workplace

**A Survey on the Experiences
of Small and Medium-Sized
Enterprises (SMEs) in Rural
and Remote Canada**

Join our Hire 4 Talent Employer Research Program Survey

Supported by the Government of Canada's Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities, this initiative aims to gather insights from employers to advance inclusive employment practices across Canada. We believe your perspective would be invaluable. Participation comes with compensation and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Your involvement would greatly contribute to our mission of promoting inclusive hiring practices.

Two Employer Experience Surveys will take place September 2024 and January 2025

We are seeking 10 employers to complete three separate Employer Experience Surveys.

- Each participating employer will receive a \$250 honorarium per survey completed.
- Surveys will take approximately 15-20 minutes and will collect essential information on your business and experiences with disability hiring.
- Responsibilities include distributing the survey via email and ensuring completion by the specified deadline.

Please email ced@nottawasaga.com if you would like to participate

7

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE
69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON
Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

SECONDED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

Motion #: 12

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

WHEREAS, the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) establishes accounting standards for the public sector which must be followed by all Ontario municipalities; And

WHEREAS, the Municipal Act, 2001 section 294.1 states that a municipality shall, for each fiscal year, prepare annual financial statements for the municipality in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local governments as recommended, from time to time, by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada; And

WHEREAS, PS 3280 is a new accounting standard covering asset retirement obligations (ARO) that was approved by PSAB in March 2018; And

WHEREAS, the standard must be applied by all public sector entities who prepare their financial statements under PSAB, including all Canadian municipalities; And

WHEREAS, many small municipalities do not have accountants or engineers on staff to complete the ARO obligations and this major accounting change will force small municipalities to hire consultants to complete this work and cause a significant financial burden to municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Township of Larder Lake hereby calls upon the province of Ontario to provide financial assistance to municipalities to complete the ARO; And

FINALLY, THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers

Recorded vote requested:

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull		
Paul Kelly		
Lynne Paquette		
Patty Quinn		

I declare this motion

<input type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because:
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair: _____

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.

A3

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE
69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON
Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

SECONDED BY:

- Thomas Armstrong
- Patricia Hull
- Paul Kelly
- Lynne Paquette

Motion #: 13

Resolution #:

Date: June 11, 2024

of Ontario (AMCTO), the Timiskaming Municipal Association (TMA), the Federation of Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all municipalities within the District of Timiskaming.

Recorded vote requested:

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull	✓	
Paul Kelly	✓	
Lynne Paquette	✓	
Patty Quinn	✓	

I declare this motion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because:
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair: 

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.



June 27, 2024

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
155 University Ave | Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Sent via email: resolutions@amo.on.ca

**Re: Green Roads Pilot Project
Our File 35.72.3**

To Whom it May Concern,

At its meeting held on June 24, 2024, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS St. Catharines has declared a climate emergency, recognizing the urgent need to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change on our community and environment; and

WHEREAS alternatives to traditional road surfacing materials exist, including green roads technologies that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly; and

WHEREAS bioresin is a natural alternative that can be used to support road surfacing, providing a more sustainable option that reduces our reliance on petrochemical-based products; and

WHEREAS many secondary roads in St. Catharines require resurfacing, presenting an opportunity to explore and implement innovative and sustainable road surfacing solutions; and

WHEREAS Good Roads, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) have presented alternatives for municipal road restoration that include sustainable and environmentally friendly materials and methods; and

WHEREAS other municipalities, such as Centre Wellington, have entered into a similar pilot project using bioresin and other sustainable materials, demonstrating a commitment to innovation and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS implementing pilot projects using bioresin on city roads can provide valuable data and insights into the feasibility, performance, and environmental benefits of this alternative material; and

A4



WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has established the Green Municipal Fund which includes new funding for pilot projects to test innovative and ambitious technologies to improve environmental outcomes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council directs staff to investigate the feasibility and potential benefits of using bioresin on City road works; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff investigate other alternative construction materials and methods for road works that minimizes the City's carbon footprint and are more environmentally sustainable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff prepare a report on the findings, no later than Q3 2024, including potential costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of using bioresin or other sustainable construction materials or methods for road works, and if feasible, a list of City streets where a pilot project may be considered in accordance with the City's procurement policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the FCM to encourage the exploration and adoption of sustainable road surfacing alternatives.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.

D Delvecchio

Donna Delvecchio, Acting City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
:sm

cc: all Ontario Municipalities

AS



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

June 28, 2024

Via Email: david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

Hon. David Piccini M.P.P.
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
117 Peter Street
Port Hope, ON
L1A 1C5

Dear Minister Piccini:

Re: Regulations for the Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

I am writing today to bring to your attention a matter of significant importance to the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, regarding the importation and safe use of lithium-ion batteries.

At the June 17, 2024 Council Meeting the Fire Chief of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan made a presentation to Council on the dangers presented by lithium-ion batteries. The Fire Chief was reporting back from attending the Charged For Life Symposium presented by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

During the presentation, the Fire Chief stressed that the increased importation and use of non-Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) aftermarket batteries is presenting a significant increase in fire and explosion, putting citizens and responding personnel in danger. These after market batteries are not Underwriter Laboratories of Canada (ULC) certified but can be imported into Canada without any associated regulations.

Unlicensed persons and locations can store and modify lithium-ion batteries in our communities without regulations, providing dangerous conditions within a community. Charging these batteries within the home or multi-unit dwellings can result in larger fires with grave results.

Email: info@osmtownship.ca Telephone: 705.295.6852 Facsimile 705.295.6405
P.O. Box 70 20 Third St Keene, ON K0L 2G0

Visit our website at www.osmtownship.ca or follow us on Twitter @OSMTownship

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A5

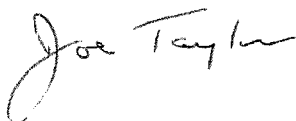
As Canada becomes more aware of Green Energy solutions, these batteries are used more often, increasing the danger to our communities. We support the Ontario Fire Marshal's program to educate citizens on the danger associated with lithium-ion batteries and encourage every municipality to actively promote safe practices for the use of lithium-ion batteries.

We also call upon all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage, and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very critical issue, and I look forward to your prompt consideration and support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Fire Chief if you require any additional information.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joe Taylor, Mayor

Cc: MP, Philip Lawrence
All Ontario Municipalities

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs and Housing

Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street, 13th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel. 416-585-6014

Ministère des
Affaires municipales et du Logement

Direction des politiques d'aménagement
777, rue Bay, 13^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. 416-585-6014



Date: July 3, 2024

Subject: **Planning Act and Development Charges Act Regulations related to the Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185)**

I am writing to provide an update on regulations under the *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* related to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*.

The *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* regulations came into effect on July 1, 2024.

Changes made include:

- modernizing public notice requirements and providing municipalities with the ability to provide notice in respect of the above matters on a municipal website if there is no local print newspaper available
- consequential amendments to remove requirements for certain statements regarding appeal rights to be included in public notices
- consequential changes to ensure notice is provided to nearby public hospitals and airports
- housekeeping amendments for the removal of spent provisions related to DC exemptions for additional residential units and the prescribed amount of time for the DC freeze period

You can view copies of the amending *Planning Act* regulations on Ontario's e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 285/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 543/06 “Official Plans and Plan Amendments”
- [Ontario Regulation 286/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 545/06 “Zoning By-Laws, Holding By-Laws and Interim Control By-Laws”
- [Ontario Regulation 287/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 544/06 “Plans of Subdivision”
- [Ontario Regulation 288/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 197/96 “Consent Applications”
- [Ontario Regulation 289/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 200/96 “Minor Variance Applications”

Aba

- [Ontario Regulation 290/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 509/20 – “Community Benefits Charges and Parkland”
- [Ontario Regulation 291/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 549/06 “Prescribed Time Period – Subsections 51 (52.4) of the Act”

You can view copies of the amending Development Charges Act, 1997 regulations on Ontario's e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 279/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 82/98 – “General”

If you have any questions about the changes to the land use planning and appeal system, including the *Planning Act* regulatory changes, please email PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca.

If you have any questions about the changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, including the regulatory changes related to public notice requirements under the Act and other matters, please email MFPB@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Laura Evangelista, Director
Provincial Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Ruchi Parkash, Director
Municipal Finance Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

A6b

Sarah Corbett

Subject: RE: Provincial Planning Statement 2024 Notification (Township of Essa)

From: Paul Calandra <minister.mah@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:46 PM
To: Samuel Haniff <shaniff@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Provincial Planning Statement 2024 Notification (Township of Essa)

You don't often get email from minister.mah@ontario.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000
La version française suit.

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2024-3937

Ontario

I am writing to let you know that I have issued a new [Provincial Planning Statement \(PPS 2024\)](#) under the *Planning Act*, coming into effect on October 20, 2024.

The PPS 2024 sets out a streamlined, province-wide land use planning document that gives municipalities the tools and flexibility you need to hit your housing targets in a way that is responsive to local challenges and reflective of local priorities. The PPS 2024 will replace the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 (PPS 2020). In addition, A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019, as amended (A Place to Grow) will be revoked effective the same date. For consultation details regarding the PPS 2024, please see [ERO # 019-8462](#).

The October 20, 2024 effective date provides a two-month transition, allowing time for in-progress planning decisions to be resolved, and providing municipalities a window of time to prepare for adoption of the new policies.

In addition, a 30-day consultation ([ERO# 019-9065](#)) beginning on August 20, 2024, will seek feedback on any specific planning matters in process that might need to be addressed through a potential transition regulation under the Planning Act. Your municipality is invited to share any feedback through the consultation.

To provide municipalities with implementation support, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will provide training for municipal staff in September and October 2024. Our government will also consider developing Provincial guidance to support implementation.

Our government made an administrative amendment to the Greenbelt Plan that ensures policies in A Place to Grow, and the PPS 2020 will continue to apply in those cases where the Greenbelt Plan refers to them. This amendment will take effect on October 20, 2024.

To align with the PPS 2024, the changes made to the Planning Act "area of employment" definition (in the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023) have been proclaimed to come into effect on October 20, 2024. This includes transition provisions which allow municipalities to adopt official plan policies to continue protection of a historic area of employment despite any existing uses that no longer meet the new definition.

We look forward to our continued work together to get at least 1.5 million homes built by 2031. If you have any questions,

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Alb

feel free to reach out to your local Municipal Services Office contact.

Sincerely,



Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing

Attachments:

- [Provincial Planning Statement, 2024](#)

- c. The Honourable Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Housing
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Michael Klimuntowski, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca
chealey@essatownship.on.ca
shaniff@essatownship.on.ca

[EXTERNAL]

17

PROVINCIAL PLANNING STATEMENT, 2024

Under the *Planning Act*

Aleb

PROVINCIAL PLANNING STATEMENT, 2024

Approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, Order in Council No. 1099/2024

The Provincial Planning Statement was issued under section 3 of the *Planning Act* and came into effect October 20, 2024. It replaces the Provincial Policy Statement that came into effect on May 1, 2020.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Vision

Ontario is a vast, fast-growing province that is home to many urban, rural and northern communities distinguished by different populations, economic activity, pace of growth, and physical and natural conditions. More than anything, a prosperous Ontario will see the building of more homes for all Ontarians. This is why the province has set a goal of getting at least 1.5 million homes built by 2031.

Ontario will increase the supply and mix of *housing options*, addressing the full range of housing affordability needs. Every community will build homes that respond to changing market needs and local demand. Providing a sufficient supply with the necessary mix of *housing options* will support a diverse and growing population and workforce, now and for many years to come.

A prosperous and successful Ontario will also support a strong and competitive economy that is investment-ready and recognized for its influence, innovation and diversity. Ontario's economy will continue to mature into a centre of industry and commerce of global significance. Central to this success will be the people who live and work in this province.

Ontario's land use planning framework, and the decisions that are made, shape how our communities grow and prosper. Prioritizing compact and *transit-supportive* design, where locally appropriate, and optimizing investments in *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* will support convenient access to housing, quality employment, services and recreation for all Ontarians. Cultural heritage and archaeology in Ontario will provide people with a sense of place. And while many Ontarians still face a complex range of challenges, municipalities will work with the Province to support the long term prosperity and well-being of residents through the design of communities responsive to the needs of all Ontarians.

Ontario's vibrant agricultural sector and sensitive areas will continue to form part of the province's economic prosperity and overall identity. Growth and development will be prioritized within urban and rural settlements that will, in turn, support and protect the long-term viability of *rural areas*, local food production, and the *agri-food network*. In addition, resources, including natural areas, water, aggregates and agricultural lands will be protected. Potential risks to public health or safety or of property damage from natural hazards and human-made hazards, including the risks associated with the impacts of climate change will be mitigated.

Ontario will continue to recognize the unique role Indigenous communities have in land use planning and development, and the contribution of Indigenous communities' perspectives and traditional knowledge to land use planning decisions. Meaningful early engagement and constructive, cooperative relationship-building between planning authorities and Indigenous communities will facilitate knowledge-sharing and inform decision-making in land use planning.

Above all, Ontario will continue to be a great place to live, work and visit where all Ontarians enjoy a high standard of living and an exceptional quality of life.

Role of the Provincial Planning Statement

The Provincial Planning Statement provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development. As a key part of Ontario's policy-led planning system, the Provincial Planning Statement sets the policy foundation for regulating the development and use of land province-wide, helping achieve the provincial goal of meeting the needs of a fast-growing province while enhancing the quality of life for all Ontarians.

Municipal official plans are the most important vehicle for implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement and for achieving comprehensive, integrated and long-term planning. Official plans should coordinate cross-boundary matters to complement the actions of other planning authorities and promote mutually beneficial outcomes.

Zoning and development permit by-laws are also important for the implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement. Zoning and development permit by-laws should be forward-looking and facilitate opportunities for an appropriate range and mix of *housing options* for all Ontarians.

Land use planning is only one of the tools for implementing provincial interests. A wide range of legislation, regulations, policies and programs may apply to decisions with respect to *Planning Act* applications, affect planning matters, and assist in implementing these interests.

The Province's rich cultural diversity is one of its distinctive and defining features. Indigenous communities have a unique relationship with the land and its resources, which continues to shape the history and economy of the Province today. Ontario recognizes the unique role Indigenous communities have in land use planning and development, and the contribution of Indigenous communities' perspectives and traditional knowledge to land use planning decisions. The Province recognizes the importance of consulting with Aboriginal communities on planning matters that may affect their section 35 Aboriginal or treaty rights.

Legislative Authority

The Provincial Planning Statement is a policy statement issued under the authority of section 3 of the *Planning Act* and came into effect on October 20, 2024. The Provincial Planning Statement applies to all decisions in respect of the exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter made on or after October 20, 2024.

In respect of the exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter, section 3 of the *Planning Act* requires that decisions affecting planning matters shall be consistent with policy statements issued under the Act.

Comments, submissions or advice that affect a planning matter that are provided by the council of a municipality, a local board, a planning board, a minister or ministry, board, commission or agency of the government shall be consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement.

How to Read the Provincial Planning Statement

The provincial policy-led planning system recognizes and addresses the complex inter-relationships among environmental, economic, health and social factors in land use planning. The Provincial Planning Statement supports a comprehensive, integrated and long-term approach to planning, and recognizes linkages among policy areas.

The Provincial Planning Statement is more than a set of individual policies. It is to be read in its entirety and the relevant policies are to be applied to each situation. When more than one policy is relevant, a decision-maker should consider all of the relevant policies to understand how they work together. The language of each policy, including the Implementation and Interpretation policies, will assist decision-makers in understanding how the policies are to be implemented.

There is no implied priority in the order in which the policies appear. While specific policies sometimes refer to other policies for ease of use, these cross-references do not take away from the need to read the Provincial Planning Statement as a whole.

Consider Specific Policy Language

When applying the Provincial Planning Statement it is important to consider the specific language of the policies. Each policy provides direction on how it is to be implemented, how it is situated within the broader Provincial Planning Statement, and how it relates to other policies.

Some policies set out positive directives, such as “settlement areas shall be the focus of growth and development.” Other policies set out limitations and prohibitions, such as “development and site alteration shall not be permitted.” Other policies use enabling or supportive language, such as “should,” “promote,” and “encourage.”

The choice of language is intended to distinguish between the types of policies and the nature of implementation. There is some discretion when applying a policy with enabling or supportive language in contrast to a policy with a directive, limitation or prohibition.

Geographic Scale of Policies

The Provincial Planning Statement recognizes the diversity of Ontario and that local context is important. Policies are outcome-oriented, and some policies provide flexibility in their implementation provided that provincial interests are upheld.

While the Provincial Planning Statement is to be read as a whole, not all policies will be applicable to every site, feature or area. The Provincial Planning Statement applies at a range of geographic scales.

Some of the policies refer to specific areas or features and can only be applied where these features or areas exist. Other policies refer to planning objectives that need to be considered in the context of the municipality or planning area as a whole, and are not necessarily applicable to a specific site or development proposal.

Within the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin, there may be circumstances where planning authorities should consider agreements related to the protection or restoration of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin. Examples of these agreements include Great Lakes agreements between Ontario and Canada, between Ontario and Quebec and the Great Lakes States of the United States of America, and between Canada and the United States of America.

Policies Represent Minimum Standards

The policies of the Provincial Planning Statement represent minimum standards.

Within the framework of the provincial policy-led planning system, planning authorities and decision-makers may go beyond these minimum standards to address matters of importance to a specific community, unless doing so would conflict with any policy of the Provincial Planning Statement.

Defined Terms and Meanings

Except for references to legislation which are italicized, other italicized terms in the Provincial Planning Statement are defined in the Definitions chapter. For non-italicized terms, the normal meaning of the word applies. Terms may be italicized only in specific policies; for these terms, the defined meaning applies where they are italicized and the normal meaning applies where they are not italicized. Defined terms in the Definitions chapter are intended to capture both singular and plural forms of these terms in the policies.

Provincial Guidance

Provincial guidance, including guidance material, guidelines and technical criteria may be issued from time to time to assist planning authorities and decision-makers with implementing the policies of the Provincial Planning Statement. Information, technical criteria and approaches outlined in provincial guidance are meant to support implementation but not add to or detract from the policies of this Provincial Planning Statement.

Relationship with Provincial Plans

The Provincial Planning Statement provides overall policy directions on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development in Ontario, and applies province-wide, except where this Provincial Planning Statement or another provincial plan provides otherwise.

Provincial plans, such as the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, build upon the policy foundation provided by the Provincial Planning Statement. They provide additional land use planning policies to address issues facing specific geographic areas in Ontario.

Provincial plans are to be read in conjunction with the Provincial Planning Statement. They take precedence over the policies of the Provincial Planning Statement to the extent of any conflict, except where the relevant legislation provides otherwise.

Where the policies of provincial plans address the same, similar, related, or overlapping matters as the policies of the Provincial Planning Statement, applying the more specific policies of the provincial plan satisfies the more general requirements of the Provincial Planning Statement. In contrast, where matters addressed in the Provincial Planning Statement do not overlap with policies in provincial plans, the policies in the Provincial Planning Statement must be independently satisfied.

Land use planning decisions made by municipalities, planning boards, the Province, or a commission or agency of the government must be consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement. Where provincial plans are in effect, planning decisions must conform or not conflict with them, as the case may be.

Chapter 2: Building Homes, Sustaining Strong and Competitive Communities

2.1 Planning for People and Homes

1. As informed by provincial guidance, planning authorities shall base population and employment growth forecasts on Ontario Population Projections published by the Ministry of Finance and may modify, as appropriate.
2. Notwithstanding policy 2.1.1, municipalities may continue to forecast growth using population and employment forecasts previously issued by the Province for the purposes of land use planning.
3. At the time of creating a new official plan and each official plan update, sufficient land shall be made available to accommodate an appropriate range and mix of land uses to meet projected needs for a time horizon of at least 20 years, but not more than 30 years, informed by provincial guidance. Planning for *infrastructure, public service facilities, strategic growth areas* and *employment areas* may extend beyond this time horizon.

Where the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has made a zoning order, the resulting development potential shall be in addition to projected needs over the planning horizon established in the official plan. At the time of the municipality's next official plan update, this additional growth shall be incorporated into the official plan and related infrastructure plans.

4. To provide for an appropriate range and mix of *housing options* and densities required to meet projected requirements of current and future residents of the *regional market area*, planning authorities shall:
 - a) maintain at all times the ability to accommodate residential growth for a minimum of 15 years through lands which are *designated and available* for residential development; and
 - b) maintain at all times where new development is to occur, land with servicing capacity sufficient to provide at least a three-year supply of residential units available through lands suitably zoned, including units in draft approved or registered plans.
5. Where planning is conducted by an upper-tier municipality, the land and unit supply maintained by the lower-tier municipality identified in policy 2.1.4 shall be based on and reflect the allocation of population and units by the upper-tier municipality.

6. Planning authorities should support the achievement of *complete communities* by:
- a) accommodating an appropriate range and mix of land uses, *housing options*, transportation options with *multimodal* access, employment, *public service facilities* and other institutional uses (including schools and associated child care facilities, long-term care facilities, places of worship and cemeteries), recreation, parks and open space, and other uses to meet long-term needs;
 - b) improving accessibility for people of all ages and abilities by addressing land use barriers which restrict their full participation in society; and
 - c) improving social equity and overall quality of life for people of all ages, abilities, and incomes, including equity-deserving groups.

2.2 Housing

1. Planning authorities shall provide for an appropriate range and mix of *housing options* and densities to meet projected needs of current and future residents of the *regional market area* by:
- a) establishing and implementing minimum targets for the provision of housing that is *affordable to low and moderate income households*, and coordinating land use planning and planning for housing with Service Managers to address the full range of *housing options* including *affordable* housing needs;
 - b) permitting and facilitating:
 1. all *housing options* required to meet the social, health, economic and well-being requirements of current and future residents, including *additional needs housing* and needs arising from demographic changes and employment opportunities; and
 2. all types of residential *intensification*, including the *development* and *redevelopment* of underutilized commercial and institutional sites (e.g., shopping malls and plazas) for residential use, development and introduction of new *housing options* within previously developed areas, and *redevelopment*, which results in a net increase in residential units in accordance with policy 2.3.1.3;
 - c) promoting densities for new housing which efficiently use land, resources, *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*, and support the use of *active transportation*; and
 - d) requiring *transit-supportive* development and prioritizing *intensification*, including potential air rights development, in proximity to transit, including corridors and stations.

2.3 Settlement Areas and Settlement Area Boundary Expansions

2.3.1 General Policies for Settlement Areas

1. *Settlement areas* shall be the focus of growth and development. Within *settlement areas*, growth should be focused in, where applicable, *strategic growth areas*, including *major transit station areas*.
2. Land use patterns within *settlement areas* should be based on densities and a mix of land uses which:
 - a) efficiently use land and resources;
 - b) optimize existing and planned *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*;
 - c) support *active transportation*;
 - d) are *transit-supportive*, as appropriate; and
 - e) are *freight-supportive*.
3. Planning authorities shall support *general intensification* and *redevelopment* to support the achievement of *complete communities*, including by planning for a range and mix of *housing options* and prioritizing planning and investment in the necessary *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*.
4. Planning authorities shall establish and implement minimum targets for *intensification* and *redevelopment* within built-up areas, based on local conditions.
5. Planning authorities are encouraged to establish density targets for *designated growth areas*, based on local conditions. *Large and fast-growing municipalities* are encouraged to plan for a target of 50 residents and jobs per gross hectare in *designated growth areas*.
6. Planning authorities should establish and implement phasing policies, where appropriate, to ensure that development within *designated growth areas* is orderly and aligns with the timely provision of the *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*.

2.3.2 New Settlement Areas and Settlement Area Boundary Expansions

1. In identifying a new *settlement area* or allowing a *settlement area* boundary expansion, planning authorities shall consider the following:
 - a) the need to designate and plan for additional land to accommodate an appropriate range and mix of land uses;
 - b) if there is sufficient capacity in existing or planned *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*;
 - c) whether the applicable lands comprise *specialty crop areas*;
 - d) the evaluation of alternative locations which avoid *prime agricultural areas* and, where avoidance is not possible, consider reasonable alternatives on lower priority agricultural lands in *prime agricultural areas*;
 - e) whether the new or expanded *settlement area* complies with the *minimum distance separation formulae*;
 - f) whether impacts on the *agricultural system* are avoided, or where avoidance is not possible, minimized and mitigated to the extent feasible as determined through an *agricultural impact assessment* or equivalent analysis, based on provincial guidance; and
 - g) the new or expanded *settlement area* provides for the phased progression of urban development.
2. Notwithstanding policy 2.3.2.1.b), planning authorities may identify a new *settlement area* only where it has been demonstrated that the *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* to support development are planned or available.

2.4 Strategic Growth Areas

2.4.1 General Policies for Strategic Growth Areas

1. Planning authorities are encouraged to identify and focus growth and development in *strategic growth areas*.
2. To support the achievement of *complete communities*, a range and mix of *housing options*, *intensification* and more mixed-use development, *strategic growth areas* should be planned:
 - a) to accommodate significant population and employment growth;
 - b) as focal areas for education, commercial, recreational, and cultural uses;
 - c) to accommodate and support the transit network and provide connection points for inter- and intra-regional transit; and
 - d) to support *affordable*, accessible, and equitable housing.

3. Planning authorities should:

- a) prioritize planning and investment for *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* in *strategic growth areas*;
- b) identify the appropriate type and scale of development in *strategic growth areas* and the transition of built form to adjacent areas;
- c) permit *development* and *intensification* in *strategic growth areas* to support the achievement of *complete communities* and a *compact built form*;
- d) consider a student housing strategy when planning for *strategic growth areas*; and
- e) support *redevelopment* of commercially-designated retail lands (e.g., underutilized shopping malls and plazas), to support mixed-use residential.

2.4.2 Major Transit Station Areas

1. Planning authorities shall delineate the boundaries of *major transit station areas* on *higher order transit* corridors through a new official plan or official plan amendment adopted under section 26 of the *Planning Act*. The delineation shall define an area within an approximately 500 to 800-metre radius of a transit station and that maximizes the number of potential transit users that are within walking distance of the station.
2. Within *major transit station areas* on *higher order transit* corridors, planning authorities shall plan for a minimum density target of:
 - a) 200 residents and jobs combined per hectare for those that are served by subways;
 - b) 160 residents and jobs combined per hectare for those that are served by light rail or bus rapid transit; or
 - c) 150 residents and jobs combined per hectare for those that are served by commuter or regional rail.
3. Planning authorities are encouraged to promote *development* and *intensification* within *major transit station areas*, where appropriate, by:
 - a) planning for land uses and built form that supports the achievement of minimum density targets; and
 - b) supporting the *redevelopment* of surface parking lots within *major transit station areas*, including commuter parking lots, to be *transit-supportive* and promote *complete communities*.
4. For any particular *major transit station area*, planning authorities may request the Minister to approve an official plan or official plan amendment with a target that is lower than the applicable target established in policy 2.4.2.2, where it has been demonstrated that this target cannot be achieved because:
 - a) *development* is prohibited by provincial policy or severely restricted on a significant portion of the lands within the delineated area; or
 - b) there are a limited number of residents and jobs associated with the built form, but a *major trip generator* or feeder service will sustain high ridership at the station or stop.

5. Planning authorities may plan for *major transit station areas* that are not on *higher order transit corridors* by delineating boundaries and establishing minimum density targets.
6. All *major transit station areas* should be planned and designed to be *transit-supportive* and to achieve *multimodal* access to stations and connections to nearby *major trip generators* by providing, where feasible:
 - a) connections to local and regional transit services to support *transit service integration*;
 - b) *infrastructure* that accommodates a range of mobility needs and supports *active transportation*, including sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and secure bicycle parking; and
 - c) commuter pick-up/drop-off areas.

2.4.3 Frequent Transit Corridors

1. Planning authorities shall plan for *intensification* on lands that are adjacent to existing and planned *frequent transit corridors*, where appropriate.

2.5 Rural Areas in Municipalities

1. Healthy, integrated and viable *rural areas* should be supported by:
 - a) building upon rural character, and leveraging rural amenities and assets;
 - b) promoting regeneration, including the *redevelopment of brownfield sites*;
 - c) accommodating an appropriate range and mix of housing in *rural settlement areas*;
 - d) using *rural infrastructure* and *public service facilities* efficiently;
 - e) promoting diversification of the economic base and employment opportunities through goods and services, including value-added products and the sustainable management or use of resources;
 - f) providing opportunities for sustainable and diversified tourism, including leveraging historical, cultural, and natural assets;
 - g) conserving biodiversity and considering the ecological benefits provided by nature; and
 - h) providing opportunities for economic activities in *prime agricultural areas*, in accordance with policy 4.3.
2. In *rural areas*, *rural settlement areas* shall be the focus of growth and development and their vitality and regeneration shall be promoted.
3. When directing development in *rural settlement areas* in accordance with policy 2.3, planning authorities shall give consideration to locally appropriate rural characteristics, the scale of development and the provision of appropriate service levels.

Growth and development may be directed to *rural lands* in accordance with policy 2.6, including where a municipality does not have a *settlement area*.

2.6 Rural Lands in Municipalities

1. On *rural lands* located in municipalities, permitted uses are:
 - a) the management or use of resources;
 - b) resource-based recreational uses (including recreational dwellings not intended as permanent residences);
 - c) residential development, including lot creation, where site conditions are suitable for the provision of appropriate *sewage and water services*;
 - d) *agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses, on-farm diversified uses and normal farm practices*, in accordance with provincial standards;
 - e) home occupations and home industries;
 - f) cemeteries; and
 - g) other rural land uses.
2. Development that can be sustained by rural service levels should be promoted.
3. Development shall be appropriate to the *infrastructure* which is planned or available, and avoid the need for the uneconomical expansion of this *infrastructure*.
4. Planning authorities should support a diversified rural economy by protecting agricultural and other resource-related uses and directing non-related development to areas where it will minimize constraints on these uses.
5. New land uses, including the creation of lots, and new or expanding livestock facilities, shall comply with the *minimum distance separation formulae*.

2.7 Territory Without Municipal Organization

1. On *rural lands* located in territory without municipal organization, the focus of development activity shall be related to the sustainable management or use of resources and resource-based recreational uses (including recreational dwellings not intended as permanent residences).
2. Development shall be appropriate to the *infrastructure* which is planned or available, and avoid the need for the unjustified and/or uneconomical expansion of this *infrastructure*.
3. The establishment of new permanent townsites shall not be permitted.

4. In areas adjacent to and surrounding municipalities, only development that is related to the sustainable management or use of resources and resource-based recreational uses (including recreational dwellings not intended as permanent residences) shall be permitted. Other uses may only be permitted if:
 - a) the area forms part of a planning area;
 - b) the necessary *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* are planned or available to support the development and are financially viable over their life cycle; and
 - c) it has been determined that the impacts of development will not place an undue strain on the *public service facilities* and *infrastructure* provided by adjacent municipalities, regions and/or the Province.

2.8 Employment

2.8.1 Supporting a Modern Economy

1. Planning authorities shall promote economic development and competitiveness by:
 - a) providing for an appropriate mix and range of employment, institutional, and broader mixed uses to meet long-term needs;
 - b) providing opportunities for a diversified economic base, including maintaining a range and choice of suitable sites for employment uses which support a wide range of economic activities and ancillary uses, and take into account the needs of existing and future businesses;
 - c) identifying strategic sites for investment, monitoring the availability and suitability of employment sites, including market-ready sites, and seeking to address potential barriers to investment;
 - d) encouraging *intensification* of employment uses and compatible, compact, mixed-use development to support the achievement of *complete communities*; and
 - e) addressing land use compatibility adjacent to *employment areas* by providing an appropriate transition to *sensitive land uses*.
2. Industrial, manufacturing and small-scale warehousing uses that could be located adjacent to *sensitive land uses* without *adverse effects* are encouraged in *strategic growth areas* and other mixed-use areas where *frequent transit* service is available, outside of *employment areas*.
3. In addition to policy 3.5, on lands within 300 metres of *employment areas*, *development* shall avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate potential impacts on the long-term economic viability of employment uses within existing or planned *employment areas*, in accordance with provincial guidelines.
4. Major office and major institutional development should be directed to *major transit station areas* or other *strategic growth areas* where *frequent transit* service is available.

2.8.2 Employment Areas

1. Planning authorities shall plan for, protect and preserve *employment areas* for current and future uses, and ensure that the necessary *infrastructure* is provided to support current and projected needs.
2. Planning authorities shall protect *employment areas* that are located in proximity to *major goods movement facilities and corridors*, including facilities and corridors identified in provincial transportation plans, for the *employment area* uses that require those locations.
3. Planning authorities shall designate, protect and plan for all *employment areas* in *settlement areas* by:
 - a) planning for *employment area* uses over the long-term that require those locations including manufacturing, research and development in connection with manufacturing, warehousing and goods movement, and associated retail and office uses and ancillary facilities;
 - b) prohibiting residential uses, commercial uses, *public service facilities* and other institutional uses;
 - c) prohibiting retail and office uses that are not associated with the primary employment use;
 - d) prohibiting other *sensitive land uses* that are not ancillary to uses permitted in the *employment area*; and
 - e) including an appropriate transition to adjacent non-*employment areas* to ensure land use compatibility and economic viability.
4. Planning authorities shall assess and update *employment areas* identified in official plans to ensure that this designation is appropriate to the planned function of *employment areas*. In planning for *employment areas*, planning authorities shall maintain land use compatibility between *sensitive land uses* and *employment areas* in accordance with policy 3.5 to maintain the long-term operational and economic viability of the planned uses and function of these areas.

5. Planning authorities may remove lands from *employment areas* only where it has been demonstrated that:
 - a) there is an identified need for the removal and the land is not required for *employment area* uses over the long term;
 - b) the proposed uses would not negatively impact the overall viability of the *employment area* by:
 1. avoiding, or where avoidance is not possible, minimizing and mitigating potential impacts to existing or planned *employment area* uses in accordance with policy 3.5;
 2. maintaining access to *major goods movement facilities and corridors*;
 - c) existing or planned *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* are available to accommodate the proposed uses; and
 - d) the municipality has sufficient employment lands to accommodate projected employment growth to the horizon of the approved official plan.

2.9 Energy Conservation, Air Quality and Climate Change

1. Planning authorities shall plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate* through approaches that:
 - a) support the achievement of compact, *transit-supportive*, and *complete communities*;
 - b) incorporate climate change considerations in planning for and the development of *infrastructure*, including stormwater management systems, and *public service facilities*;
 - c) support energy conservation and efficiency;
 - d) promote *green infrastructure*, *low impact development*, and *active transportation*, protect the environment and improve air quality; and
 - e) take into consideration any additional approaches that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build community resilience to the *impacts of a changing climate*.

Chapter 3: Infrastructure and Facilities

3.1 General Policies for Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities

1. *Infrastructure* and *public service facilities* shall be provided in an efficient manner while accommodating projected needs.

Planning for *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* shall be coordinated and integrated with land use planning and growth management so that they:

- a) are financially viable over their life cycle, which may be demonstrated through asset management planning;
 - b) leverage the capacity of development proponents, where appropriate; and
 - c) are available to meet current and projected needs.
2. Before consideration is given to developing new *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*:
 - a) the use of existing *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* should be optimized; and
 - b) opportunities for adaptive re-use should be considered, wherever feasible.
 3. *Infrastructure* and *public service facilities* should be strategically located to support the effective and efficient delivery of emergency management services, and to ensure the protection of public health and safety in accordance with the policies in Chapter 5: Protecting Public Health and Safety.
 4. *Public service facilities* should be planned and co-located with one another, along with parks and open space where appropriate, to promote cost-effectiveness and facilitate service integration, access to transit and *active transportation*.
 5. Planning authorities, in collaboration with school boards, should consider and encourage innovative approaches in the design of schools and associated child care facilities, such as schools integrated in high-rise developments, in *strategic growth areas*, and other areas with a *compact built form*.

3.2 Transportation Systems

1. *Transportation systems* should be provided which are safe, energy efficient, facilitate the movement of people and goods, are appropriate to address projected needs, and support the use of zero- and low- emission vehicles.
2. Efficient use should be made of existing and planned *infrastructure*, including through the use of *transportation demand management* strategies, where feasible.

3. As part of a *multimodal transportation system*, connectivity within and among *transportation systems* and modes should be planned for, maintained and, where possible, improved, including connections which cross jurisdictional boundaries.

3.3 Transportation and Infrastructure Corridors

1. Planning authorities shall plan for and protect corridors and rights-of-way for *infrastructure*, including transportation, transit, and electricity generation facilities and transmission systems to meet current and projected needs.
2. *Major goods movement facilities and corridors* shall be protected for the long term.
3. Planning authorities shall not permit *development* in *planned corridors* that could preclude or negatively affect the use of the corridor for the purpose(s) for which it was identified.

New *development* proposed on *adjacent lands* to existing or *planned corridors* and transportation facilities should be compatible with, and supportive of, the long-term purposes of the corridor and should be designed to avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate *negative impacts* on and *adverse effects* from the corridor and transportation facilities.

4. The preservation and reuse of abandoned corridors for purposes that maintain the corridor's integrity and continuous linear characteristics should be encouraged, wherever feasible.
5. The co-location of linear *infrastructure* should be promoted, where appropriate.

3.4 Airports, Rail and Marine Facilities

1. Planning for land uses in the vicinity of *airports*, *rail facilities* and *marine facilities* shall be undertaken so that:
 - a) their long-term operation and economic role is protected; and
 - b) *airports*, *rail facilities* and *marine facilities*, and *sensitive land uses* are appropriately designed, buffered and/or separated from each other, in accordance with policy 3.5.
2. *Airports* shall be protected from incompatible land uses and development by:
 - a) prohibiting new residential *development* and other *sensitive land uses* in areas near *airports* above 30 NEF/NEP;
 - b) considering redevelopment of existing residential uses and other sensitive land uses or infilling of residential and other sensitive land uses in areas above 30 NEF/NEP only if it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the long-term function of the *airport*; and
 - c) prohibiting land uses which may cause a potential aviation safety hazard.

3.5 Land Use Compatibility

1. *Major facilities* and *sensitive land uses* shall be planned and developed to avoid, or if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate any potential *adverse effects* from odour, noise and other contaminants, minimize risk to public health and safety, and to ensure the long-term operational and economic viability of *major facilities* in accordance with provincial guidelines, standards and procedures.
2. Where avoidance is not possible in accordance with policy 3.5.1, planning authorities shall protect the long-term viability of existing or planned industrial, manufacturing or other *major facilities* that are vulnerable to encroachment by ensuring that the planning and *development* of proposed adjacent *sensitive land uses* is only permitted if potential *adverse effects* to the proposed *sensitive land use* are minimized and mitigated, and potential impacts to industrial, manufacturing or other *major facilities* are minimized and mitigated in accordance with provincial guidelines, standards and procedures.

3.6 Sewage, Water and Stormwater

1. Planning for *sewage and water services* shall:
 - a) accommodate forecasted growth in a timely manner that promotes the efficient use and optimization of existing *municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services* and existing *private communal sewage services* and *private communal water services*;
 - b) ensure that these services are provided in a manner that:
 1. can be sustained by the water resources upon which such services rely;
 2. is feasible and financially viable over their life cycle;
 3. protects human health and safety, and the natural environment, including the *quality and quantity of water*; and
 4. aligns with comprehensive municipal planning for these services, where applicable.
 - c) promote water and energy conservation and efficiency;
 - d) integrate servicing and land use considerations at all stages of the planning process;
 - e) consider opportunities to allocate, and re-allocate if necessary, the unused system capacity of *municipal water services* and *municipal sewage services* to support efficient use of these services to meet current and projected needs for increased housing supply; and
 - f) be in accordance with the servicing options outlined through policies 3.6.2, 3.6.3, 3.6.4 and 3.6.5.
2. *Municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services* are the preferred form of servicing for *settlement areas* to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety. For clarity, *municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services* include both centralized servicing systems and decentralized servicing systems.

3. Where *municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services* are not available, planned or feasible, *private communal sewage services* and *private communal water services* are the preferred form of servicing for multi-unit/lot *development* to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety.
4. Where *municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services* or *private communal sewage services* and *private communal water services* are not available, planned or feasible, *individual on-site sewage services* and *individual on-site water services* may be used provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*.

At the time of the official plan review or update, planning authorities should assess the long-term impacts of *individual on-site sewage services* and *individual on-site water services* on environmental health and the financial viability or feasibility of other forms of servicing set out in policies 3.6.2 and 3.6.3.

5. *Partial services* shall only be permitted in the following circumstances:
 - a) where they are necessary to address failed *individual on-site sewage services* and *individual on-site water services* in existing development;
 - b) within *settlement areas*, to allow for infilling and minor rounding out of existing development on *partial services* provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*; or
 - c) within rural *settlement areas* where new development will be serviced by *individual on-site water services* in combination with *municipal sewage services* or *private communal sewage services*.
6. In rural areas, where *partial services* have been provided to address failed services in accordance with policy 3.6.5.a), infilling on existing lots of record may be permitted where this would represent a logical and financially viable connection to the existing *partial service* and provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*.
7. Planning authorities may allow lot creation where there is confirmation of sufficient *reserve sewage system capacity* and *reserve water system capacity*.

8. Planning for stormwater management shall:
 - a) be integrated with planning for *sewage and water services* and ensure that systems are optimized, retrofitted as appropriate, feasible and financially viable over their full life cycle;
 - b) minimize, or, where possible, prevent or reduce increases in stormwater volumes and contaminant loads;
 - c) minimize erosion and changes in water balance including through the use of *green infrastructure*;
 - d) mitigate risks to human health, safety, property and the environment;
 - e) maximize the extent and function of vegetative and pervious surfaces;
 - f) promote best practices, including stormwater attenuation and re-use, water conservation and efficiency, and *low impact development*; and
 - g) align with any comprehensive municipal plans for stormwater management that consider cumulative impacts of stormwater from development on a *watershed* scale.

3.7 Waste Management

1. *Waste management systems* need to be planned for and provided that are of an appropriate size, type, and location to accommodate present and future requirements, and facilitate integrated waste management.

3.8 Energy Supply

1. Planning authorities should provide opportunities for the development of energy supply including electricity generation facilities and transmission and distribution systems, *energy storage systems*, district energy, *renewable energy systems*, and *alternative energy systems*, to accommodate current and projected needs.

3.9 Public Spaces, Recreation, Parks, Trails and Open Space

1. Healthy, active, and inclusive communities should be promoted by:
 - a) planning public streets, spaces and facilities to be safe, meet the needs of persons of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, foster social interaction and facilitate *active transportation* and community connectivity;
 - b) planning and providing for the needs of persons of all ages and abilities in the distribution of a full range of publicly-accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources;
 - c) providing opportunities for public access to shorelines; and
 - d) recognizing provincial parks, conservation reserves, and other protected areas, and minimizing negative impacts on these areas.

Chapter 4: Wise Use and Management of Resources

4.1 Natural Heritage

1. Natural features and areas shall be protected for the long term.
2. The diversity and connectivity of natural features in an area, and the long-term *ecological function* and biodiversity of *natural heritage systems*, should be maintained, restored or, where possible, improved, recognizing linkages between and among *natural heritage features and areas*, *surface water features* and *ground water features*.
3. *Natural heritage systems* shall be identified in Ecoregions 6E & 7E¹, recognizing that *natural heritage systems* will vary in size and form in *settlement areas*, *rural areas*, and *prime agricultural areas*.
4. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in:
 - a) *significant wetlands* in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E¹; and
 - b) *significant coastal wetlands*.
5. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in:
 - a) *significant wetlands* in the Canadian Shield north of Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E¹;
 - b) *significant woodlands* in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River)¹;
 - c) *significant valleylands* in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River)¹;
 - d) *significant wildlife habitat*;
 - e) *significant areas of natural and scientific interest*; and
 - f) *coastal wetlands* in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E¹ that are not subject to policy 4.1.4.b), unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural features or their *ecological functions*.
6. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in *fish habitat* except in accordance with *provincial and federal requirements*.
7. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in *habitat of endangered species and threatened species*, except in accordance with *provincial and federal requirements*.

¹ Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E are shown on Figure 1.

8. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted on *adjacent lands* to the *natural heritage features and areas* identified in policies 4.1.4, 4.1.5, and 4.1.6 unless the *ecological function* of the *adjacent lands* has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural features or on their *ecological functions*.
9. Nothing in policy 4.1 is intended to limit the ability of *agricultural uses* to continue.

4.2 Water

1. Planning authorities shall protect, improve or restore the *quality and quantity of water* by:
 - a) using the *watershed* as the ecologically meaningful scale for integrated and long-term planning, which can be a foundation for considering cumulative impacts of development;
 - b) minimizing potential *negative impacts*, including cross-jurisdictional and cross-*watershed* impacts;
 - c) identifying *water resource systems*;
 - d) maintaining linkages and functions of *water resource systems*;
 - e) implementing necessary restrictions on *development and site alteration* to:
 1. protect all municipal drinking water supplies and *designated vulnerable areas*; and
 2. protect, improve or restore *vulnerable* surface and ground water, and their *hydrologic functions*;
 - f) planning for efficient and sustainable use of water resources, through practices for water conservation and sustaining water quality; and
 - g) ensuring consideration of environmental lake capacity, where applicable.
2. *Development and site alteration* shall be restricted in or near *sensitive surface water features* and *sensitive ground water features* such that these features and their related *hydrologic functions* will be protected, improved or restored, which may require mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches.
3. Municipalities are encouraged to undertake, and *large and fast-growing municipalities* shall undertake *watershed planning* to inform planning for *sewage and water services* and stormwater management, including *low impact development*, and the protection, improvement or restoration of the *quality and quantity of water*.
4. Despite policy 4.2.3, where planning is conducted by an upper-tier municipality that includes one or more lower-tier *large and fast-growing municipalities*, the upper-tier municipality shall undertake *watershed planning* in partnership with lower-tier municipalities, including lower-tier *large and fast-growing municipalities*.
5. All municipalities undertaking *watershed planning* are encouraged to collaborate with applicable conservation authorities.

4.3 Agriculture

4.3.1 General Policies for Agriculture

1. Planning authorities are required to use an *agricultural system* approach, based on provincial guidance, to maintain and enhance a geographically continuous agricultural land base and support and foster the long-term economic prosperity and productive capacity of the *agri-food network*.
2. As part of the agricultural land base, *prime agricultural areas*, including *specialty crop areas*, shall be designated and protected for long-term use for agriculture.
3. *Specialty crop areas* shall be given the highest priority for protection, followed by Canada Land Inventory Class 1, 2, and 3 lands, and any associated Class 4 through 7 lands within the *prime agricultural area*, in this order of priority.

4.3.2 Permitted Uses

1. In *prime agricultural areas*, permitted uses and activities are: *agricultural uses*, *agriculture-related uses* and *on-farm diversified uses* based on provincial guidance.

Proposed *agriculture-related uses* and *on-farm diversified uses* shall be compatible with, and shall not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations. Criteria for these uses may be based on provincial guidance or municipal approaches, as set out in municipal planning documents, which achieve the same objectives.

2. In *prime agricultural areas*, all types, sizes and intensities of *agricultural uses* and *normal farm practices* shall be promoted and protected in accordance with provincial standards.
3. New land uses in *prime agricultural areas*, including the creation of lots and new or expanding livestock facilities, shall comply with the *minimum distance separation formulae*.
4. A principal dwelling associated with an agricultural operation shall be permitted in *prime agricultural areas* as an *agricultural use*, in accordance with provincial guidance, except where prohibited in accordance with policy 4.3.3.1.c).

5. Where a residential dwelling is permitted on a lot in a *prime agricultural area*, up to two additional residential units shall be permitted in accordance with provincial guidance, provided that, where two additional residential units are proposed, at least one of these additional residential units is located within or attached to the principal dwelling, and any additional residential units:
- a) comply with the *minimum distance separation formulae*;
 - b) are compatible with, and would not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations;
 - c) have appropriate *sewage and water services*;
 - d) address any public health and safety concerns;
 - e) are of limited scale and are located within, attached, or in close proximity to the principal dwelling or farm building cluster; and
 - f) minimize land taken out of agricultural production.

Lots with additional residential units may only be severed in accordance with policy 4.3.3.1.c).

6. For greater certainty, the two additional residential units that are permitted on a lot in a *prime agricultural area* in accordance with policy 4.3.2.5 are in addition to farm worker housing permitted as an *agricultural use*.

4.3.3 Lot Creation and Lot Adjustments

1. Lot creation in *prime agricultural areas* is discouraged and may only be permitted in accordance with provincial guidance for:
 - a) *agricultural uses*, provided that the lots are of a size appropriate for the type of *agricultural use(s)* common in the area and are sufficiently large to maintain flexibility for future changes in the type or size of agricultural operations;
 - b) *agriculture-related uses*, provided that any new lot will be limited to a minimum size needed to accommodate the use and appropriate *sewage and water services*;
 - c) one new residential lot per farm consolidation for a *residence surplus to an agricultural operation*, provided that:
 1. the new lot will be limited to a minimum size needed to accommodate the use and appropriate *sewage and water services*; and
 2. the planning authority ensures that new dwellings and additional residential units are prohibited on any remnant parcel of farmland created by the severance. The approach used to ensure that no new dwellings or additional residential units are permitted on the remnant parcel may be recommended by the Province, or based on municipal approaches that achieve the same objective; and
 - d) *infrastructure*, where the facility or corridor cannot be accommodated through the use of easements or rights-of-way.
2. Lot adjustments in *prime agricultural areas* may be permitted for *legal or technical reasons*.

3. The creation of new residential lots in *prime agricultural areas* shall not be permitted, except in accordance with policy 4.3.3.1.c).

4.3.4 Removal of Land from Prime Agricultural Areas

1. Planning authorities may only exclude land from *prime agricultural areas* for expansions of or identification of *settlement areas* in accordance with policy 2.3.2.

4.3.5 Non-Agricultural Uses in Prime Agricultural Areas

1. Planning authorities may only permit non-agricultural uses in *prime agricultural areas* for:
 - a) extraction of *minerals, petroleum resources* and *mineral aggregate resources*; or
 - b) limited non-residential uses, provided that all of the following are demonstrated:
 1. the land does not comprise a *specialty crop area*;
 2. the proposed use complies with the *minimum distance separation formulae*;
 3. there is an identified need within the planning horizon identified in the official plan as provided for in policy 2.1.3 for additional land to accommodate the proposed use; and
 4. alternative locations have been evaluated, and
 - i. there are no reasonable alternative locations which avoid *prime agricultural areas*; and
 - ii. there are no reasonable alternative locations in *prime agricultural areas* with lower priority agricultural lands.
2. Impacts from any new or expanding non-agricultural uses on the *agricultural system* are to be avoided, or where avoidance is not possible, minimized and mitigated as determined through an *agricultural impact assessment* or equivalent analysis, based on provincial guidance.

4.3.6 Supporting Local Food and the Agri-food Network

1. Planning authorities are encouraged to support local food, facilitate near-urban and *urban agriculture*, and foster a robust *agri-food network*.

4.4 Minerals and Petroleum

4.4.1 General Policies for Minerals and Petroleum

1. *Minerals* and *petroleum resources* shall be protected for long-term use.

4.4.2 Protection of Long-Term Resource Supply

1. *Mineral mining operations* and *petroleum resource operations* shall be identified and protected from *development* and activities that would preclude or hinder their expansion or continued use or which would be incompatible for reasons of public health, public safety or environmental impact.

2. Known *mineral deposits*, known *petroleum resources* and *significant areas of mineral potential* shall be identified, and *development* and activities in these resources or on *adjacent lands* which would preclude or hinder the establishment of new operations or access to the resources shall only be permitted if:
 - a) resource use would not be feasible; or
 - b) the proposed land use or development serves a greater long-term public interest; and
 - c) issues of public health, public safety and environmental impact are addressed.

4.4.3 Rehabilitation

1. Rehabilitation to accommodate subsequent land uses shall be required after extraction and other related activities have ceased. Progressive rehabilitation should be undertaken wherever feasible.

4.4.4 Extraction in Prime Agricultural Areas

1. Extraction of *minerals* and *petroleum resources* is permitted in *prime agricultural areas* provided that the site will be rehabilitated.

4.5 Mineral Aggregate Resources

4.5.1 General Policies for Mineral Aggregate Resources

1. *Mineral aggregate resources* shall be protected for long-term use and, where provincial information is available, *deposits of mineral aggregate resources* shall be identified.

4.5.2 Protection of Long-Term Resource Supply

1. As much of the *mineral aggregate resources* as is realistically possible shall be made available as close to markets as possible.

Demonstration of need for *mineral aggregate resources*, including any type of supply/demand analysis, shall not be required, notwithstanding the availability, designation or licensing for extraction of *mineral aggregate resources* locally or elsewhere.

2. Extraction shall be undertaken in a manner which minimizes social, economic and environmental impacts.
3. *Mineral aggregate resource conservation* shall be undertaken, including through the use of accessory aggregate recycling facilities within operations, wherever feasible.

4. *Mineral aggregate operations* shall be protected from *development* and activities that would preclude or hinder their expansion or continued use or which would be incompatible for reasons of public health, public safety or environmental impact. Existing *mineral aggregate operations* shall be permitted to continue without the need for official plan amendment, rezoning or development permit under the *Planning Act*. Where the *Aggregate Resources Act* applies, only processes under the *Aggregate Resources Act* shall address the depth of extraction of new or existing *mineral aggregate operations*. When a license for extraction or operation ceases to exist, policy 4.5.2.5 continues to apply.
5. In known *deposits of mineral aggregate resources* and on *adjacent lands*, *development* and activities which would preclude or hinder the establishment of new operations or access to the resources shall only be permitted if:
 - a) resource use would not be feasible; or
 - b) the proposed land use or development serves a greater long-term public interest; and
 - c) issues of public health, public safety and environmental impact are addressed.

4.5.3 Rehabilitation

1. Progressive and final rehabilitation shall be required to accommodate subsequent land uses, to promote land use compatibility, to recognize the interim nature of extraction, and to mitigate negative impacts to the extent possible. Final rehabilitation shall take surrounding land use and approved land use designations into consideration.
2. *Comprehensive rehabilitation* planning is encouraged where there is a concentration of mineral aggregate operations.
3. In parts of the Province not designated under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, rehabilitation standards that are compatible with those under the Act should be adopted for extraction operations on private lands.

4.5.4 Extraction in Prime Agricultural Areas

1. In *prime agricultural areas*, on *prime agricultural land*, extraction of *mineral aggregate resources* is permitted as an interim use provided that:
 - a) impacts to the *prime agricultural areas* are addressed, in accordance with policy 4.3.5.2; and
 - b) the site will be rehabilitated back to an *agricultural condition*.
2. Despite policy 4.5.4.1.b), complete rehabilitation to an *agricultural condition* is not required if:
 - a) the depth of planned extraction makes restoration of pre-extraction agricultural capability unfeasible; and
 - b) agricultural rehabilitation in remaining areas is maximized.

4.5.5 Wayside Pits and Quarries, Portable Asphalt Plants and Portable Concrete Plants

1. *Wayside pits and quarries, portable asphalt plants and portable concrete plants* used on public authority contracts shall be permitted, without the need for an official plan amendment, rezoning, or development permit under the *Planning Act* in all areas, except those areas of existing development or particular environmental sensitivity which have been determined to be incompatible with extraction and associated activities.

4.6 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

1. *Protected heritage property*, which may contain *built heritage resources* or *cultural heritage landscapes*, shall be *conserved*.
2. Planning authorities shall not permit *development* and *site alteration* on lands containing *archaeological resources* or *areas of archaeological potential* unless the *significant archaeological resources* have been *conserved*.
3. Planning authorities shall not permit *development* and *site alteration* on *adjacent lands* to *protected heritage property* unless the *heritage attributes* of the *protected heritage property* will be *conserved*.
4. Planning authorities are encouraged to develop and implement:
 - a) *archaeological management plans* for conserving *archaeological resources*; and
 - b) *proactive strategies* for conserving *significant built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*.
5. Planning authorities shall engage early with Indigenous communities and ensure their interests are considered when identifying, protecting and managing *archaeological resources*, *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*.

Chapter 5: Protecting Public Health and Safety

5.1 General Policies for Natural and Human-Made Hazards

1. Development shall be directed away from areas of natural or human-made hazards where there is an unacceptable risk to public health or safety or of property damage, and not create new or aggravate existing hazards.

5.2 Natural Hazards

1. Planning authorities shall, in collaboration with conservation authorities where they exist, identify *hazardous lands* and *hazardous sites* and manage development in these areas, in accordance with provincial guidance.
2. Development shall generally be directed to areas outside of:
 - a) *hazardous lands* adjacent to the shorelines of the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System* and *large inland lakes* which are impacted by *flooding hazards*, *erosion hazards* and/or *dynamic beach hazards*;
 - b) *hazardous lands* adjacent to *river, stream and small inland lake systems* which are impacted by *flooding hazards* and/or *erosion hazards*; and
 - c) *hazardous sites*.
3. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted within:
 - a) *the dynamic beach hazard*;
 - b) *defined portions of the flooding hazard along connecting channels* (the St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers);
 - c) areas that would be rendered inaccessible to people and vehicles during times of *flooding hazards*, *erosion hazards* and/or *dynamic beach hazards*, unless it has been demonstrated that the site has safe access appropriate for the nature of the *development* and the natural hazard; and
 - d) a *floodway* regardless of whether the area of inundation contains high points of land not subject to flooding.
4. Planning authorities shall prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate* that may increase the risk associated with natural hazards.

5. Despite policy 5.2.3, *development* and *site alteration* may be permitted in certain areas associated with the *flooding hazard* along *river, stream and small inland lake systems*:
 - a) in those exceptional situations where a *Special Policy Area* has been approved. The designation of a *Special Policy Area*, and any change or modification to the official plan policies, land use designations or boundaries applying to *Special Policy Area* lands, must be approved by the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Natural Resources and Forestry prior to the approval authority approving such changes or modifications; or
 - b) where the *development* is limited to uses which by their nature must locate within the *floodway*, including flood and/or erosion control works or minor additions or passive non-structural uses which do not affect flood flows.

6. *Development* shall not be permitted to locate in *hazardous lands* and *hazardous sites* where the use is:
 - a) an *institutional use* including hospitals, long-term care homes, retirement homes, pre-schools, school nurseries, day cares and schools;
 - b) an *essential emergency service* such as that provided by fire, police, and ambulance stations and electrical substations; or
 - c) uses associated with the disposal, manufacture, treatment or storage of *hazardous substances*.

7. Where the *two zone concept* for *flood plains* is applied, *development* and *site alteration* may be permitted in the *flood fringe*, subject to appropriate floodproofing to the *flooding hazard* elevation or another *flooding hazard* standard approved by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.

8. Further to policy 5.2.7, and except as prohibited in policies 5.2.3 and 5.2.6, *development* and *site alteration* may be permitted in those portions of *hazardous lands* and *hazardous sites* where the effects and risk to public safety are minor, could be mitigated in accordance with provincial standards, and where all of the following are demonstrated and achieved:
 - a) *development and site alteration* is carried out in accordance with *floodproofing standards, protection works standards, and access standards*;
 - b) vehicles and people have a way of safely entering and exiting the area during times of flooding, erosion and other emergencies;
 - c) new hazards are not created and existing hazards are not aggravated; and
 - d) no adverse environmental impacts will result.

9. *Development* shall generally be directed to areas outside of lands that are unsafe for development due to the presence of *hazardous forest types for wildland fire*.

Development may however be permitted in lands with *hazardous forest types for wildland fire* where the risk is mitigated in accordance with *wildland fire assessment and mitigation standards*.

5.3 Human-Made Hazards

1. Development on, abutting or adjacent to lands affected by *mine hazards; oil, gas and salt hazards; or former mineral mining operations, mineral aggregate operations or petroleum resource operations* may be permitted only if rehabilitation or other measures to address and mitigate known or suspected hazards are under way or have been completed.
2. Sites with contaminants in land or water shall be assessed and remediated as necessary prior to any activity on the site associated with the proposed use such that there will be no *adverse effects*.

Chapter 6: Implementation and Interpretation

6.1 General Policies for Implementation and Interpretation

1. The Provincial Planning Statement shall be read in its entirety and all relevant policies are to be applied to each situation.
2. The Provincial Planning Statement shall be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and treaty rights in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
3. The Provincial Planning Statement shall be implemented in a manner that is consistent with *Ontario Human Rights Code* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
4. When implementing the Provincial Planning Statement, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing may make decisions that take into account other considerations to balance government priorities.
5. Official plans shall identify provincial interests and set out appropriate land use designations and policies. Official plans shall provide clear, reasonable and attainable policies to protect provincial interests and facilitate development in suitable areas.

In order to protect provincial interests, planning authorities shall keep their official plans up-to-date with the Provincial Planning Statement. The policies of the Provincial Planning Statement continue to apply after adoption and approval of an official plan.

6. Planning authorities shall keep their zoning and development permit by-laws up-to-date with their official plans and the Provincial Planning Statement by establishing permitted uses, minimum densities, heights and other development standards to accommodate growth and development.
7. Where a planning authority must decide on a planning matter before their official plan has been updated to be consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement, or before other applicable planning instruments have been updated accordingly, it must still make a decision that is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement.
8. In addition to land use approvals under the *Planning Act*, *infrastructure* may also have requirements under other legislation and regulations. For example, an environmental assessment process may be required for new *infrastructure* and modifications to existing *infrastructure* under applicable legislation.

Wherever possible and practical, approvals under the *Planning Act* and other legislation or regulations should be integrated provided the intent and requirements of both processes are met.

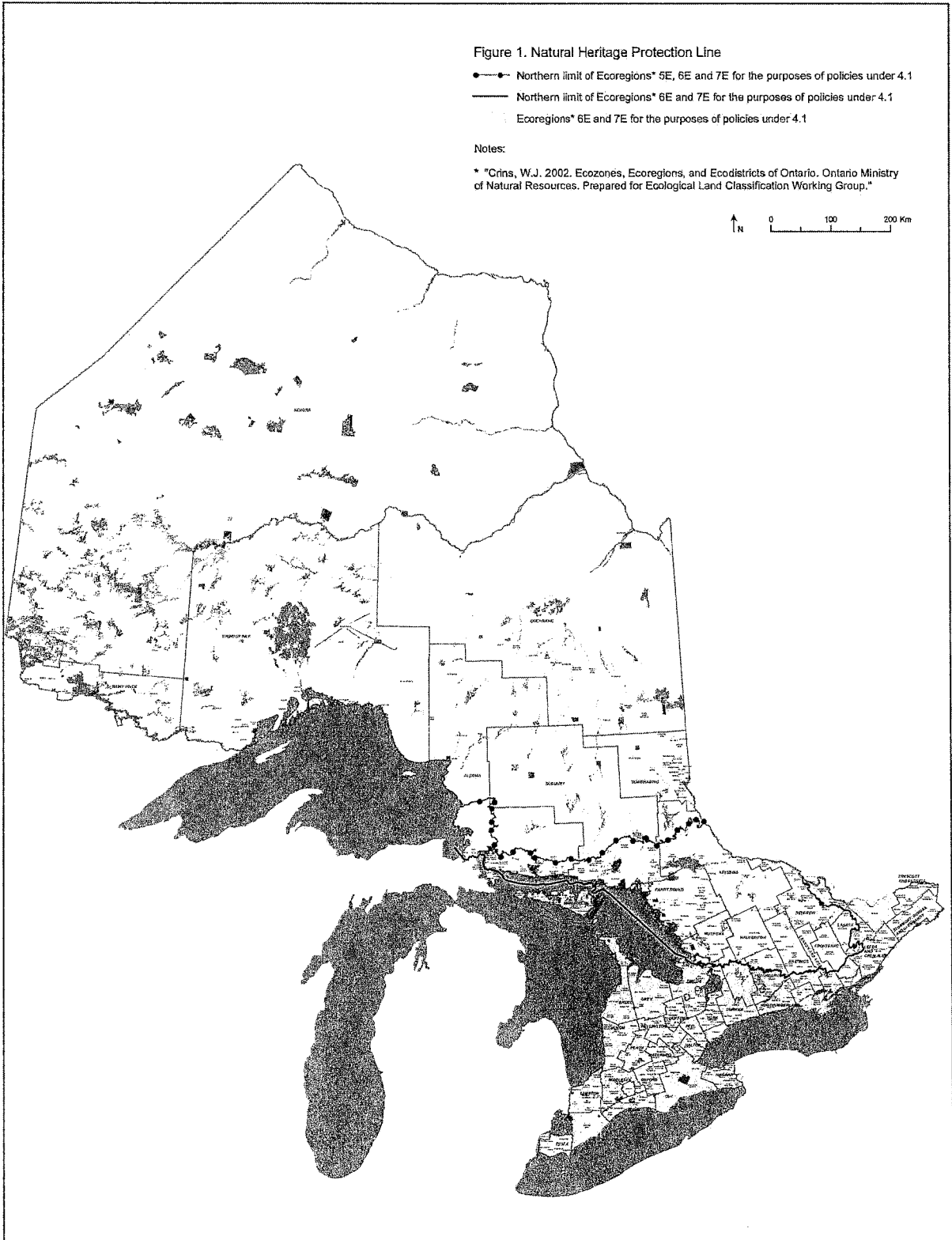
9. To assess progress on implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement, the Province may:
 - a) identify key indicators to measure the outcomes, relevance and efficiency of the policies in the Provincial Planning Statement in consultation with municipalities, Indigenous communities, other public bodies and stakeholders;
 - b) monitor and assess the implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement through the collection and analysis of data under each indicator; and
 - c) consider the resulting assessment in each review of the Provincial Planning Statement.
10. Municipalities are encouraged to monitor and report on the implementation of the policies in their official plans, in accordance with any requirements for reporting planning information to the Province, data standards, and including through any other guidelines that may be issued by the Minister.
11. *Strategic growth areas* and *designated growth areas* are not land use designations and their delineation does not confer any new land use designations, nor alter existing land use designations. Any development on lands within the boundary of these identified areas is still subject to the relevant provincial and municipal land use planning policies and approval processes.
12. Density targets represent minimum standards and planning authorities are encouraged to go beyond these minimum targets, where appropriate, except where doing so would conflict with any policy of the Provincial Planning Statement or any other provincial plan.
13. Minimum density targets will be revisited at the time of each official plan update to ensure the target is appropriate.

6.2 Coordination

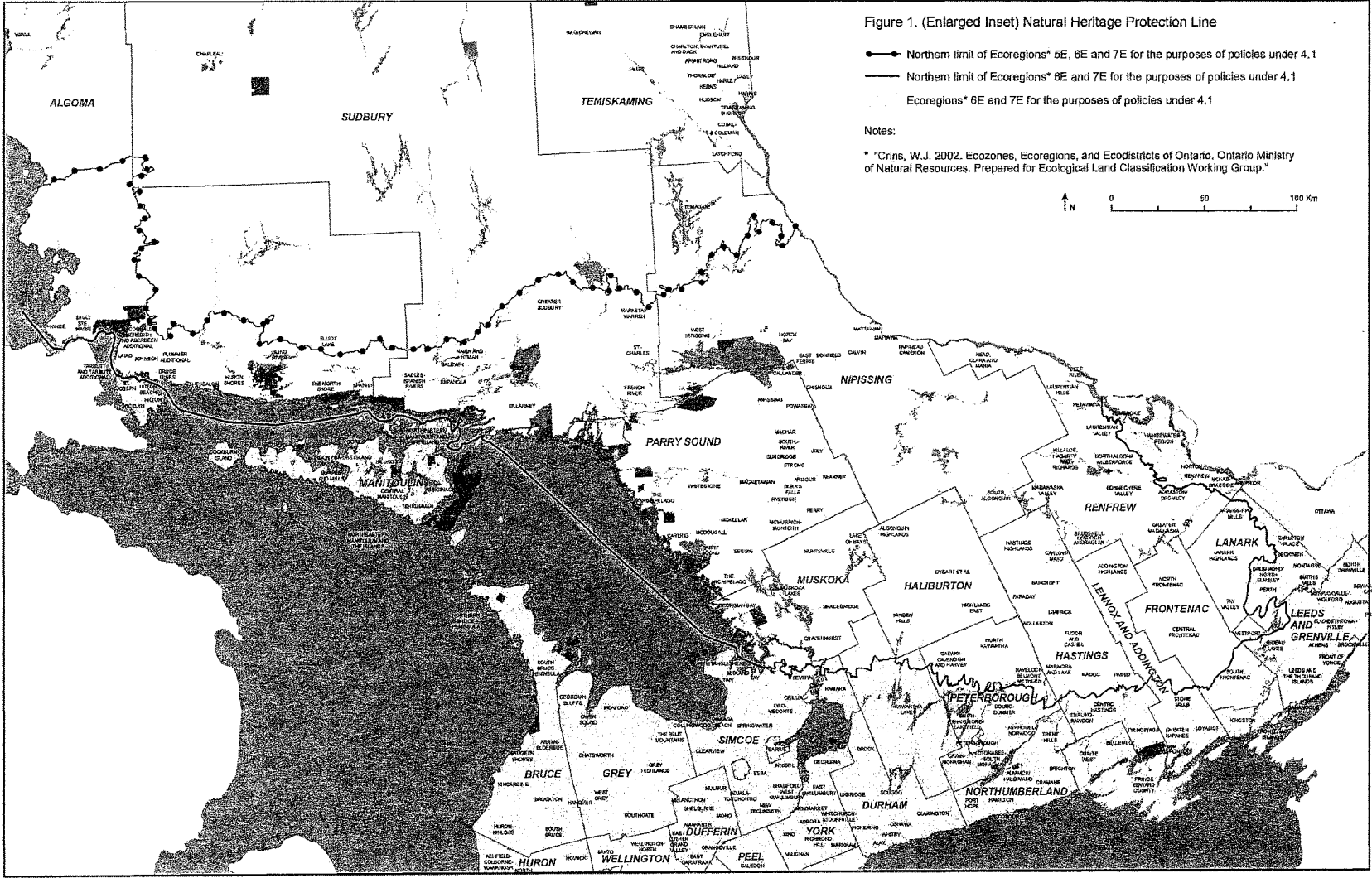
1. A coordinated, integrated and comprehensive approach should be used when dealing with planning matters within municipalities, across lower, single and/or upper-tier municipal boundaries, and with other orders of government, agencies, boards, and Service Managers including:
 - a) managing and/or promoting growth and development that is integrated with planning for *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*, including schools and associated child care facilities;
 - b) economic development strategies;
 - c) managing natural heritage, water, agricultural, mineral, and cultural heritage and archaeological resources;
 - d) *infrastructure, multimodal transportation systems, public service facilities and waste management systems*;
 - e) ecosystem, shoreline, watershed, and Great Lakes related issues;
 - f) natural and human-made hazards;
 - g) population, housing and employment projections, based on *regional market areas*, as appropriate; and
 - h) addressing housing needs in accordance with provincial housing policies and plans, including those that address homelessness.
2. Planning authorities shall undertake early engagement with Indigenous communities and coordinate on land use planning matters to facilitate knowledge-sharing, support consideration of Indigenous interests in land use decision-making and support the identification of potential impacts of decisions on the exercise of Aboriginal or treaty rights.
3. Planning authorities are encouraged to engage the public and stakeholders early in local efforts to implement the Provincial Planning Statement, and to provide the necessary information to ensure the informed involvement of local citizens, including equity-deserving groups.
4. Planning authorities and school boards shall collaborate to facilitate early and integrated planning for schools and associated child care facilities to meet current and future needs.
5. Planning authorities shall collaborate with publicly-assisted post-secondary institutions, where they exist, to facilitate early and integrated planning for student housing that considers the full range of *housing options* near existing and planned post-secondary institutions to meet current and future needs.
6. Further to policy 6.2.5, planning authorities should collaborate with publicly-assisted post-secondary institutions on the development of a student housing strategy that includes consideration of off-campus housing targeted to students.

7. Planning authorities should coordinate emergency management and other economic, environmental and social planning considerations to support efficient and resilient communities.
8. Municipalities, the Province, and other appropriate stakeholders are encouraged to undertake a coordinated approach to planning for large areas with high concentrations of employment uses that cross municipal boundaries.
9. Where planning is conducted by an upper-tier municipality, the upper-tier municipality in consultation with lower-tier municipalities shall:
 - a) identify and allocate population, housing and employment projections for lower-tier municipalities;
 - b) identify areas where growth and development will be focused, including *strategic growth areas*, and establish any applicable minimum density targets;
 - c) identify minimum density targets for growth and development taking place in new or expanded *settlement areas*, where applicable; and
 - d) provide policy direction for the lower-tier municipalities on matters that cross municipal boundaries.
10. Where there is no upper-tier municipality or where planning is not conducted by an upper-tier municipality, planning authorities shall ensure that policy 6.2.9 is addressed as part of the planning process, and should coordinate these matters with adjacent planning authorities.

7: Figure 1 – Natural Heritage Protection Line



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8: Definitions

Access standards: means methods or procedures to ensure safe vehicular and pedestrian movement, and access for the maintenance and repair of protection works, during times of *flooding hazards, erosion hazards and/or other water-related hazards*.

Active transportation: means human-powered travel, including but not limited to, walking, cycling, inline skating and travel with the use of mobility aids, including motorized wheelchairs and other power-assisted devices moving at a comparable speed.

Additional needs housing: means any housing, including dedicated facilities, in whole or in part, that is used by people who have specific needs beyond economic needs, including but not limited to, needs such as mobility requirements or support functions required for daily living. Examples of *additional needs housing* may include, but are not limited to long-term care homes, adaptable and accessible housing, and housing for persons with disabilities such as physical, sensory or mental health disabilities, and housing for older persons.

Adjacent lands: means

- a) for the purposes of policy 3.3.3, those lands contiguous to existing or *planned corridors* and transportation facilities where *development* would have a negative impact on the corridor or facility. The extent of the *adjacent lands* may be recommended in provincial guidance or based on municipal approaches that achieve the same objectives;
- b) for the purposes of policy 4.1.8, those lands contiguous to a specific *natural heritage feature or area* where it is likely that *development* or *site alteration* would have a *negative impact* on the feature or area. The extent of the *adjacent lands* may be recommended by the Province or based on municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives;

- c) for the purposes of policies 4.4.2.2 and 4.5.2.5, those lands contiguous to lands on the surface of known *petroleum resources, mineral deposits, or deposits of mineral aggregate resources* where it is likely that *development* would constrain future access to the resources. The extent of the *adjacent lands* may be recommended by the Province; and
- d) for the purposes of policy 4.6.3, those lands contiguous to a *protected heritage property* or as otherwise defined in the municipal official plan.

Adverse effect: as defined in the *Environmental Protection Act*, means one or more of:

- a) impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;
- b) injury or damage to property or plant or animal life;
- c) harm or material discomfort to any person;
- d) an adverse effect on the health of any person;
- e) impairment of the safety of any person;
- f) rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use;
- g) loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; and
- h) interference with normal conduct of business.

Affordable: means

- a) in the case of ownership housing, the least expensive of:
 1. housing for which the purchase price results in annual accommodation costs which do not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or
 2. housing for which the purchase price is at least 10 percent below the average purchase price of a resale unit in the municipality;
- b) in the case of rental housing, the least expensive of:
 1. a unit for which the rent does not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or
 2. a unit for which the rent is at or below the average market rent of a unit in the municipality.

Agricultural condition: means

- a) in regard to *specialty crop areas*, a condition in which substantially the same areas and same average soil capability for agriculture are restored, the same range and productivity of specialty crops common in the area can be achieved, and, where applicable, the microclimate on which the site and surrounding area may be dependent for specialty crop production will be maintained, restored or enhanced; and
- b) in regard to *prime agricultural land* outside of *specialty crop areas*, a condition in which substantially the same areas and same average soil capability for agriculture will be maintained, restored or enhanced.

Agricultural impact assessment: means the evaluation of potential impacts of non-agricultural uses on the *agricultural system*. An assessment recommends ways to avoid or if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate adverse impacts.

Agricultural system: means a system comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agri-food sector. It has two components:

- a) An agricultural land base comprised of *prime agricultural areas*, including *specialty crop areas*. It may also include *rural lands* that help to create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; and
- b) An *agri-food network* which includes agricultural operations, *infrastructure*, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.

Agricultural uses: means the growing of crops, including nursery, biomass, and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and structures, including, but not limited to livestock facilities, manure storages, value-retaining facilities, and housing for farm workers, when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment.

Agri-food network: Within the *agricultural system*, a network that includes elements important to the viability of the agri-food sector such as regional *infrastructure* and transportation networks; agricultural operations including on-farm buildings and primary processing; *infrastructure*; agricultural services, farm markets, and distributors; and vibrant, agriculture-supportive communities.

Agri-tourism uses: means those farm-related tourism uses, including limited accommodation such as a bed and breakfast, that promote the enjoyment, education or activities related to the farm operation.

Agriculture-related uses: means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are directly related to farm operations in the area, support agriculture, benefit from being in close proximity to farm operations, and provide direct products and/or services to farm operations as a primary activity.

Airports: means all Ontario airports, including designated lands for future airports, with Noise Exposure Forecast (NEF)/Noise Exposure Projection (NEP) mapping.

Alternative energy system: means a system that uses sources of energy or energy conversion processes to produce power, heat and/or cooling that significantly reduces the amount of harmful emissions to the environment (air, earth and water) when compared to conventional energy systems.

Archaeological resources: includes artifacts, archaeological sites and marine archaeological sites, as defined under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The identification and evaluation of such resources are based upon archaeological assessments carried out by archaeologists licensed under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Areas of archaeological potential: means areas with the likelihood to contain *archaeological resources*, as evaluated using the processes and criteria that are established under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Areas of mineral potential: means areas favourable to the discovery of *mineral deposits* due to geology, the presence of known *mineral deposits* or other technical evidence.

Areas of natural and scientific interest: means areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education.

Brownfield sites: means undeveloped or previously developed properties that may be contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former industrial or commercial properties that may be underutilized, derelict or vacant.

Built heritage resource: means a building, structure, monument, installation or any manufactured or constructed part or remnant that contributes to a property's cultural heritage value or interest as identified by a community, including an Indigenous community.

Coastal wetland: means

- a) any *wetland* that is located on one of the Great Lakes or their connecting channels (Lake St. Clair, St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers); or
- b) any other *wetland* that is on a tributary to any of the above-specified water bodies and lies, either wholly or in part, downstream of a line located 2 kilometres upstream of the 1:100 year floodline (plus wave run-up) of the large water body to which the tributary is connected.

Compact built form: means a land use pattern that encourages the efficient use of land, walkable neighbourhoods, mixed land uses (residential, retail, workplace, and institutional) all within one neighbourhood, proximity to transit and reduced need for *infrastructure*. *Compact built form* can include detached and semi-detached houses on small lots as well as townhouses, duplexes, triplexes and walk-up apartments, multi-storey commercial developments, and apartments or offices above retail. Walkable neighbourhoods can be characterized by roads laid out in a well-connected network, destinations that are easily accessible by transit and *active transportation*, sidewalks with minimal interruptions for vehicle access, and a pedestrian-friendly environment along roads.

Comprehensive rehabilitation: means rehabilitation of land from which *mineral aggregate resources* have been extracted that is coordinated and complementary, to the extent possible, with the rehabilitation of other sites in an area where there is a high concentration of *mineral aggregate operations*.

Complete communities: means places such as mixed-use neighbourhoods or other areas within cities, towns, and *settlement areas* that offer and support opportunities for equitable access to many necessities for daily living for people of all ages and abilities, including an appropriate mix of jobs, a full range of housing, transportation options, *public service facilities*, local stores and services. *Complete communities* are inclusive and may take different shapes and forms appropriate to their contexts to meet the diverse needs of their populations.

Conserved: means the identification, protection, management and use of *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes* and *archaeological resources* in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained. This may be achieved by the implementation of recommendations set out in a conservation plan, archaeological assessment, and/or heritage impact assessment that has been approved, accepted or adopted by the relevant planning authority and/or decision-maker. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches should be included in these plans and assessments.

Cultural heritage landscape: means a defined geographical area that may have been modified by human activity and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including an Indigenous community. The area may include features such as buildings, structures, spaces, views, archaeological sites or natural elements that are valued together for their interrelationship, meaning or association.

Defined portions of the flooding hazard along connecting channels: means those areas which are critical to the conveyance of the flows associated with the *one hundred year flood level* along the St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers, where *development* or *site alteration* will create *flooding hazards*, cause updrift and/or downdrift impacts and/or cause adverse environmental impacts.

Deposits of mineral aggregate resources: means an area of identified *mineral aggregate resources*, as delineated in Aggregate Resource Inventory Papers or comprehensive studies prepared using provincial guidance for surficial and bedrock resources, as amended from time to time, that has a sufficient quantity and quality to warrant present or future extraction.

Designated and available: means lands designated in the official plan for urban residential use. For municipalities where more detailed official plan policies (e.g., secondary plans) are required before development applications can be considered for approval, only lands that have commenced the more detailed planning process are considered to be *designated and available* for the purposes of this definition.

Designated growth areas: means lands within *settlement areas* designated for growth or lands added to *settlement areas* that have not yet been fully developed. *Designated growth areas* include lands which are *designated and available* for residential growth in accordance with policy 2.1.4.a), as well as lands required for employment and other uses.

Designated vulnerable area: means areas defined as vulnerable, in accordance with provincial standards, by virtue of their importance as a drinking water source.

Development: means the creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures requiring approval under the *Planning Act*, but does not include:

- a) activities that create or maintain *infrastructure* authorized under an environmental assessment process or identified in provincial standards; or
- b) works subject to the *Drainage Act*; or
- c) for the purposes of policy 4.1.4.a), underground or surface mining of *minerals* or advanced exploration on mining lands in *significant areas of mineral potential* in Ecoregion 5E, where advanced exploration has the same meaning as under the *Mining Act*. Instead, those matters shall be subject to policy 4.1.5.a).

Dynamic beach hazard: means areas of inherently unstable accumulations of shoreline sediments along the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System* and *large inland lakes*, as identified by provincial standards, as amended from time to time. The *dynamic beach hazard* limit consists of the *flood hazard* limit plus a dynamic beach allowance.

Ecological function: means the natural processes, products or services that living and non-living environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems and landscapes. These may include biological, physical and socio-economic interactions.

Employment area: means those areas designated in an official plan for clusters of business and economic activities including manufacturing, research and development in connection with manufacturing, warehousing, goods movement, associated retail and office, and ancillary facilities. An *employment area* also includes areas of land described by subsection 1(1.1) of the *Planning Act*. Uses that are excluded from *employment areas* are institutional and commercial, including retail and office not associated with the primary employment use listed above.

Endangered species: means a species that is classified as "Endangered Species" on the Species at Risk in Ontario List, as updated and amended from time to time.

Energy storage system: means a system or facility that captures energy produced at one time for use at a later time to reduce imbalances between energy demand and energy production, including for example, flywheels, pumped hydro storage, hydrogen storage, fuels storage, compressed air storage, and battery storage.

Erosion hazard: means the loss of land, due to human or natural processes, that poses a threat to life and property. The *erosion hazard* limit is determined using considerations that include the 100 year erosion rate (the average annual rate of recession extended over a one hundred year time span), an allowance for slope stability, and an erosion/erosion access allowance.

Essential emergency service: means services which would be impaired during an emergency as a result of flooding, the failure of floodproofing measures and/or protection works, and/or erosion.

Fish: means fish, which as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, includes fish, shellfish, crustaceans, and marine animals, at all stages of their life cycles.

Fish habitat: as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, means water frequented by *fish* and any other areas on which *fish* depend directly or indirectly to carry out their life processes, including spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas.

Flood fringe: for *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, means the outer portion of the *flood plain* between the *floodway* and the *flood hazard* limit. Depths and velocities of flooding are generally less severe in the *flood fringe* than those experienced in the *floodway*.

Flood plain: for *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, means the area, usually low lands adjoining a watercourse, which has been or may be subject to *flood hazard*s.

Flooding hazard: means the inundation, under the conditions specified below, of areas adjacent to a shoreline or a river or stream system and not ordinarily covered by water:

- a) along the shorelines of the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System* and *large inland lakes*, the *flooding hazard* limit is based on the *one hundred year flood level* plus an allowance for *wave effects* and *other water-related hazards*;
- b) along *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, the *flooding hazard* limit is the greater of:
 1. the flood resulting from the rainfall actually experienced during a major storm such as the Hurricane Hazel storm (1954) or the Timmins storm (1961), transposed over a specific watershed and combined with the local conditions, where evidence suggests that the storm event could have potentially occurred over watersheds in the general area;
 2. the *one hundred year flood*; and
 3. a flood which is greater than 1. or 2. which was actually experienced in a particular watershed or portion thereof, for example, as a result of ice jams and which has been approved as the standard for that specific area by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry;

except where the use of the *one hundred year flood* or the actually experienced event has been approved by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry as the standard for a specific watershed (where the past history of flooding supports the lowering of the standard).

Floodproofing standard: means the combination of measures incorporated into the basic design and/or construction of buildings, structures, or properties to reduce or eliminate *flooding hazards, wave effects* and *other water-related hazards* along the shorelines of the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System* and *large inland lakes*, and *flooding hazards* along *river, stream and small inland lake systems*.

Floodway: for *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, means the portion of the *flood plain* where *development* and *site alteration* would cause a danger to public health and safety or property damage.

Where the *one zone concept* is applied, the *floodway* is the entire contiguous *flood plain*.

Where the *two zone concept* is applied, the *floodway* is the contiguous inner portion of the *flood plain*, representing that area required for the safe passage of flood flow and/or that area where flood depths and/or velocities are considered to be such that they pose a potential threat to life and/or property damage. Where the *two zone concept* applies, the outer portion of the *flood plain* is called the *flood fringe*.

Freight-supportive: in regard to land use patterns, means transportation systems and facilities that facilitate the movement of goods. This includes policies or programs intended to support efficient freight movement through the planning, design and operation of land use and transportation systems. Approaches may be recommended in provincial guidance or based on municipal approaches that achieve the same objectives.

Frequent transit: means a public transit service that runs at least every 15 minutes in both directions throughout the day and into the evening every day of the week.

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System: means the major water system consisting of Lakes Superior, Huron, St. Clair, Erie and Ontario and their connecting channels, and the St. Lawrence River within the boundaries of the Province of Ontario.

Green infrastructure: means natural and human-made elements that provide ecological and hydrological functions and processes. *Green infrastructure* can include components such as natural heritage features and systems, parklands, stormwater management systems, street trees, urban forests, natural channels, permeable surfaces, and green roofs.

Ground water feature: means water-related features in the earth's subsurface, including recharge/discharge areas, water tables, aquifers and unsaturated zones that can be defined by surface and subsurface hydrogeologic investigations.

Habitat of endangered species and threatened species: means habitat within the meaning of section 2 of the *Endangered Species Act, 2007*.

Hazardous forest types for wildland fire: means forest types assessed as being associated with the risk of high to extreme wildland fire using risk assessment tools established by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time.

Hazardous lands: means property or lands that could be unsafe for development due to naturally occurring processes. Along the shorelines of the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System*, this means the land, including that covered by water, between the international boundary, where applicable, and the furthest landward limit of the *flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard* limits. Along the shorelines of *large inland lakes*, this means the land, including that covered by water, between a defined offshore distance or depth and the furthest landward limit of the *flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard* limits. Along *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, this means the land, including that covered by water, to the furthest landward limit of the *flooding hazard or erosion hazard* limits.

Hazardous sites: means property or lands that could be unsafe for *development and site alteration* due to naturally occurring hazards. These may include unstable soils (sensitive marine clays [leda], organic soils) or unstable bedrock (karst topography).

Hazardous substances: means substances which, individually, or in combination with other substances, are normally considered to pose a danger to public health, safety and the environment. These substances generally include

a wide array of materials that are toxic, ignitable, corrosive, reactive, radioactive or pathological.

Heritage attributes: means, as defined under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in relation to real property, and to the buildings and structures on the real property, the attributes of the property, buildings and structures that contribute to their cultural heritage value or interest.

Higher order transit: means transit that generally operates in partially or completely dedicated rights-of-way, outside of mixed traffic, and therefore can achieve levels of speed and reliability greater than mixed-traffic transit. *Higher order transit* can include heavy rail (such as subways, elevated or surface rail, and commuter rail), light rail, and buses in dedicated rights-of-way.

Housing options: means a range of housing types such as, but not limited to single-detached, semi-detached, rowhouses, townhouses, stacked townhouses, multiplexes, additional residential units, tiny homes, laneway housing, garden suites, rooming houses and multi-residential buildings, including low- and mid-rise apartments. The term can also refer to a variety of housing arrangements and forms such as, but not limited to, life lease housing, co-ownership housing, co-operative housing, community land trusts, land lease community homes, *affordable housing, additional needs housing*, multi-generational housing, student housing, farm worker housing, culturally appropriate housing, supportive, community and transitional housing and housing related to employment, educational, or *institutional uses*, such as long-term care homes.

Hydrologic function: means the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment including its relation to living things.

Impacts of a changing climate: means the present and future consequences from changes in weather patterns at local and regional levels including extreme weather events and increased climate variability.

Individual on-site sewage services: means sewage systems, as defined in O. Reg. 332/12 under the *Building Code Act, 1992*, that are owned, operated and managed by the owner of the property upon which the system is located.

Individual on-site water services: means individual, autonomous water supply systems that are owned, operated and managed by the owner of the property upon which the system is located.

Infrastructure: means physical structures (facilities and corridors) that form the foundation for development. *Infrastructure* includes: sewage and water systems, septage treatment systems, stormwater management systems, *waste management systems*, electricity generation facilities, electricity transmission and distribution systems, communications/telecommunications including broadband, transit and transportation corridors and facilities, *active transportation systems*, oil and gas pipelines and associated facilities.

Institutional use: for the purposes of policy 5.2.6, means land uses where there is a threat to the safe evacuation of vulnerable populations such as older persons, persons with disabilities, and those who are sick or young, during an emergency as a result of flooding, failure of floodproofing measures or protection works, or erosion.

Intensification: means the development of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

- a) *redevelopment*, including the reuse of *brownfield sites* and underutilized shopping malls and plazas;
- b) the development of vacant and/or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;

- c) infill development; and
- d) the expansion or conversion of existing buildings.

Large and fast-growing municipalities: means municipalities identified in Schedule 1.

Large inland lakes: means those waterbodies having a surface area of equal to or greater than 100 square kilometres where there is not a measurable or predictable response to a single runoff event.

Legal or technical reasons: means severances for purposes such as easements, corrections of deeds, quit claims, and minor boundary adjustments, which do not result in the creation of a new lot.

Low and moderate income households: means

- a) in the case of ownership housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for the municipality; or
- b) In the case of rental housing, household with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for renter households for the municipality.

Low impact development: means an approach to stormwater management that seeks to manage rain and other precipitation as close as possible to where it falls to mitigate the impacts of increased runoff and stormwater pollution. It typically includes a set of site design strategies and distributed, small-scale structural practices to mimic the natural hydrology to the greatest extent possible through infiltration, evapotranspiration, harvesting, filtration, and detention of stormwater. *Low impact development* can include, for example: bio-swales, vegetated areas at the edge of paved surfaces, permeable pavement, rain gardens, green roofs, and exfiltration systems.

Major facilities: means facilities which may require separation from *sensitive land uses*, including but not limited to airports, manufacturing uses, transportation *infrastructure* and corridors, *rail facilities*, *marine facilities*, sewage treatment facilities, *waste management systems*, oil and gas pipelines, industries, energy generation facilities and transmission systems, and resource extraction activities.

Major goods movement facilities and corridors: means transportation facilities, corridors and networks associated with the inter- and intra-provincial movement of goods. Examples include: inter-modal facilities, ports, *airports*, *rail facilities*, truck terminals, freight corridors, freight facilities, and haul routes, primary transportation corridors used for the movement of goods and those identified in provincial transportation plans. Approaches that are *freight-supportive* may be recommended in provincial guidance or based on municipal approaches that achieve the same objectives.

Major transit station area: means the area including and around any existing or planned *higher order transit* station or stop within a *settlement area*; or the area including and around a major bus depot in an urban core. *Major transit station areas* generally are defined as the area within an approximate 500 to 800-metre radius of a transit station.

Major trip generators: means origins and destinations with high population densities or concentrated activities which generate many trips (e.g., *strategic growth areas*, major office and office parks, major retail, *employment areas*, community hubs, large parks and recreational destinations, *public service facilities*, and other mixed-use areas).

Marine facilities: means ferries, harbours, ports, ferry terminals, canals and associated uses, including designated lands for future *marine facilities*.

Mine hazard: means any feature of a mine as defined under the *Mining Act*, or any related disturbance of the ground that has not been rehabilitated.

Minerals: means metallic minerals and non-metallic minerals as herein defined, but does not include *mineral aggregate resources* or *petroleum resources*.

Metallic minerals means those minerals from which metals (e.g., copper, nickel, gold) are derived.

Non-metallic minerals means those minerals that are of value for intrinsic properties of the minerals themselves and not as a source of metal. They are generally synonymous with industrial minerals (e.g., graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, and wollastonite).

Critical minerals are a subset of raw materials that have specific industrial, technological or strategic applications for which there are a few viable substitutes.

Mineral aggregate operation: means

- a) lands under license or permit, other than for *wayside pits and quarries*, issued in accordance with the *Aggregate Resources Act*;
- b) for lands not designated under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, established pits and quarries that are not in contravention of municipal zoning by-laws and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and
- c) associated facilities used in extraction, transport, beneficiation, processing or recycling of *mineral aggregate resources* and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary related products.

Mineral aggregate resources: means gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed under the *Aggregate Resources Act* suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes but does not include metallic ores, asbestos, graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, wollastonite, mine tailings or other material prescribed under the *Mining Act*.

Mineral aggregate resource conservation: means

- a) the recovery and recycling of manufactured materials derived from mineral aggregates (e.g., glass, porcelain, brick, concrete, asphalt, slag, etc.), for re-use in construction, manufacturing, industrial or maintenance projects as a substitute for new mineral aggregates; and
- b) the wise use of mineral aggregates including utilization or extraction of on-site *mineral aggregate resources* prior to development occurring.

Mineral deposits: means areas of identified *minerals* that have sufficient quantity and quality based on specific geological evidence to warrant present or future extraction.

Mineral mining operation: means mining operations and associated facilities, or, past producing mines with remaining mineral development potential that have not been permanently rehabilitated to another use.

Minimum distance separation formulae: means formulae and guidelines developed by the Province, as amended from time to time, to separate uses so as to reduce incompatibility concerns about odour from livestock facilities.

Multimodal: means relating to the availability or use of more than one form of transportation, such as automobiles, walking, cycling, buses, rapid transit, *higher order transit*, rail (such as freight), trucks, air, and marine.

Municipal sewage services: means a sewage works within the meaning of section 1 of the *Ontario Water Resources Act* that is owned or operated by a municipality.

Municipal water services: means a municipal drinking-water system within the meaning of section 2 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

Natural heritage features and areas: means features and areas, including *significant wetlands, significant coastal wetlands, other coastal wetlands* in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E, *fish habitat, significant woodlands and significant valleylands* in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River), *habitat of endangered species and threatened species, significant wildlife habitat, and significant areas of natural and scientific interest*, which are important for their environmental and social values as a legacy of the natural landscapes of an area.

Natural heritage system: means a system made up of *natural heritage features and areas*, and linkages intended to provide connectivity (at the regional or site level) and support natural processes which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems. These systems can include *natural heritage features and areas*, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, other natural heritage features, lands that have been restored or have the potential to be restored to a natural state, areas that support hydrologic functions, and working landscapes that enable ecological functions to continue. The Province has a recommended approach for identifying *natural heritage systems*, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used.

Negative impacts: means

- a) in regard to policy 3.6.4 and 3.6.5, potential risks to human health and safety and degradation to the *quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features*, and their related *hydrologic functions*, due to single, multiple or successive *development*. *Negative impacts* should be assessed through environmental studies including hydrogeological or water quality impact assessments, in accordance with provincial standards;
- b) in regard to *fish habitat*, any harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of *fish habitat*, except where an exemption to the prohibition has been authorized under the *Fisheries Act*;
- c) in regard to other *natural heritage features and areas*, degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the natural features or *ecological functions* for which an area is identified due to single, multiple or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities.
- d) in regard to policy 4.2, degradation to the *quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features*, and their *related hydrologic functions*, due to single, multiple or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities; and
- e) in regard to policy 3.3.3, any *development* or *site alteration* that would compromise or conflict with the planned or existing function, capacity to accommodate future needs, and cost of implementation of the corridor.

Normal farm practices: means a practice, as defined in the *Farming and Food Production Protection Act, 1998*, that is conducted in a manner consistent with proper and acceptable customs and standards as established and followed by similar agricultural operations under similar circumstances; or makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices. *Normal farm practices* shall be consistent with the *Nutrient Management Act, 2002* and regulations made under that Act.

Oil, gas and salt hazards: means any feature of a well or work as defined under the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act*, or any related disturbance of the ground that has not been rehabilitated.

On-farm diversified uses: means uses that are secondary to the principal *agricultural use* of the property, and are limited in area. *On-farm diversified uses* include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, *agri-tourism uses*, uses that produce value-added agricultural products, and electricity generation facilities and transmission systems, and *energy storage systems*.

One hundred year flood: for *river, stream and small inland lake systems*, means that flood, based on an analysis of precipitation, snow melt, or a combination thereof, having a return period of 100 years on average, or having a 1% chance of occurring or being exceeded in any given year.

One hundred year flood level: means

- a) for the shorelines of the Great Lakes, the peak instantaneous stillwater level, resulting from combinations of mean monthly lake levels and wind setups, which has a 1% chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year;
- b) in the connecting channels (St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers), the peak instantaneous stillwater level which has a 1% chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year; and
- c) for *large inland lakes*, lake levels and wind setups that have a 1% chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year, except that, where sufficient water level records do not exist, the *one hundred year flood level* is based on the highest known water level and wind setups.

Other water-related hazards: means water-associated phenomena other than *flooding hazards* and *wave effects* which act on shorelines. This includes, but is not limited to ship-generated waves, ice piling and ice jamming.

Partial services: means

- a) *municipal sewage services or private communal sewage services combined with individual on-site water services; or*
- b) *municipal water services or private communal water services combined with individual on-site sewage services.*

Petroleum resource operations: means oil, gas and salt wells and associated facilities and other drilling operations, oil field fluid disposal wells and associated facilities, and wells and facilities for the underground storage of natural gas, other hydrocarbons, and compressed air energy storage.

Petroleum resources: means oil, gas, and salt (extracted by solution mining method) and formation water resources which have been identified through exploration and verified by preliminary drilling or other forms of investigation. This may include sites of former operations where resources are still present or former sites that may be converted to underground storage for natural gas, other hydrocarbons, or compressed air energy storage.

Planned corridors: means corridors or future corridors which are required to meet projected needs, and are identified through provincial transportation plans, preferred alignment(s) determined through the *Environmental Assessment Act* process, or identified through planning studies where the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Electrification, Ontario Northland, Ministry of Northern Development or Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) or any successor to those ministries or entities is actively pursuing, or has completed, the identification of a corridor.

Approaches for the identification and protection of *planned corridors* may be recommended in guidelines developed by the Province.

Portable asphalt plant: means a facility

- a) with equipment designed to heat and dry aggregate and to mix aggregate with bituminous asphalt to produce asphalt paving material, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and
- b) which is not of permanent construction, but which is to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

Portable concrete plant: means a building or structure

- a) with equipment designed to mix cementing materials, aggregate, water and admixtures to produce concrete, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and
- b) which is not of permanent construction, but which is designed to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

Prime agricultural area: means areas where *prime agricultural lands* predominate. This includes areas of *prime agricultural lands* and associated Canada Land Inventory Class 4 through 7 lands, and additional areas with a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture. *Prime agricultural areas* may be identified by a planning authority based on provincial guidance or informed by mapping obtained from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness and the Ontario Ministry of Rural Affairs or any successor to those ministries.

Prime agricultural land: means *specialty crop areas* and/or Canada Land Inventory Class 1, 2, and 3 lands, as amended from time to time, in this order of priority for protection.

Private communal sewage services: means a sewage works within the meaning of section 1 of the *Ontario Water Resources Act* that serves six or more lots or private residences and is not owned by a municipality.

Private communal water services: means a non-municipal drinking-water system within the meaning of section 2 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* that serves six or more lots or private residences.

Protected heritage property: means property designated under Part IV or VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; property included in an area designated as a heritage conservation district under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; property subject to a heritage conservation easement or covenant under Part II or IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; property identified by a provincial ministry or a prescribed public body as a property having cultural heritage value or interest under the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties; property protected under federal heritage legislation; and UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Protection works standards: means the combination of non-structural or structural works and allowances for slope stability and flooding/erosion to reduce the damage caused by *flooding hazards, erosion hazards and other water-related hazards*, and to allow access for their maintenance and repair.

Provincial and federal requirements: means

- a) in regard to policy 4.1.6, legislation and policies administered by the federal or provincial governments for the purpose of fisheries protection (including *fish and fish habitat*), and related, scientifically established standards such as water quality criteria for protecting lake trout populations; and
- b) in regard to policy 4.1.7, legislation and policies administered by the provincial government or federal government, where applicable, for the purpose of protecting species at risk and their habitat.

Public service facilities: means land, buildings and structures, including but not limited to schools, hospitals and community recreation facilities, for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health, child care and educational programs, including elementary, secondary, post-secondary, long-term care services, and cultural services.

Public service facilities do not include *infrastructure*.

Quality and quantity of water: is measured by indicators associated with *hydrologic function* such as minimum base flow, depth to water table, aquifer pressure, oxygen levels, suspended solids, temperature, bacteria, nutrients and hazardous contaminants, and hydrologic regime.

Rail facilities: means rail corridors, rail sidings, train stations, inter-modal facilities, rail yards and associated uses, including designated lands for future *rail facilities*.

Redevelopment: means the creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including *brownfield sites*.

Regional market area: refers to an area that has a high degree of social and economic interaction. The upper or single-tier municipality, or planning area, will normally serve as the *regional market area*. However, where a *regional market area* extends significantly beyond these boundaries, then the *regional market area* may be based on the larger market area. Where *regional market areas* are very large and sparsely populated, a smaller area, if defined in an official plan, may be utilized.

Renewable energy source: means an energy source that is renewed by natural processes and includes wind, water, biomass, biogas, biofuel, solar energy, geothermal energy and tidal forces.

Renewable energy system: means a system that generates electricity, heat and/or cooling from a *renewable energy source*.

Reserve sewage system capacity: means design or planned capacity in a waste water treatment facility, within *municipal sewage services* or *private communal sewage services*, which is not yet committed to existing or approved development. For lot creation using *private communal sewage services* and *individual on-site sewage services*, *reserve sewage system capacity* includes approved capacity to treat and land-apply, treat and dispose of, or dispose of, hauled sewage in accordance with applicable legislation but not by land-applying untreated, hauled sewage. Treatment of hauled sewage can include, for example, a sewage treatment plant, anaerobic digestion, composting or other waste processing.

Reserve water system capacity: means design or planned capacity in a water treatment facility which is not yet committed to existing or approved development. *Reserve water system capacity* applies to *municipal water services* or *private communal water services*, and not *individual on-site water services*.

Residence surplus to an agricultural operation: means one existing habitable detached dwelling, including any associated additional residential units, that are rendered surplus as a result of farm consolidation (the acquisition of additional farm parcels to be operated as one farm operation).

River, stream and small inland lake systems: means all watercourses, rivers, streams, and small inland lakes or waterbodies that have a measurable or predictable response to a single runoff event.

Rural areas: means a system of lands within municipalities that may include rural *settlement areas*, *rural lands*, *prime agricultural areas*, *natural heritage features and areas*, and resource areas.

Rural lands: means lands which are located outside *settlement areas* and which are outside *prime agricultural areas*.

Sensitive: in regard to *surface water features* and *ground water features*, means features that are particularly susceptible to impacts from activities or events including, but not limited to, water withdrawals, and additions of pollutants.

Sensitive land uses: means buildings, amenity areas, or outdoor spaces where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience one or more *adverse effects* from contaminant discharges generated by a nearby *major facility*. *Sensitive land uses* may be a part of the natural or built environment. Examples may include, but are not limited to: residences, day care centres, and educational and health facilities.

Settlement areas: means urban areas and rural settlement areas within municipalities (such as cities, towns, villages and hamlets). Ontario's *settlement areas* vary significantly in terms of size, density, population, economic activity, diversity and intensity of land uses, service levels, and types of infrastructure available.

Settlement areas are:

- a) built-up areas where development is concentrated and which have a mix of land uses; and
- b) lands which have been designated in an official plan for development over the long term.

Sewage and water services: includes *municipal sewage services* and *municipal water services*, *private communal sewage services* and *private communal water services*, *individual on-site sewage services* and *individual on-site water services*, and *partial services*.

Significant: means

- a) in regard to *wetlands, coastal wetlands* and *areas of natural and scientific interest*, an area identified as provincially significant using evaluation criteria and procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time;
- b) in regard to *woodlands*, an area which is ecologically important in terms of features such as species composition, age of trees and stand history; functionally important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or due to the amount of forest cover in the planning area; or economically important due to site quality, species composition, or past management history. These are to be identified using criteria and procedures established by the Province;
- c) in regard to other features and areas in policy 4.1, ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or *natural heritage system*; and
- d) in regard to *mineral potential*, an area identified as provincially significant through provincial guidance, such as the Provincially Significant Mineral Potential Index.
- e) in regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, resources that have been determined to have cultural heritage value or interest. Processes and criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest are established by the Province under the authority of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Criteria for determining significance for the resources identified in section c) - d) are provided in provincial guidance, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used.

While some significant resources may already be identified and inventoried by official sources, the significance of others can only be determined after evaluation.

Site alteration: means activities, such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site.

For the purposes of policy 4.1.4.a), *site alteration* does not include underground or surface mining of *minerals* or advanced exploration on mining lands in *significant areas of mineral potential* in Ecoregion 5E, where advanced exploration has the same meaning as in the *Mining Act*. Instead, those matters shall be subject to policy 4.1.5.a).

Special Policy Area: means an area within a community that has historically existed in the *flood plain* and where site-specific policies, approved by both the Ministers of Natural Resources and Forestry and Municipal Affairs and Housing, are intended to provide for the continued viability of existing uses (which are generally on a small scale) and address the significant social and economic hardships to the community that would result from strict adherence to provincial policies concerning *development*. The criteria for designation and procedures for approval are established by the Province.

A *Special Policy Area* is not intended to allow for new or intensified *development* and *site alteration*, if a community has feasible opportunities for *development* outside the *flood plain*.

Specialty crop area: means areas within the agricultural land base designated based on provincial guidance. In these areas, specialty crops are predominantly grown such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil, usually resulting from:

- a) soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both;
- b) farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops; and
- c) a long-term investment of capital in areas such as crops, drainage, infrastructure and related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops.

Strategic growth areas: means within *settlement areas*, nodes, corridors, and other areas that have been identified by municipalities to be the focus for accommodating *intensification* and higher-density mixed uses in a more *compact built form*.

Strategic growth areas include *major transit station areas*, existing and emerging downtowns, lands in close proximity to publicly-assisted post-secondary institutions and other areas where growth or development will be focused, that may include infill, *redevelopment* (e.g., underutilized shopping malls and plazas), *brownfield sites*, the expansion or conversion of existing buildings, or greyfields. Lands along major roads, arterials, or other areas with existing or planned *frequent transit service* or *higher order transit corridors* may also be identified as *strategic growth areas*.

Surface water feature: means water-related features on the earth's surface, including headwaters, rivers, permanent and intermittent streams, inland lakes, seepage areas, recharge/discharge areas, springs, wetlands, and associated riparian lands that can be defined by their soil moisture, soil type, vegetation or topographic characteristics.

Threatened species: means a species that is classified as "Threatened Species" on the Species at Risk in Ontario List, as updated and amended from time to time.

Transit service integration: means the coordinated planning or operation of transit service between two or more agencies or services that contributes to the goal of seamless service for riders and could include considerations of service schedules, service routes, information, fare policy, and fare payment.

Transit-supportive: in regard to land use patterns, means development that makes transit viable, optimizes investments in transit infrastructure, and improves the quality of the experience of using transit. It often refers to compact, mixed-use development that has a high level of employment and residential densities, including air rights development, in proximity to transit stations, corridors and associated elements within the *transportation system*.

Approaches may be recommended in guidelines developed by the Province or based on municipal approaches that achieve the same objectives.

Transportation demand management: means a set of strategies that result in more efficient use of the *transportation system* by influencing travel behaviour by mode, time of day, frequency, trip length, regulation, route, or cost.

Transportation system: means a system consisting of facilities, corridors and rights-of-way for the movement of people and goods, and associated transportation facilities including transit stops and stations, sidewalks, cycle lanes, bus lanes, high occupancy vehicle lanes, *rail facilities*, parking facilities, park'n'ride lots, service centres, rest stops, vehicle inspection stations, inter-modal facilities, harbours, *airports*, *marine facilities*, ferries, canals and associated facilities such as storage and maintenance.

Two zone concept: means an approach to *flood plain* management where the *flood plain* is differentiated in two parts: the *floodway* and the *flood fringe*.

Urban agriculture: means food production in *settlement areas*, whether it is for personal consumption, commercial sale, education, or therapy. Examples include, but are not limited to, vertical agriculture facilities, community gardens, greenhouses, and rooftop gardens.

Valleylands: means a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year.

Vulnerable: means surface and/or ground water that can be easily changed or impacted.

Waste management system: means sites and facilities to accommodate waste from one or more municipalities and includes recycling facilities, transfer stations, processing sites and disposal sites.

Watershed: means an area that is drained by a river and its tributaries.

Watershed planning: means planning that provides a framework for establishing comprehensive and integrated goals, objectives, and direction for the protection, enhancement, or restoration of water resources, including the *quality and quantity of water*, within a *watershed* and for the assessment of cumulative, cross-jurisdictional, and *cross-watershed* impacts. *Watershed planning* evaluates and considers the *impacts of a changing climate on water resource systems* and is undertaken at many scales. It may inform the identification of *water resource systems*.

Water resource systems: means a system consisting of *ground water features* and areas, *surface water features* (including shoreline areas), *natural heritage features and areas*, and *hydrologic functions*, which are necessary for the ecological and hydrological integrity of the *watershed*.

Wave effects: means the movement of water up onto a shoreline or structure following the breaking of a wave, including wave uprush, wave set up and water overtopping or spray; the limit of *wave effects* is the point of furthest landward horizontal movement of water onto the shoreline.

Wayside pits and quarries: means a temporary pit or quarry opened and used by or for a public authority solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way.

Wetlands: means lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of *wetlands* are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens.

Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit wetland characteristics are not considered to be wetlands for the purposes of this definition.

Wildland fire assessment and mitigation standards: means the combination of risk assessment tools and environmentally appropriate mitigation measures identified by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to be incorporated into the design, construction and/or modification of buildings, structures, properties and/or communities to reduce the risk to public safety, infrastructure and property from wildland fire.

Wildlife habitat: means areas where plants, animals and other organisms live, and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual or life cycle; and areas which are important to migratory or non-migratory species.

Woodlands: means treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits to both the private landowner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. *Woodlands* include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas and vary in their level of significance at the local, regional and provincial levels. *Woodlands* may be delineated according to the *Forestry Act* definition or the Province's Ecological Land Classification system definition for "forest."

9: Appendix – Schedule 1: List of Large and Fast-Growing Municipalities

Town of Ajax

City of Barrie

City of Brampton

City of Brantford

City of Burlington

Town of Caledon

City of Cambridge

Municipality of Clarington

City of Guelph

City of Hamilton

City of Kingston

City of Kitchener

City of London

City of Markham

Town of Milton

City of Mississauga

Town of Newmarket

City of Niagara Falls

Town of Oakville

City of Oshawa

City of Ottawa

City of Pickering

City of Richmond Hill

City of St. Catharines

City of Toronto

City of Vaughan

City of Waterloo

Town of Whitby

City of Windsor

Abb

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

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Disponible en français

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Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: DC Regulation Changes - Modernizing Public Notice Requirements and Other Housekeeping Changes

From: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. <info@watsonecon.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 1:40 PM

Subject: DC Regulation Changes - Modernizing Public Notice Requirements and Other Housekeeping Changes

To our municipal clients,

In our continued efforts to keep you updated regarding legislative changes to the *Development Charges Act* and its associated Regulations (O. Reg. 82/98), we are writing to inform you of the most recent changes to the Regulations. These changes took effect on July 1, 2024.

- 1. Notice of Public Meeting and Notice of Development Charge By-laws:** Municipalities are required to provide notice of public meetings and by-law passage as per sections 9 and 10 of the Regulations. The Regulations have been amended to allow for the notice to be posted on the municipal website if, in the clerk's opinion, the municipality does not have a newspaper that is of sufficient general circulation in the area to which the by-law would apply. Sections 9 and 10 of the Regulations have been amended to include the following: "If, in the clerk's opinion, a newspaper described in paragraph 2 does not exist, by posting on the website of the municipality."
- 2. Housekeeping Changes:** Section 2 of the Regulations is revoked as this section referred to clause 2 (3) (b) of the *Development Charges Act*, which was removed by Bill 23 (in 2022). Additionally, section 11.2 of the Regulations is revoked as this section provided the prescribed two-year timeline for the development charges rate freeze (for site plan and/or zoning by-law amendment applications) which is now 18 months and included directly in the *Development Charges Act* via Bill 185 (June 6, 2024). Please refer to our previous correspondence for details related to the reduced time frame for the rate freeze.

We trust this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Andrew Grunda, MBA, CPA, CMA, Principal
Daryl Abbs, MBE, PLE, Managing Partner
Peter Simcisko, BA (Hons), MBE, Managing Partner
Sean-Michael Stephen, MBA, Managing Partner
Jamie Cook, MCIP, RPP, PLE, Managing Partner
Jack Ammendolia, BES, PLE, Managing Partner

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If you no longer wish to receive municipal finance and planning related information from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., please reply to this email with the subject line UNSUBSCRIBE.

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[EXTERNAL]

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The Corporation of the Township of Emo

P.O. Box 520, Emo, Ontario, P0W 1E0

Website: www.emo.ca
E-mail: township@emo.ca

Phone: 807-482-2378
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July 5, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Re: Operational Budget Funding

The Council of the Township of Emo, at its regular meeting held May 15, 2024, passed the following resolution.

Resolution No.: 18, May 15, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Teeple

Seconded by: Councillor Whatley

WHEREAS all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes, and;

WHEREAS all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing, and;

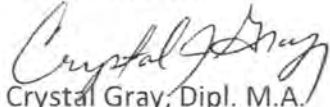
WHEREAS the City of Toronto has recently received Provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion-dollar operating shortfall and approximately \$12 million in Federal and Provincial funding for their Police operating budget, and;

WHEREAS the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Province.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Emo call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

AS

Yours sincerely,



Crystal Gray, Dipl. M.A.

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

The Corporation of the Township of Emo

P: (807) 482-2378

E: cao@emo.ca

Sent via Email :

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, paul.calandra@pc.ola.org

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario, amo@amo.on.ca

All Ontario Municipalities

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Ministry of Natural Resources

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Development and Hazard Policy
Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

Direction de l'élaboration et des politiques
relatives aux dangers
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

July 10, 2024

Subject: *Proposal Regarding Developing a commercial-scale framework for geologic carbon storage*

Hello,

The Ministry of Natural Resources is seeking feedback on the development of a legislative and regulatory framework for commercial-scale geologic carbon storage. The current posting is available at <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-8767>. It provides an overview of how various components of the framework could function and has a series of questions at the end seeking feedback on how Ontario could regulate the activity.

This proposal follows four previous engagement opportunities related to the framework development in January 2022, November 2022, April 2023 and September 2023. A roadmap towards regulating geologic carbon storage was released in November 2022 and can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/geologic-carbon-storage>.

Although Ontario's framework would apply provincially, to help provide for the responsible development of commercial-scale projects, the framework could initially focus on enabling commercial-scale projects within saline aquifers and depleted oil and gas reservoirs in southwestern Ontario at depths of 800 metres or more. These are expected to be the most viable opportunities for geologic carbon storage in Ontario given the current state of carbon storage technologies. To continue to advance the development of new technologies, projects that do not meet the above criteria could be permitted under a testing and demonstration permit.

For more information on what geologic carbon storage is, and where it could occur, Ontario has included a background information document at the end of this letter.

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Andrew Ogilvie, Manager of Resources Development Section, through email: Resources.Development@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch

Attachment: Geologic Carbon Storage background document

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Introduction

Large quantities of carbon dioxide (CO₂) are generated through industrial processes such as the production of cement, steel and fertiliser, from power generation, during oil and gas refining, and as a by-product of creating hydrogen from methane.

One way of reducing the impact of CO₂ emissions from these large emission sources is to take captured CO₂ that would have otherwise been emitted into the atmosphere and to permanently store (sequester) it in deep underground rock formations (storage formations). This process is termed ‘geologic carbon storage,’ and is one tool being considered to manage Ontario’s emissions.

Geologic carbon storage is necessary for economically achieving emissions targets and net-zero emissions, especially for carbon-intensive industries.

According to the Global CCS Institute, “the injection and storage of CO₂ is the final stage in the carbon capture and storage process and has been working safely and effectively for over 50 years” and “close to 300 million tonnes of CO₂ has been injected into storage formations underground.”¹

How is CO₂ stored?

Captured carbon dioxide emissions from industrial processes are transported and

injected into a storage well that injects the CO₂ into deep geologic formations.

Depth is an important factor in geologic carbon storage. As depth increases below the surface, temperature and pressure increase. At depths greater than 800 metres (about 1.5 times the height of the CN Tower) temperature and pressure are high enough that CO₂ reaches a ‘supercritical’ state – it has the density of a liquid but flows like a gas – which allows the CO₂ to be stored efficiently.²

Underground storage formation characteristics are also important. The following technical requirements are considered when determining if a formation is a good fit for geologic carbon storage:²

- **Porosity:** the pore space in which the CO₂ can be stored.
- **Permeability:** the interconnectedness of the pore spaces that enables the injected CO₂ to flow throughout the formation.
- **Cap rock:** the presence of an impermeable barrier to flow around the formation to contain the CO₂ permanently.

Detailed, site specific studies need to be conducted to prove site suitability for geologic carbon storage.

After injection activities end, wells are plugged, and the site is decommissioned and monitored to mitigate any potential safety risks to the public or the environment.

¹ Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute Ltd. <https://www.globalccsinstitute.com/ccs-101-storage/>. Used under Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International Licence. © 2024 Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute Ltd.

² Carter, T., Gunter, W., Lazorek, M., Craig, R. (2007). *Geological Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide: A Technology Review and Analysis of Opportunities in Ontario*. Climate Change Research Report CCRR-07. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. ISBN 978-1-4249-4557-3



What happens to the CO₂ after it is injected?

Carbon dioxide can be trapped in several ways:

- **Structural trapping** occurs when the rock layers above the storage formation form a cap or seal that prevents the upward movement of CO₂.
- **Solution trapping** occurs when the injected CO₂ dissolves into saline water that is present in the storage formation.
- **Residual trapping** occurs when CO₂ is trapped in pores within the storage formation.
- **Mineral trapping** occurs when the CO₂ reacts with the reservoir rocks and fluids to form solid carbonate minerals that permanently trap the CO₂.

Where could CO₂ be stored in Ontario?

Currently, there are no geologic carbon storage projects in Ontario. Most projects in other jurisdictions have occurred in deep sedimentary rock formations including:

- saline aquifers
- depleted oil and gas reservoirs

Previous desktop research has suggested the most suitable storage formations in Ontario may be found beneath the beds of Lake Huron and Lake Erie and surrounding onshore areas, which also coincide with many of the province's largest point source emitters of CO₂.

Ontario is taking a phased approach to create a regulatory framework for geologic carbon storage which will play an important role in supporting industry, encouraging sector innovation, and helping industry manage emissions and meet emissions targets. Our roadmap to regulating geologic carbon storage can be found online at [Roadmap towards regulating geologic carbon storage](https://www.ontario.ca/page/geologic-carbon-storage).³

³ <https://www.ontario.ca/page/geologic-carbon-storage>

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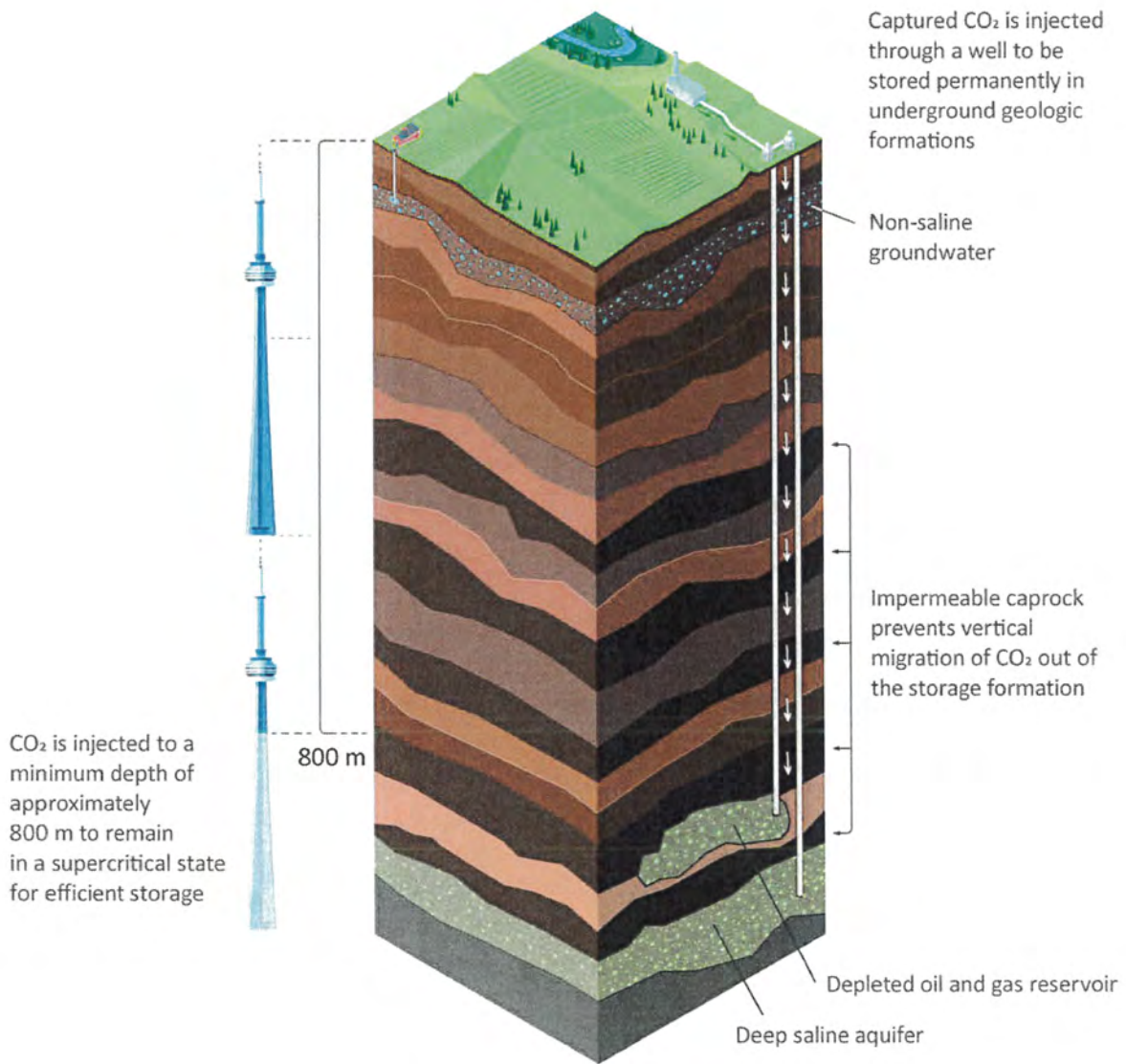


Figure 1: Schematic diagram of geologic carbon storage in a depleted oil and gas reservoir and a deep saline aquifer. This diagram is for illustrative purposes only. Objects shown are not drawn to scale.

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CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SCHREIBER
 CAO/CLERK

Hon. Patty Hajdu,
 705 Red River Road, Suite 3
 Thunder Bay, ON
 P7B 1J3

July 18, 2024

Re: Schreiber's Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dear Hon. Patty Hajdu,

I am writing to you today to request a meeting in person regarding our Wastewater Treatment Plant along with Mayor Mullins and Cllr. Bourgeault. The Schreiber Wastewater Treatment Plant was initially built in 1974 with only one Clarifier. In 1989 a second Clarifier was built in addition to some plant components, such as a chlorine contact chamber. The plants served the community well until recently when regulations changed. The practice of chlorinating effluent at wastewater plants has been around since the early 1900's. However, around 1999, new regulations came into effect that require wastewater plants to dechlorinate before discharging wastewater back into the environment.

The Practice of dechlorinating was a financial burden most communities were not able to bear. It became acceptable to implement temporary measures to dechlorinate effluent discharge at a reasonable cost. Unfortunately, Wastewater plants in many communities have adopted this temporary fix as a normal practice. Recently communities have been made aware that this temporary fix will no longer be tolerated, and permanent treatment practices must be adopted by 2026. Inspections of wastewater plants will again become the focus for inspectors starting this year for the first time in a decade.

In 2022, the Schreiber Town Council of the day started the process of UV disinfection. The Township hired EXP Services Inc, to prepare a design brief for the installation of the UV disinfection and the projected annual cost of operating the system. With a deadline for a permanent solution fast approaching in 2026, the Township has turned their focus to a permanent solution using chemicals to dechlorinate. This "Chemical in a Box" can be designed and installed for approximately **one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00)** with an annual operating budget of **twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$27,000.00)**. The UV solution is approximately **five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00)** to install with an annual operating budget of **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00)**. This initial installation cost of both is beyond reach for the Township so the lessor of the two (2) options is our only choice despite a higher annual operating cost. The Township is still working on finding the money for this project.

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TOWNSHIP OF SCHREIBER
CAO/CLERK

In 2021, the plant underwent an electrical inspection and the classification of the plant changed to a class 4. This means that all the electrical components in the plant must be changed to explosion proof components. This change was necessary due to the moist environment and gases produced by the process. Since the cost was astronomical for the Township, a decision was made to do the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) upgrade in 4 phases.

The first phase was completed in 2022 for **one hundred eighty-one thousand five hundred dollars (\$181,500.00)**. In 2023, the prices for all the parts were almost double because of COVID. As a result, phase 2 price tag exceeded what was budgeted in 2023, so nothing was done.

In 2024, the ESA inspector requested a meeting with the Township of Schreiber to discuss the outstanding issues with the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The ESA has been more than patient with the Township as the normal practice is **30 days** to comply. We are required to have the Wastewater plant brought up to a Class 4 standard by the end of 2024. This endeavor will cost the Township approximately **one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00)**. The Township is using the OTF money to cover this expense and borrowing the balance until the 2025 allocation is received.

As you can see in the attached spreadsheet, the electrical issue at the plant continues to present urgent situations from "dirty power" and corroded components. Electrical components continue to fail such as breakers, pumps, motors, receptacles, lights, heaters, the list is endless. These urgent repairs continue to put strains on the reserve funds.

Due to the age of the plant, the breakdowns are not only associated with the electrical issues. We have experienced breakdowns in the air distribution system, where confined entries are required to patch pipes under the plant. Currently we are experiencing a breakdown with clarifier 1. There seems to be a concrete failure on the wall separating the clarifier and the digester. This breakdown is preventing the sludge from being bagged properly. The clarifier will need to be pumped down and a concrete specialist brought in to examine the wall to see if repair is possible. We are unclear at this point about the cost of repair, but we anticipate somewhere around **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00)**. We are currently investigating this urgent matter.

With mechanical breakdowns, electrical issues, and structural failures, the process of treating wastewater cannot be maintained. Sludge cannot get bagged due to the excess water from the structural failure. The lack of air in the process while we wait for the new blower and VFD to be installed. The Non-Compliance incidents that we have had to report have put Schreiber on the short list to be among the first inspections. The repairs and regulations that we are aware of will most certainly put a financial strain on the Township that a small resident tax base will never be able to sustain. The Non-Compliance reports have totaled **thirteen (13)** just since **March of 2024**.

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CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SCHREIBER
CAO/CLERK

The bagging system at the wastewater plant is the original installed in 1974. The system has been obsoleting for many years now, so parts are no longer available. When breakdowns occur, custom parts are made by an out-of-town welding shop. This translates into long down times while parts are manufactured. The system does not work well anymore so it requires constant manpower to ensure it continues to bag. This puts an incredible strain on staffing already faced with shortages. The bagging system needs to be upgraded as soon as possible since this process contributes to the Non-Compliance issues. This new system is also going to cost the Township another **million dollars (\$1,000,000.00)** plus.

As you can see on page 5 of this correspondence the Township has endured **one point five million dollars (\$1,518,061.34)** in unexpected repairs over the last **five and a half (5.5) years**. Aging infrastructure and little assistance are hemorrhaging small Municipalities all over the Province. It is imperative that the Provincial and Federal Governments step up to financially relieve the heavy burdens on small Municipalities.

We are reaching out to you today to discuss such EMERGENT issues and how the Provincial and Federal Governments are going to step up to plate and provide much needed financial assistance to assist with their mandated Regulations. To cover these essential upgrades small Municipalities will need to tax their residents to death to cover such costs.

I look forward to hearing back from you with a time for a scheduled meeting to discuss options available to small Municipalities with such emergent issues as I have described above.

Kind Regards,



Rhonda Smith
 CAO/Clerk for the Township of Schreiber

CC: Mayor Mullins
 Cllr. Bourgeault
 Cllr. McGrath
 Cllr. Mauro
 Cllr. Bryson
 Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister
 Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure

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CAO/CLERK

Unexpected Costs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant Since 2019

Year	Description	Cost
2019	Compressor Repair	\$84.75
	Bagging System Repair	\$290.51
	Bagging Building Heater Repair	\$1,695.00
	Sludge Motor Repair	\$901.18
	Bagging System Repair	\$2,009.25
	Bagging System Clamps Repair	\$1,007.42
	Clarifier Building Heater Repair	\$3,983.25
	Trash Pump	\$2,280.80
	Clarifier Heater Repair	\$1,192.09
	Clarifier Parts	\$15,036.15
	DE chlorination Feasibility Study	\$24,663.82
	Light Repair in the Clarifier Building	\$6,780.00
	2019 Total	\$59,924.22
2020	Bagger Heater Repair	\$565.28
	Clarifier Building Electrical Repairs	\$1,062.12
	Bagging System Electrical Repairs	\$1,062.12
	Chlorinator Parts	\$4,844.53
	Plant Electrical Inspection	\$23,938.00
	2020 Total	\$31,472.05
2021	Sludge Trailer Axle Repair	\$1,063.33
	Sludge Trailer Parts	\$2,594.48
	Water Heater Replacement (electrical surge)	\$519.79
	Light Repairs	\$1,595.71
	DeChlor Metering Pump	\$942.92
	Digester Decant Pump	\$3,587.55
	Building Classification as per ESA	\$6,614.40
	Electrical Assessment as per ESA	\$23,330.00
	2021 Total	\$40,248.18

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TOWNSHIP OF SCHREIBER
CAO/CLERK

Unexpected Costs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant Since 2019

Year	Description	Cost
2022	DeChlor Project Study Final Invoice	\$33,249.43
	ESA Electrical Upgrade	\$18,189.09
	Clarifier Blower Line Repair	\$18,640.64
	ESA Upgrades Phase 1	\$181,440.33
	Receptacle Emergency Repair	\$2,017.92
	Sludge Pump Replacement	\$2,236.80
	VFD Failure - Dirty Power (troubleshooting)	\$1,414.88
	2022 Total	\$257,189.09
2023	Bagger Building Heater Repairs	\$395.50
	Bagger Building Heater Repairs	\$442.59
	Light Repair Garage Washrooms	\$1,209.91
	Emergency Blower Motor Install	\$6,130.21
		2023 Total
2024	ESA Upgrades - Mandatory	\$990,822.00
	VFD Cabinet Blower	\$114,560.00
	Emergency Repair Lights and Heater Clarifier 2	\$14,430.80
	Bagger Building Heater Repair	\$1,236.79
		2024 Total as of July 6th
	5.5 yr. Total	\$1,518,061.34

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All

Ontario
Provincial
Police

Police
provinciale
de l'Ontario



Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

777 Memorial Ave.
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

777, avenue Memorial
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

Tel: 705 329-6200
Fax: 705 330-4191

Tél. : 705 329-6200
Télééc.: 705 330-4191

File Reference:600

July 23, 2024

Dear Mayor/Reeve/CAO/Treasurer,

The Ontario Provincial Police Association and the Provincial Government have ratified new uniform and civilian collective agreements in effect for the term January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026 (four-year term agreements).

The new agreements include general salary year-over-year rate increases of 4.75% (2023), 4.5% (2024), and 2.75% (2025 and 2026). Additionally, effective September 1, 2024, many OPP detachment front-line constables and sergeants will be receiving an additional 3% front-line patrol premium.

Included in the new collective agreements were other compensation adjustments, which, for the most part, will take effect in the 2025 calendar year.

Further analysis is required before the OPP Municipal Policing Bureau communicates the full impact of the new agreements on municipal policing cost.

The OPP Municipal Policing Bureau will issue the 2025 annual billing statements in the fall of 2024 based on the estimates of the impact of the new collective agreement terms.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OPP Municipal Policing Bureau at OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca

I would like to thank you for your support and look forward to our continued collaboration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Ridout", is written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent Steve Ridout
Municipal Policing Bureau Commander

Cc: OPP Regional and Detachment Commanders

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Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: Urgent: Addressing Concerns and Implications of the ICLEI and PCP Programs in Simcoe County

Attachments: Recommendations for Simcoe County.pdf

From: kiclei.simcoe <kiclei.simcoe@protonmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:14 PM

To: Sandie Macdonald <smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca>; Michael Smith <msmith@essatownship.on.ca>; Pieter Kiezebrink <pkiezebrink@essatownship.on.ca>; Henry Sander <hsander@essatownship.on.ca>; Liana Maltby <lmaltby@essatownship.on.ca>; Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>; Sarah Corbett <scorbett@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: Urgent: Addressing Concerns and Implications of the ICLEI and PCP Programs in Simcoe County

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kiclei.simcoe@protonmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayors and Councillors of Simcoe County,

As members of the KICLEI Simcoe County Chapter, a citizen-led network dedicated to advocating for practical and locally relevant environmental policies, we are writing to express our serious concerns regarding Simcoe County's participation in the ICLEI framework and the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program.

Key Concerns:

1. **High Costs and Increased Debt Load:** The financial burden associated with implementing the PCP program is significant. High-cost mandates, green building standards, electric fleets, bike lanes, municipal building upgrades, and expensive research and consultants can strain our county's budget and lead to increased debt, limiting future fiscal flexibility.
2. **Extensive Data Collection:** The PCP program's extensive data harvesting of corporate and community energy consumption and waste data raises serious privacy and data security concerns. Residents and businesses have not been adequately informed about the collection and use of their data, leading to potential distrust in local governance.
3. **Impact on Housing Market and Housing Crisis:** High-cost mandates and green building standards can increase construction costs and delay development approval processes, exacerbating the housing crisis by making housing less affordable and accessible.
4. **Green Building Standards:** These standards, while well-intentioned, often lack practicality, create unnecessary red tape, and complicate development approval processes, negatively impacting the construction industry and economic development.
5. **Active Transportation:** The PCP program's emphasis on active transportation is impractical in the Canadian climate and rural settings, where harsh weather conditions and long distances make such measures unsuitable for daily commuting.
6. **Impact on Agriculture:** Policies can limit severances, affect livestock counts, and reduce available agricultural land, adversely impacting farmers' livelihoods and the local agricultural economy.

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7. **Ethical Concerns:** The profit-driven motives behind data collection and the marketing of green energy products suggest corporate interests may be prioritized over genuine environmental stewardship and community needs.

Call to Action:

We believe it is crucial for Simcoe County to withdraw from the ICLEI framework and the PCP program. Instead, we propose developing a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with our community's values, priorities, and financial capabilities. Our recommendation includes forming a local advisory committee, conducting comprehensive community consultations, focusing on cost-effective environmental protection, promoting energy security, and ensuring transparency and accountability.

Request for Dialogue:

Before we launch a public awareness campaign to address these issues, we would like to offer you an opportunity to discuss our concerns and explore potential solutions collaboratively. We believe that an open dialogue will allow us to address these challenges effectively and work together towards a more holistically sustainable and economically viable future for Simcoe County.

We kindly request a meeting with you and other key stakeholders at your earliest convenience to discuss our concerns and recommendations in detail. We are confident that, together, we can develop a strategy that better serves the needs of our community while protecting our environment and ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Please review our detailed report on this matter, attached to this email.

Please let us know your availability for a meeting in the coming weeks. We look forward to your positive response and to working together for the betterment of Simcoe County.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Maggie Hope Braun
KICLEI Founder
(250) 463-4066
kiclei.simcoe@protonmail.com

kiclei.ca

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

[EXTERNAL]

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Recommendation for Withdrawing from the ICLEI Framework and the Partners for Climate Protection Program

Original Motion to Join ICLEI

Date: June 24, 2016

Agenda Item Number: C.11

Resolved that:

Staff report no. 42-06-16 BOD regarding the NVCA Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan framework be received; and

Further that:

The board of directors approve the development of the NVCA Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan as a high priority to achieve our mandate and strategic and business plan tools; and

Further that:

The board of directors endorse the ICLEI framework for developing the NVCA Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, as well as the timelines for completion outlined in the staff report.

Purpose: To recommend that Simcoe County withdraws from the voluntary ICLEI framework and its Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program due to concerns about high costs, increased debt load, extensive data collection, ethical concerns, impacts on the housing market, agriculture, and construction industry, and to prioritize energy security over GHG reduction targets. This recommendation emphasizes creating a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with the community's values, priorities, and financial capabilities.

Background on the PCP Program: The PCP program's five milestones involve detailed analyses of energy consumption and waste from all sectors and sources, initially taking at least 300 hours and repeating annually. According to the protocol for Milestone One, the municipality must measure energy consumption from all sources, record total electricity consumed by municipal

lighting, track energy consumption of water and wastewater facilities, record fuel sources and emissions from purchased electricity, and document waste output from municipal properties.

Detailed audits are also required to identify and categorize waste materials, determine the organic carbon content in the waste stream, calculate methane potential of landfill waste, and assess the decay rate at landfill sites. Energy usage and emissions for all types of fleet vehicles, staff business travel, staff commuting, public transit fleet vehicles, streetlights, and traffic signals must also be reported.

Community sector data collection to meet PCP requirements includes emissions from all fuel sources and electricity for residential, institutional, commercial, and industrial buildings. Transportation data involves fuel sales records, kilometers traveled per vehicle, and emissions from all vehicle types and transit systems. Industrial processes must account for non-energy-related emissions, while fugitive emissions from fossil fuel production and wastewater treatment are meticulously recorded. Energy consumption for public lighting must also be reported.

Ethical Concerns and Practical Implications:

- **Privacy and Trust:** Extensive data collection infringes on the privacy of residents and staff, leading to distrust in local governance. Residents may be unaware that their daily energy and waste habits are being meticulously recorded.
- **Profit-Driven Motives:** The primary purpose of this data collection often appears to be the marketing of green energy products, suggesting a profit-driven motive that may prioritize corporate gain over genuine environmental stewardship.
- **Data Security:** Data managed by third-party companies like ICLEI raises concerns about data security and potential misuse, including risks of data breaches or exploitation for commercial purposes.

- **Binding Targets:** Setting reduction targets through the PCP program entails a significant commitment that shapes all future municipal plans and decisions. Targets often align with global agreements and are difficult to reverse, binding future councils to established commitments.
- **High Costs and Debt Load:** Milestone Three involves costly measures such as purchasing electric vehicles, conducting energy audits, and adopting green building standards, which can increase municipal debt and strain future budgets.
- **Impact on Local Needs:** Municipalities may end up prioritizing long-term environmental goals over urgent local issues that directly impact residents' daily lives and well-being.
- **Housing Market and Crisis:** High-cost mandates and green building standards can increase construction costs, delay development approval processes, and exacerbate the housing crisis by making housing less affordable and accessible.
- **Impact on Agriculture:** Policies can limit severances, reduce livestock counts, and reduce available agricultural land, adversely impacting farmers' livelihoods and the local agricultural economy.
- **Impact on Construction Industry:** Green building standards lack practicality, create unnecessary red tape, and complicate development approval processes, negatively impacting the construction industry and economic development.
- **Active Transportation:** The PCP program's emphasis on active transportation is impractical in the Canadian climate and rural settings, where harsh weather conditions and long distances make such measures unsuitable for daily commuting.
- **Energy Security:** Prioritizing energy security ensures stable and affordable energy supplies for residents and businesses, crucial for economic stability and community well-being.

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Recommendation:

Resolved that:

Simcoe County withdraws from the ICLEI framework and the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program for developing the NVCA Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

Further that:

The County initiates the development of a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy and action plan with the following steps:

1. Establish a Local Advisory Committee:

- Form a committee including residents, farmers, business owners, environmental experts, real estate professionals, construction industry representatives, and community leaders to guide the strategy development process.
- Ensure diverse representation to capture the wide range of local perspectives.

2. Conduct Comprehensive Community Consultation:

- Host public forums, town hall meetings, and workshops to gather input from residents and stakeholders.
- Distribute surveys and questionnaires to collect data on community preferences for environmental programs and concerns.

3. Focus on Cost-Effective Environmental Protection:

- Develop initiatives that directly target pollution reduction and environmental protection in a cost-effective manner, such as waste management improvements, water quality protection, and soil conservation efforts.
- Avoid high-cost mandates such as green building standards, electric vehicle fleets, bike lanes, and extensive municipal building upgrades unless they are demonstrated to be necessary and beneficial for the local context.
- Limit the use of high-cost consultants and research for climate change studies, favoring practical, locally applicable solutions.

4. Promote Holistic Rural Development:

- Support policies that encourage sustainable growth in rural areas, protecting the character and viability of these communities.
- Implement initiatives that enhance local economies, such as supporting family-owned farms, local businesses, and rural infrastructure improvements.

5. Ensure Transparency and Accountability:

- Provide regular updates to the community on the progress and implementation of the climate strategy.
- Commission independent reviews to assess the effectiveness and alignment of the strategy with local priorities.

6. Promote Energy Security and Economic Stability:

- Prioritize local energy security initiatives that ensure stable, reliable, and affordable energy supplies for residents and businesses.
- Support local environmental stewardship initiatives that enhance energy security without imposing significant economic burdens on residents.
- Conduct economic impact assessments to ensure that the strategy supports local businesses and does not lead to detrimental economic effects.

7. Explore Legal and Legislative Measures:

- Investigate legal obligations to formally withdraw from the voluntary ICLEI framework and the PCP program.
- Work with provincial and federal representatives to secure support for a locally tailored environmental stewardship strategy.

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Recommended Resolution:

Date: [Insert Date]

Agenda Item Number: [Insert Number]

Resolved that:

Simcoe County withdraws from the voluntary ICLEI framework and the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program due to concerns about high costs, increased debt load, extensive data collection, privacy issues, impacts on the housing market, the impact on agricultural land and farmers, the impracticality of green building standards, the financial burden of high-cost research and consultants, and the recommendation to reduce population growth in rural areas in favor of cities. The County will develop a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that prioritizes practical, cost-effective environmental protection, holistic rural development, economic stability, energy security, and local community values.

Further that:

The County establishes a local advisory committee, conducts comprehensive community consultation, focuses on cost-effective environmental protection, promotes energy security and holistic rural development, ensures transparency and accountability, and explores legal measures to support a locally tailored environmental stewardship strategy.

By taking these steps, Simcoe County can develop an environmental stewardship strategy that respects local values, protects individual rights, ensures financial prudence, prioritizes energy security, promotes holistic rural development, and fosters practical environmental stewardship without the economic burden, increased debt load, and data privacy concerns associated with the ICLEI framework and the PCP program.

This recommendation prioritizes local consultation, practical environmental protection, financial responsibility, energy security, holistic rural development, and the well-being of Simcoe County's residents and economy, providing a clear path forward for developing an environmental stewardship strategy that truly reflects the community's values and priorities.

Subject: FW: Urgent: Addressing Concerns and Implications of the ICLEI and PCP Programs in Simcoe County
Attachments: Update Report for Simcoe County on the Partners for Climate Protection Program.pdf; BY-LAW NO. 6735 Simcoe Joins PCP.pdf

Dear Mayors of Simcoe County and Councillors of Essa Township,

As members of the KICLEI Simcoe County Chapter, a citizen-led network dedicated to advocating for practical and locally relevant environmental policies, we are writing to express our serious concerns regarding Simcoe County's participation in the ICLEI framework and the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program.

Call to Action:

We believe it is crucial for Simcoe County to withdraw from the ICLEI framework and the PCP program. Instead, we propose developing a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with our community's values, priorities, and financial capabilities. Our recommendation includes forming a local advisory committee, conducting comprehensive community consultations, focusing on cost-effective environmental protection, promoting energy security, and ensuring transparency and accountability.

Request for Dialogue:

Before we launch a public awareness campaign to address these issues, we would like to offer you an opportunity to discuss our concerns and explore potential solutions collaboratively. We believe that an open dialogue will allow us to address these challenges effectively and work together towards a more holistically sustainable and economically viable future for Simcoe County.

We kindly request a meeting with you and other key stakeholders at your earliest convenience to discuss our concerns and recommendations in detail. We are confident that, together, we can develop a strategy that better serves the needs of our community while protecting our environment and ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Please review our updated report on this matter, attached to this email.

Please let us know your availability for a meeting in the coming weeks. We look forward to your positive response and to working together for the betterment of Simcoe County.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Maggie Hope Braun
KICLEI Founder
(250) 463-4066
kiclei.simcoe@protonmail.com

Recommendation to Reconsider Participation in the Partners for Climate Protection

Program Prepared for: Simcoe County Councils

Date: August 2, 2024

By: Margaret Hope Braun, ICLEI Canada - Civic Advocate, Ecosystems Management Technologist

Introduction

The motion to register the Corporation of the County of Simcoe as a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program, as outlined in By-Law No. 6735, necessitates a thorough re-examination. While climate protection may be important, this program introduces several challenges and considerations that require careful scrutiny to ensure it aligns with the best interests of the County of Simcoe and its residents.

Purpose

To recommend that Simcoe County reconsider By-Law No. 6735 and withdraw from the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program due to significant concerns regarding data collection and privacy, financial burden, local autonomy, ethical concerns, and impacts on the housing market, agriculture, and construction industry. The recommendation emphasizes prioritizing energy security and creating a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with the community's values, priorities, and financial capabilities.

Background on the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

The Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program is a key initiative within the United Nations framework aimed at tackling climate change at the municipal level. Administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and funded by ICLEI Canada and the Government of Canada, this program has been adopted by over 500 municipalities, impacting 98% of Canadians. Despite this support, the FCM and the Government of Canada have waived liability for the program's adoption and implementation. This program represents a shift in FCM's mandate from local to (inter)national representation, introducing influences that may undermine provincial jurisdiction over municipal governance.

Five Milestones of the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

The PCP program involves five milestones designed to guide municipalities in tackling climate change:

1. **Detailed Analysis of Energy Consumption and Waste:** Municipalities analyze energy consumption and waste from all sectors and sources.
2. **Setting Reduction Targets:** Reduction targets are set, often aiming for net zero by 2050.
3. **Developing and Implementing Local Action Plans:** These plans typically include purchasing electric vehicles, staff training, exploring renewable energy, conducting energy audits, and adopting green building standards.
4. **Endorsing a Climate Action Plan:** Local councils endorse the action plan, which often includes declarations of climate emergencies to galvanize public opinion and justify expenditures and policy changes.
5. **Repeating the Data Collection Process:** Continuous data collection and monitoring are conducted to track community progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), creating a cyclical process that can pressure councils to adopt costly green technologies and policies without thorough scrutiny.

Key Concerns

Canada's Geographic Context:

Considering the necessity of CO₂-producing activities in Canada's vast and cold environment is crucial. Policies must reflect the practical realities of living and working in a country with unique geographic and climatic conditions.

Privacy and Trust:

Extensive data collection infringes on the privacy of residents and staff, who may be unaware that their daily energy and waste habits are being meticulously recorded, leading to distrust in local governance.

Data Security:

Data managed by third-party companies like ICLEI raises concerns about data security and potential misuse, including risks of data breaches or exploitation for commercial purposes.

Profit-Driven Motives:

The primary purpose of this data collection appears to be for the marketing of green energy products, suggesting a profit-driven motive that may prioritize corporate gain over genuine environmental stewardship.

Influence of ICLEI Funding Sources:

Corporate funding for ICLEI from entities like Google, BlackRock, and Vanguard raises concerns about policy direction and market influence. Such funding can shift the focus towards the interests of these corporations, potentially at the expense of local priorities and needs.

Real Estate Acquisitions:

The long-term effects of sustainable development policies can enable large-scale property acquisitions by ICLEI's sponsors and other foreign investors. These acquisitions can drive up housing prices and limit affordable housing availability, exacerbating the housing crisis and making it harder for residents to find affordable homes.

External Guidelines, Staff Influence, and Democracy:

Reliance on external guidelines from ICLEI, which recommend staff-driven policy decisions over elected officials, can undermine representative governance and erode democratic principles.

Binding Targets:

Setting reduction targets through the PCP program entails a significant commitment that may shape all future municipal plans and decisions. Targets often align with global agreements and are difficult to reverse, binding future councils to established commitments.

High Costs and Taxation:

Residents already contribute to provincial and federal climate initiatives. Milestone Four of the PCP program requires costly measures like purchasing electric vehicles, conducting energy audits, and adopting green building standards. This adds a third level of taxation on residents and can strain municipal budgets.

Impact on Local Needs:

Climate Action Plans may divert resources and funds from essential services. Municipalities may end up prioritizing long-term global environmental goals over urgent local issues that directly impact residents' daily lives and well-being.

Transparency and Trust:

Adopting the PCP program without full disclosure of liability, funding sources, data collection methods, potential long term consequences and cost of implementation to councils and the public undermines transparency and community trust.

Impact of Urban Bias in Sustainable Development Programs:

Sustainable development programs often recommend limiting population growth in rural communities, resulting in an urban bias. Policies that reduce the tax base and services in smaller municipalities and housing availability in urban centers fail to address the unique environmental and economic challenges of both rural and urban municipalities.

Holistic Rural Development:

Canada is primarily composed of rural municipalities. Tailored approaches to rural development should focus on robust agriculture, resource management, and community empowerment. Prioritizing local control over land use and property ownership is crucial for community stability and preventing displacement. These strategies promote long-term rural resilience and economic vitality.

Urban Crisis:

High-density housing can negatively impact quality of life, economic disparities, and environmental sustainability. Policies must balance development with the preservation of community well-being and equitable access to resources.

Active Transportation:

The PCP program's emphasis on active transportation is impractical in the Canadian climate and rural settings, where harsh weather conditions and long distances make such measures unsuitable for daily commuting.

Energy Security:

Net Zero by 2050 targets require 100% renewable energy and near zero reliance on fossil fuels. Prioritizing energy security and diverse fuel options ensures stable and affordable energy supplies for residents and businesses, which is crucial for economic stability and community well-being.

Impact on Construction Industry and Housing Market:

High-cost mandates and green building standards lack practicality, complicate and delay development approval, increase construction costs, and negatively impact the construction industry and economic development. These factors exacerbate the housing crisis by making housing less affordable and accessible.

Impact on Agriculture:

Provincial mapping that designates the majority of land as ecologically protected or prime agricultural restricts landowners from the enjoyment and use of their land and limits their ability to sever. This often forces land sales or forfeitures, displacing farmers and disrupting the local agricultural economy.

Voluntary Participation and Liability:

The PCP program's voluntary nature, coupled with waived liability from the Government of Canada and FCM, transfers significant risk to local governments. Municipalities may face financial and legal challenges if program outcomes do not align with community expectations or resources.

Conclusion

In light of the significant concerns outlined, it is recommended that Simcoe County withdraw from the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program. The issues regarding data collection and privacy, financial burden, local autonomy, ethical considerations, and impacts on the housing market, agriculture, and construction industry present substantial risks to the community's well-being.

Moreover, the program's emphasis on global agendas and binding commitments can divert attention and resources from local priorities, undermining the county's ability to address immediate and specific needs. The lack of transparency and insufficient local consultation further erode public trust and hinder effective governance.

By withdrawing from the PCP program, Simcoe County can prioritize energy security, which is reasonable given Canada's climate and geography. Developing a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with community values, priorities, and financial capabilities will ensure that environmental initiatives are practical, sustainable, and truly beneficial to the residents of Simcoe County. This approach will promote long-term resilience and economic vitality.

Proposed Resolution for the County of Simcoe to Withdraw from the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

Date: [Insert Date]

Resolution No.: [Insert Number]

Subject: Withdrawal from the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

Moved by: [Insert Name]

Seconded by: [Insert Name]

WHEREAS the Corporation of the County of Simcoe has been a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program as per By-Law No. 6735;

AND WHEREAS the PCP program introduces several significant concerns, including data collection and privacy issues, financial burdens, potential undermining of local autonomy, and ethical concerns regarding corporate influences;

AND WHEREAS the program's mandates, including high-cost measures such as purchasing electric vehicles, conducting energy audits, and adopting green building standards, add a third level of taxation on residents and strain municipal budgets;

AND WHEREAS the program's emphasis on urban-centric solutions and external guidelines may not adequately address the unique environmental and economic challenges of rural municipalities like Simcoe County;

AND WHEREAS adopting the PCP program without full disclosure of liability, funding sources, data collection methods, and the cost of implementation undermines transparency and community trust;

AND WHEREAS the County of Simcoe values robust local control over land use and property ownership to ensure community stability and prevent displacement, supporting long-term rural resilience and economic vitality;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the County of Simcoe withdraws its membership from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program;

AND THAT the County of Simcoe will develop and implement a locally driven environmental stewardship strategy that aligns with the community's values, priorities, and financial capabilities, focusing on energy security, sustainable agriculture, resource management, and community empowerment;

AND THAT the County Clerk is hereby directed to notify the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI Canada of this decision and take the necessary steps to formalize the County's withdrawal from the PCP program;

AND THAT the County of Simcoe will engage in a comprehensive consultation process with residents and stakeholders to ensure transparency, gain community support, and tailor environmental initiatives to the specific needs of the County.

Certified a true copy of Resolution No. [Insert Number] passed by the Council of the County of Simcoe at its regular meeting held on [Insert Date].

County Clerk
Warden

County of Simcoe Council Meeting

Date: [Insert Date]

Time: [Insert Time]

Location: [Insert Location]

References

1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities. "Partners for Climate Protection Program." FCM, 2024.
2. Government of Canada. "Climate Action Incentive Fund." Government of Canada, 2023.
3. ICLEI Canada. "Local Governments for Sustainability." ICLEI Canada, 2024.
4. Canadian Constitution, Section 92. "Powers of Provincial Legislatures." Government of Canada, 2024.
5. BlackRock. "Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Policies." BlackRock, 2024.
6. Google. "Sustainability Initiatives." Google, 2024.
7. Vanguard. "Investment Strategies and Real Estate." Vanguard, 2024.
8. Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. "Agricultural Land Use Planning." OMAFRA, 2023.
9. Statistics Canada. "Canadian Housing Market Data." Statistics Canada, 2024.
10. Privacy Commissioner of Canada. "Privacy Concerns and Data Protection." Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, 2024.

BY-LAW NO. 6735

OF

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE

A By-law to authorize the Warden and County Clerk to register the Corporation of the County of Simcoe as a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Partners for Climate Protection Program.

Whereas Section 5 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, C.25 provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by its council and subsection 5(3) provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under Section 9, shall be exercised by by-law unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise; and

Whereas by the adoption of Recommendation CCW-133-18 Council deems it expedient to authorize the Warden and County Clerk to register the Corporation of the County of Simcoe as a Member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Partners for Climate Protection Program.

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe enacts as follows:

1. That authority is hereby granted to the Warden and County Clerk to register the Corporation of the County of Simcoe as a Member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Partners for Climate Protection Program, substantively in the form attached hereto as Schedule 1 to this By-law.
2. That Schedule 1 attached hereto being the Resolution, generally as to form and content forms part of this By-law.
3. That any and all actions taken and required to be taken by the Warden and County Clerk on behalf of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe to complete this matter including the execution of any documentation is hereby authorized, confirmed and ratified.
4. That this By-law shall come into force and take effect immediately upon the approval of County Council.

By-law enacted this 24th day of April, 2018.

Warden, County of Simcoe
County Clerk, County of Simcoe

Council Resolution to Join the FCM-ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) Partners for Climate Protection Program

WHEREAS it is well established that climate change is increasing the frequency of extreme weather events and posing other risks, such as drought, forest fires, and rising sea levels, which present serious threats to our natural environment, our health, our jobs, and our economy.

WHEREAS the 2016 Paris Agreement, signed by more than 190 countries, including Canada, committed to limit the global temperature increase to below two degrees Celsius, in order to avoid the most severe climate change impacts.

WHEREAS, local governments are essential to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement.

WHEREAS Canada's cities and communities influence approximately 50 percent of national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and can drive systemic low-carbon practices, including building high-efficiency buildings, undertaking building retrofits, developing district heating, building active transit, electric vehicle infrastructure, and electrified public transit, implementing near-zero GHG waste plans; and delivering high-efficiency water and wastewater services;

WHEREAS investments in these types of measures also reduce operating costs, help municipalities maintain and plan for future community services, protect public health, support sustainable community development, increase community resilience, and reduce a community's vulnerability to environmental, economic, and social stresses;

WHEREAS a number of government and international and national organizations have called for greater cooperation among all stakeholders to meet reduction targets, including Canada's Big City's Mayors' Caucus, which supports binding GHG emission reduction targets at the international, national, and city levels, action plans that cut emissions, identification of risks and mitigation solutions, and regular municipal GHG emissions reporting.

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability have established the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program to provide a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge and experience with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions;

WHEREAS over 300 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 65 percent of the population have already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through the PCP program since its inception in 1994;

WHEREAS PCP members commit to adopting targets to reduce GHG emissions from municipal operations and from the wider community in areas over which they have control or influence;

WHEREAS the PCP program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results.

WHEREAS PCP members commit to carrying out the five milestone framework within ten years of joining the program and to report on progress at least once every two years.

WHEREAS PCP members accept they can be suspended from the program – subject to prior notice in writing by the PCP Secretariat – in the event of non-submission of progress reports within the established deadlines;

BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Simcoe endorse the Government of Canada's commitment to the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature increase to below two degrees Celsius and to pursue efforts to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Simcoe review the guidelines on PCP member benefits and responsibilities and then communicates to FCM to participate in the PCP program and to complement in achieving the milestones set out in the PCP five milestone framework.

BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Simcoe support the following:

Corporate staff person

Name: Tyler Hunt, Sustainable Operations Supervisor

Contact Number: 705-735-9300, extension 1406

Email address: tyler.hunt@simcoe.ca

To oversee the implementation of the PCP milestones and be the point of contact for the PCP program within the municipality.

This Council Resolution shall be governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned has caused this Council Resolution to be duly executed as of the date first written above.

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: An email from the Premier of Ontario

From: Doug Ford <Premier.Correspondence@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 10:52:05 AM
To: Sandie Macdonald <smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: An email from the Premier of Ontario

You don't often get email from premier.correspondence@ontario.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thank you for writing and sharing your views about new school facilities in Essa Township. I appreciate the opportunity to read your supportive comments.

The people of Ontario have put their trust in me to get the job done — I do not take that trust for granted. Our government will fulfill its promises and continue working for Ontarians every single day.

Thanks again for reaching out.

Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

This email account is not monitored. Please do not reply directly to this email. For further inquiries, please direct your online message through the Premier's [contact form](#).

As part of the Ontario government's commitment to providing [accessible customer service](#), if you have any accommodation needs, require communication supports or alternate formats, please call 416-325-1941 or send an online message through the Premier's [contact form](#).

This email contains information intended only for the use of the individual named above. If you have received this email in error, we would appreciate it if you could advise us through the Premier's [contact form](#). Thank you.

[EXTERNAL]

A14



John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylwia Przedziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail:
Sylwia.Przedziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca

**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 24-MM19.5**

(Sent by Email)

July 31, 2024

MUNICIPAL CLERKS OF ONTARIO'S MUNICIPALITIES:

**Subject: Member Motions Item 19.5
Requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians (Ward All)**

City Council on June 26 and 27, 2024, adopted Item MM19.5 and, in so doing, has forwarded City Council's decision to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities.

J. Canchela
for City Clerk

J. Canchela/wg

Attachment

Sent to: Premier, Province of Ontario
Minister of Health and Deputy Premier, Province of Ontario
Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Municipal Clerks of Ontario's Municipalities

c. City Manager

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City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 19

MM19.5	ACTION	Adopted		Ward: All
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Requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians - by Councillor Dianne Saxe, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle

City Council Decision

City Council on June 26 and 27, 2024, adopted the following:

1. City Council request the Minister of Health to take immediate action to:
 - a. properly compensate family physicians with appropriate fee increases; and
 - b. reduce the administrative burden that the Province places on family doctors so they have more time to see their patients.
2. City Council forward City Council's decision to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities.
3. City Council request a direct response from the Minister of Health within 30 days.

Summary

On May 13, 2024, the City of Belleville set a good example by passing a resolution calling upon the provincial government to improve compensation and reduce administrative burden for Ontario's family physicians. Toronto should do the same.

The Province of Ontario is responsible for providing quality health care to all residents of Ontario. Family medicine is the backbone of the healthcare system and providing timely access to a primary health care provider for everyone in Ontario, is essential and should be a top Provincial Government priority. Instead, the shortage of family physicians has reached a crisis point.

Millions of Ontario residents, and hundreds of thousands of Torontonians, do not have a family doctor. Studies show that patients without a primary care provider have poorer health outcomes while costing the health care system more. Meanwhile, hospitals, emergency rooms and clinics are overloaded by residents' unmet health care needs.

The Province of Ontario could address this issue quickly and efficiently by paying fair wages to family physicians and by lessening the undue administrative burden this provincial government imposes on family doctors.

Background Information (City Council)

Sarah Corbett

Subject:

FW: AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments



AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments

Dear Clerks and Heads of Council of Municipal Governments Across Ontario:

The AMO President and Board is requesting that this letter be shared with all elected council members and administrative heads (i.e., CAO, City Manager) in your municipality. Please post as an information item in your next council meeting agenda.

On behalf of its municipal members, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is urgently calling for provincial and federal leadership and action to address the growing crisis of homelessness encampments in communities across Ontario.

On July 2nd, AMO released a new policy paper [Homeless Encampments in Ontario: A Municipal Perspective](#) detailing the state of this crisis and evidence-based actions that must be taken.

Municipal governments are at the front lines of the homelessness crisis without the resources or tools to support our residents and communities. We are asking the provincial and federal governments to work collaboratively with each other and municipalities. These are complex issues that require comprehensive responses from all orders of government working together.

For further resources and information, please visit www.amo.on.ca

Sincerely,

AIS



Colin Best

President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

*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.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

[EXTERNAL]

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THANK YOU!

Nottawasaga Pines and our graduating Timberwolves
THANK YOU for your support!

Your donation will benefit our graduates in their pursuit
of post secondary opportunities as they further their
education in the Trades, College or University pathways.

THANK YOU!



31 May 2024

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

RE: Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Callander passed the following resolution at its Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

Resolution No. 2024/05/184:

7.4(c) WHEREAS the assessment cycle is an essential process for maintaining the fairness and predictability of property taxes in our province;

AND WHEREAS the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

AND WHEREAS the government has delayed an assessment update again in 2024, resulting in Ontario's municipalities continuing to calculate property taxes using 2016 property values;

AND WHEREAS both current and outdated assessments are inaccurate, increase volatility, and are not transparent;

AND WHEREAS frequent and accurate reassessments are necessary to stabilize property taxes and provide predictability for property owners, residents, and businesses alike;

AND WHEREAS the staff at the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation would benefit from further skills enhancement and training in assessments, recognizing the importance of ensuring accurate evaluations for 100% of our municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Government has announced a review of the property assessment and taxation system with a focus on fairness, equity, and economic competitiveness, and therefore further deferring new property assessment;

A17

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Callander hereby calls upon the Premier to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure the stability and predictability of property taxes while the Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or respond with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to achieve fair taxation;

AND THAT all Municipalities in Ontario and their constituents are encouraged to apply pressure to the Premier, daily, weekly, and monthly, to resolve the situation before it causes undo stress to everyone in the Municipality;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the relevant provincial authorities, the Association of Municipality in Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, and all municipalities in Ontario for their consideration, to make proper changes as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Thank you,



**Cindy Pigeau
Municipal Clerk**

**Copy to: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
All Ontario Municipalities**



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

August 14, 2024

Premier Doug Ford
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Ford,

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held August 6, 2024 the following resolution was passed.

RE: Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Resolution: Ontario Long Service Medals

Resolution: 238-2024

Moved by: Councillor Adduono

Seconded by: Council Dube

WHEREAS paramedics, firefighters and police officers are our Frontline heroes, regularly putting their own health and safety at risk to help others in need;

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal was created in 1971 to honour firefighters who have served the public for twenty-five years or more and the Governor General's Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal was created in 1985 and 'honours members of a recognized Canadian fire service who have completed 20 years of service, ten years of which have been served in the performance of duties involving potential risks;

WHEREAS the Ontario Provincial Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal honours OPP officers who have served for twenty years or more and the Governor General's Police Exemplary Service Medal, created in 1983, 'recognizes police officers who have served in an exemplary manner having completed 20 years of full-time service with one or more recognized Canadian police forces;

WHEREAS many non-OPP police services have similar local long-service medals within their forces, but there is not a province-wide long-service medal for non-OPP police officers;

WHEREAS the Governor General's Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal, created in 1994, recognizes 'professionals in the provision of pre-hospital emergency medical services to the public who completed 20 years of exemplary service, including at least 10 years in the performance of duties involving potential risk;

WHEREAS there is no province-wide long-service medal for paramedics in Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE, The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay:

1. Endorse the creation of a province-wide long-service medal for police and for paramedics, modelled after the existing such award for firefighters;

A18



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

2. In furtherance of this resolution, that the Mayor write to the Premier, Minister of Health, Solicitor General, Minister of Citizenship and our local MPP urging them to work collaboratively to create such awards; and
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

Jon Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:

Minister of Health – Sylvia Jones – sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Solicitor General Michael Kerzner – Michael.Kerzner@ontario.ca

Minister of Citizenship Michael Ford – Michael.Ford@ontario.ca

MPP – Thunder Bay Superior North – Lise Vaugeois – Lvaugeois-QP@ndp.on.ca

All Ontario Municipalities

P.O. Box 490
7 Creswell Drive
Trenton, Ontario K8V 5R6
www.quintewest.ca



A Natural Attraction

Tel: 613-392-2841
Toll Free: 1-866-485-2841
virginial@quintewest.ca
clerk@quintewest.ca

Virginia LaTour, Deputy City Clerk

August 15, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via Email - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

RE: Notice of Motion – Councillor Stedall – The Canada Community-Building Fund

Dear Prime Minister:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on August 14, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 24-366 – Notice of Motion - Councillor Stedall - The Canada Community-Building Fund
Moved by Councillor Stedall
Seconded by Councillor McCue

Whereas the City of Quinte West is entering into an agreement to receive Canada Community-Building Funds, which is administered by the Association of Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of the Federal government;

And whereas the funding allocations are less that 2% year over year for the next 5 years;

And whereas the amounts allocated in the past 5 years were less than 2% year over year;

And whereas non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure projects without a corresponding growth in revenue;

And whereas there is a requirement for municipalities to complete an asset management plan and a housing needs analysis;

A19

And whereas both of these plans show the large funding gap between infrastructure and housing needs and funds available from property taxation;

And whereas The City of Quinte West has over \$1.5 billion in core infrastructure assets and, like other municipalities, its infrastructure is aging and in need of upgrades and replacement;

And whereas The City's Asset Management Plan requires \$37 million annually to maintain existing assets which, based on current available funding, is resulting in an annual infrastructure deficit of over \$17.1 million;

And whereas municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end;

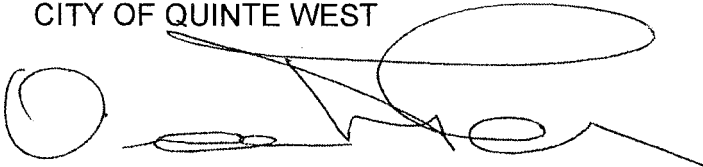
Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Quinte West calls on the Federal Government to provide a supplement to the allocations provided to municipalities under the AMO CBBF agreement for 2024 - 2028 for the same amount that was allocated, effectively doubling the allocation for those years;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to MFOA, AMO, MP Ryan Williams, and Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, and all Municipalities in Ontario.
Carried

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours Truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Virginia LaTour', is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized.

Virginia LaTour,
Deputy City Clerk

cc: Donna Herridge, Executive Director, MFOA
Colin Best, President, AMO
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
All Municipalities of Ontario

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A20



2529 Stirling-Marmora Road
Box 40
Stirling, ON K0K 3E0
Phone: 613-395-3380 Fax: 613-395-0864

August 21, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Hon. Ford,

Re: Public Sector Salary Disclosure

At the August 6, 2024 Standing Committees meeting, Committee made the following recommendation:

Moved by Councillor Dean Graff

Seconded by Councillor Don Stewart

That the report from the CAO-Treasurer entitled, "Public Sector Salary Disclosure" be received; and

That Committee recommends to Council the following resolution be adopted and forwarded to the Province of Ontario Premier's Office, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act be updated to reflect the inflation rates since 1996; and further

That the Act be further updated so that the inflation rate is applied each year to the requirement to report public salaries.

Carried.

This resolution was subsequently ratified and confirmed by Council at their meeting of August 19, 2024.

Sincerely,

Sydney Dodson
Deputy Clerk

/sd

Cc: Roxanne Hearn - CAO/Treasurer, Premier Doug Ford, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, AMO, all Ontario Municipalities

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**Embracing the Future
while Remembering our Past**

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Investing \$400 Million in Roads and Bridges to Enable More Homes

Provincial funding will help municipalities build and repair local infrastructure

August 20, 2024

[Infrastructure](#)

OTTAWA — Beginning tomorrow, August 21, the Ontario government will be accepting applications for funding under the \$400 million Housing-Enabling Core Servicing stream of the [\\$1 billion Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#) to build, maintain, and repair core assets such as municipal roads, bridges and culverts that will support the construction of new homes. Of the \$400 million, the government is allocating another \$120 million to projects in small, rural and northern municipalities that do not have housing targets to better support the unique needs of these growing communities.

“Our government is working with our municipal partners to support their infrastructure needs and get more homes built across the province,” said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. “This investment, in addition to the \$970 million we are investing in water infrastructure through the first intake of the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund, will help unlock more housing opportunities beyond 511,000 homes, bringing us another step forward in our historic partnership with municipalities to build the infrastructure and homes that our communities need to grow and prosper.”

Municipalities will be able to submit applications for the Housing-Enabling Core Servicing stream starting tomorrow. Eligible projects include any road and bridge assets that enable housing infrastructure and promote growth in communities. These projects must be a net new, rehabilitation, repair, reconstruction or replacement project. More information about the program and how to apply is available at ontario.ca/housinginfrastructure.

The remaining funding under the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program will help municipalities target other key infrastructure priorities, including maintaining the health and safety of local water and wastewater systems. More information

A21 about this funding, including eligibility and application intake details, will be announced later this year.

"We are ensuring that, even though high interest rates and global uncertainty have impacted housing starts, we are laying the groundwork for a long-term building boom as economic circumstances improve," said Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "We will continue to do our part to give municipalities the tools they need to build more homes faster. Whether it's helping communities maintain roads and bridges or upgrade water and wastewater systems, our government is focused on making historic investments in infrastructure to help get shovels in the ground for new homes in Ontario."

Earlier this month, Ontario also announced [the launch of a second intake of applications under the \\$1.2-billion Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#).

Combined, the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program and the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund are providing municipalities with more than \$1.9 billion in provincial funding for housing- and community-enabling infrastructure, as part of the province's capital plan of over \$190 billion to build critical infrastructure and support growing communities.

Quick Facts

- Under the first intake of the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund, the government is [investing \\$970 million](#) in 54 water infrastructure projects that will enable over 500,000 new housing units in 60 municipalities across the province.
- Applications for the second intake of funding for the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund close on November 1. Details about the second application intake and eligibility can be found at ontario.ca/watersystemsfund.
- Municipalities with assigned housing targets are receiving a total of \$262 million from the Building Faster Fund for 2023 performance against housing targets.
- Ontario is also providing municipalities improved and flexible borrowing terms for housing-enabling water projects under [Infrastructure Ontario's loan program](#). This new lending stream would build on the valued financing Infrastructure Ontario already provides to many municipal partners and would provide them with options for deferred interest payments until projects are substantially complete, longer loan terms, more flexible repayment terms, and lower administration costs.

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is helping municipal partners build and repair local roads and bridges that will connect residents to housing, jobs and other opportunities for generations to come. This investment is another step forward in our plan to build at least 1.5 million homes across the province and ensure communities have the critical infrastructure they need to grow."

- Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

"With the province's population growing faster than ever before, our government is using every tool available to get shovels in the ground to quickly deliver Ontario's Plan to Build. These investments show that we can build the critical infrastructure to help more Ontarians achieve the dream of home ownership while also ensuring a strong fiscal foundation for future generations."

- Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance

"AMO thanks the Ontario government for its leadership in making historic investments of nearly \$2 billion towards housing-enabling infrastructure. Municipalities are planning for infrastructure expenditures of more than \$250 billion over the next 10 years. This funding is welcome, as it will help pave the way to increase housing supply, support growth and strengthen the economy."

- Colin Best
President, Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)

Additional Resources

- [Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program](#)
- [Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund](#)
- [Ontario's Water Infrastructure Investments Helping Build More Than 500,000 New Homes](#)
- [Ontario Investing Over \\$1.8 Billion to Build More Homes](#)
- [Ontario Builds: our infrastructure plan](#) 126

Sarah Corbett

Subject:

County Council Highlights - Meeting Held August 13, 2024



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the joint **Council Meeting and Committee of the Whole meetings held on August 13, 2024**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

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

- Service Simcoe



County to investigate modifications for County Road 4 reconstruction

The County of Simcoe is currently reconstructing and widening a portion of County Road 4 through the village of Churchill. The County received a minor accommodation request from the Churchill church manse located on Yonge St. in Innisfil that will assist with visitors and guests to park and access the manse.

The County of Simcoe will provide a hard surface walkway to connect from the manse driveway to the 1.0-meter-wide existing concrete walkway, to the front door of the manse and pave the end of the manse driveway with asphalt to the property line.

The County will also provide advice to the manse regarding how to most efficiently provide parking and turn-around ability on the manse property and investigate the possibility of a rollover curb on the east side of County Road 4 as close to the manse's front door as possible.



Letter to Premier Ford regarding Ontario Long Service Medals

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury has issued a letter to Premier Doug Ford regarding long-service medals. Firefighters across Ontario as well as Ontario Provincial Police Officers receive long-service medals from the province in recognition of their devoted years to being a frontline hero.

Charles Shaw, a local resident of Bradford West Gwillimbury who is a paramedic and former volunteer firefighter, has been advocating for paramedics and non-OPP officers to receive similar long-service medals from the province. This letter to Premier Ford will continue to work to make this a reality.

On August 13, during the Joint Committee of the Whole session, County Council endorsed the creation of a province-wide long-service medal for police and for paramedics, modelled after the existing award for firefighters. The letter can be viewed in its entirety [here](#).

A22a



Community Alternative Response Engagement (CARE) Pilot

In partnership with Canadian Mental Health Association and Barrie Police, staff are working to implement a Community Response pilot attending to non-emergent, non-violent patients with specific mental health and addictions needs.

The CARE team will consist of a Community Paramedic and a Canadian Mental Health Association social worker trained to assess, provide mental health support, minor medical care, de-escalation and connection to community services.

The CARE team will initially respond through paramedic referrals through 9-1-1 responses and Barrie Police communications. Patients who need immediate acute mental health and addictions care will continue to be treated and transported by paramedics to the closest Emergency Department. If assessed as less urgent, some patients may be referred to Community Paramedicine for referral navigation and support.

Further collaboration with all partners to confirm implementation will commence in the coming weeks.

To read more about the pilot program and its background, click [here](#).



Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy Update

An Age-Friendly Simcoe County 2023 Community Survey was developed with the aim to assess the effectiveness of the existing strategy and lay groundwork for crafting a new, responsive strategy tailored to the evolving needs of the County's older population over the next five years.

The survey garnered 2,587 responses, representing a 2.56% response rate of the total population aged 60 years and older in Simcoe County. This sample size is considered large, enhancing the reliability of its estimates.

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The survey results are now being separated and analyzed by each individual municipality that will result in 18 separate reports to support Age Friendly planning in those areas.

Community Consultations are being planned in the Fall of 2024 to validate survey themes and priorities. Following these consultations, a Needs Assessment Report will be written using the results from the survey and community consultations to inform the next iteration of the Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy 2024-2029. More updates will be provided to County Council as more information becomes available.



Member Municipal IT Services Program Expansion

Due to an increase in cyber security incidents impacting the Ontario Public Sector, County IT staff have a plan in the 2024 budget to conduct a security

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assessment and are recommending the scope to be increased to include municipal partners.

The Simcoe Community Access Network (SCAN) partners security assessment would include a review of 33 organizations, to provide a complete view of the external footprint of the County and our network partners.

The total cost of the SCAN partners security assessment is approximately \$200,000. The County's IT department has \$50,000 in the 2024 budget for a Simcoe County assessment; therefore, it was approved by Council to provide an additional \$150,000 to include all the SCAN partners. It was also approved that staff proceed to recruit one IT Support Technical to support the Member Municipal IT Services Program Expansion.

To read the full report, please click [here](#).

Joint Council, Committee of the Whole Agenda - August 13, 2024

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Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nominations Open for 12th Annual Newcomer Recognition Awards

Midhurst/August 19, 2024 – The County of Simcoe has opened nominations for the 12th Annual Newcomer Recognition Awards. Nominations recognizing deserving community champions will be accepted until September 20, 2024.

For more than a decade, the Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) has hosted this event to celebrate the outstanding contributions of community leaders and champions who take action to enhance the lives of newcomers in Simcoe County. Special thank you to our Gold Sponsor [Honda of Canada Mfg.](#) for their generous support.

Nominations are invited for various categories, including:

- Culturally Diverse Workforce
- Ethnocultural Group
- Immigrant Artist
- Immigrant Mentor
- Service Excellence
- Welcoming Work Environment
- Youth Community Champion

New Categories for 2024 include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Mobility • Fundraising Champion • Inclusive Housing Practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcomer Inclusive Service Delivery • Small Business Owner • Teaching Excellence |
|--|--|

For more information on the upcoming Newcomer Recognition Awards, to learn more about the categories or complete the Online Nomination Form, visit simcoe.ca/newcomerawards.

About Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership (LIP)

The Simcoe County LIP works to enhance the newcomer experience by fostering community collaboration and promoting inclusivity for newcomers into all aspects of community life.

About the County of Simcoe

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

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August 26, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) / Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Joint Resolution Campaign on Physician Shortage

At its meeting of August 26, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-149, regarding the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) / Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Joint Resolution Campaign on Physician Shortage, as follows:

“WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years;

AND WHEREAS it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, paramedicine, and other investments;

AND WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022;

AND WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada;

AND WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in Bracebridge and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada