



Town of Newmarket Council Information Package

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Date: October 9, 2026

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None.



City of Hamilton
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West, 1st Floor
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5
www.hamilton.ca

September 24, 2026

Re: Request for the Expansion of Ontario's Deposit-Return Program

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, passed the following resolution that was included in the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting from August 31, 2026:

10.2 Request for the Expansion of Ontario's Deposit-Return Program

(Cassar/Hwang)

WHEREAS, Ontario operates a successful deposit-return system for alcohol, seeing an average of 75 percent of all empties returned to Beer Stores each year, and deposit-return provides a consumer incentive to consciously recycle;

WHEREAS, Ontario has the lowest beverage container recovery rate in Canada—at roughly 50% of containers being recycled, and is one of only two provinces in Canada without a deposit-return program for non-alcoholic beverages;

WHEREAS, on average these systems in other provinces achieve a recovery rate of 75% for plastic bottles and 78% for all beverage containers, with Alberta achieving 83% recovery;

WHEREAS, Ontario relies on a residential-only blue box system to collect non-alcoholic containers;

WHEREAS, as much as 30% of beverage products that consumers purchase are consumed away from home and therefore disposed of in public and commercial trash bins and then sent to landfill where those valuable materials are lost;

WHEREAS, according to the Canadian Beverage Association (CBA), recent polling suggests 80% of Ontarians want a deposit-return system and the Ontario government proposed expanding the deposit return program to include non-alcoholic containers in 2023;

WHEREAS, not only do deposit-return systems have high return rates for consumers at home, they also retrieve beverage containers from industrial, commercial and institutional sectors who are incentivized to redeem the deposit value;

WHEREAS, Ontario is uniquely positioned to accelerate the modernization of beverage container recycling since a deposit-return program for alcohol containers, managed by the Beer Store, already exists and could be leveraged for this purpose;

WHEREAS, time is of the essence as Beer Stores are closing, reducing accessibility to locations already outfitted to return beverage containers, and diminishing collection capacity;

WHEREAS, the Government has set 2030 recovery targets, as outlined in Ontario Regulation 391/21 under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016. These targets include an 80% recovery target for non-alcoholic beverage containers;

WHEREAS, without a deposit-return system, the increased costs to producers could be passed on to consumers;

WHEREAS, AMO "supports broader industry efforts to increase waste diversion rates. This includes industry efforts to establish a model for an expanded and more effective Deposit Return System that includes non-alcoholic beverage containers. A workable solution to reform the existing Deposit Return System will help boost the province's beverage recovery rate and support overall diversion of recycling materials away from landfills.";

WHEREAS, the Canadian Beverage Association is in full support of a deposit-return system because according to the CBA the transition to Circular Materials has not resulted in an increase in materials being recycled, and a deposit-return system promotes higher recycling rates, reduces litter and environmental impact, and helps ensure valuable beverage containers are collected, recycled, and reintegrated into a circular economy; and

WHEREAS, Peel Region, City of Toronto, City of Ottawa, the City of Waterloo and Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (of which Hamilton is a member) have passed recent motions supporting deposit-return for non-alcoholic beverages.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Corporation of the City of Hamilton urges the province of Ontario to immediately implement a deposit-return program to manage non-alcoholic beverage containers; and
- (b) That this resolution will **be distributed** to: the Canadian Minister of Internal Trade and One Canadian Economy, Dominic LeBlanc, the Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Julie Dabrusin, the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli; the Ontario Minister of the Environment,

Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, Hamilton-area MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and 444 Municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,



Matthew Trennum
City Clerk

Cc. Hon. Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Internal Trade and One Canadian Economy
Hon. Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Premier Doug Ford
Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Jeff Beattie, MPP, Hamilton East - Stoney Creek
Robin Lennox, MPP, Hamilton Centre
Monica Ciriello, MPP, Hamilton Mountain
Donna Skelly, MPP, Flamborough - Glanbrook
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities
Councillor Craig Cassar
Councillor Tammy Hwang



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier Doug Ford
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026

Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt

Seconded: T. Oke

**Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and
Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and**

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. **Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**
2. **Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**
3. **Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**
 - **includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
 - **that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
 - **that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
 - **that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**
4. **that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org
resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ;
manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ;
glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com ;
jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca ; jwalker@bmross.net ; jennettewalker@hay.net ;
john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities
policed by OPP.



Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council
From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO
Date: September 21, 2026
Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:

For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

“That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.”

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - [Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs](#)

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
 - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
 - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
 - considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;
4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.



TOWNSHIP OF EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK

90 LOVEY'S STREET, PO BOX 100 HICKSON, ONTARIO, N0L 1J0
519-462-2697 . WWW.EZT.CA . EZT@EZT.CA

September 28, 2026

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

Re: Township of East Zorra-Tavistock Resolution - Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on September 16, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock adopted the following resolution:

Moved by: Jeremy Smith
Seconded by: Scott Rudy

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Town of Ingersoll regarding the Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council support the resolution regarding the Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT a copy of the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries, and the provincial government.

CARRIED

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Ashley Gerencser
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All municipalities in Ontario

August 13, 2026

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

Re: Town of Ingersoll Resolution - Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on August 10, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll adopted the following resolution:

Resolution # 2026-230

Moved by Councillor Eus; seconded by Councillor Bowman

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll receive the correspondence from the Town of the Blue Mountains regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council support the resolution regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries, and the provincial government.

CARRIED

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Julie Clayton

Julie Clayton
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All municipalities in Ontario



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

Title: Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026
Time: 6:16 PM

Moved by: Councillor Hope
Seconded by: Councillor Porter

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the June 25, 2026, correspondence from Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby, and supports the June 22, 2026 Town of Whitby Council resolution regarding a Review of Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council directs staff to circulate this resolution of support to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities (AMO) and all Ontario Municipalities for consideration and support

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Deputy Mayor Bordignon	Councillor Ardiel	Councillor Hope	Councillor Maxwell
Councillor McKinlay	Councillor Porter		

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Mayor Matrosovs

Town of Whitby
575 Rossland Road East,
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8
905.430.4300
whitby.ca



June 25, 2026

Via Email

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

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas
Supervisor, Legislative Services
clerk@whitby.ca

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - minister.mah@ontario.ca
 Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
 Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
 Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca
 Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
 Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
 Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
 Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario - amopresident@amo.on.ca
 All Ontario Municipalities

September 16, 2026

Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara St.
Wyoming, ON
N0N 1T0

Sent via email

To whom it may concern:

Re: Resolution 2026-625

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the September 16, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2026-625

That Council receive the Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services for information; and

That Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands Support Resolution No. 15 passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding the sustainable Provincial grant funding for fire services in Ontario; and

That this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Paul Vickers MPP, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Premier Doug Ford, Minister Michael Kerzner, Minister Rob Flack, MPP Vickers and all Ontario Municipalities

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Jill Dunlop, MPP Simcoe North

**Re: Support for Enhanced Municipal and Watershed Representation in the
Proposed Regional Conservation Authority Governance Framework**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.238.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju

Seconded by Joe Gough

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed the consolidation of Ontario's existing conservation authorities into nine Regional Conservation Authorities (RCA), with a proposed transition date of February 1, 2027, or such later date as may be prescribed;

AND WHEREAS Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting No. 026-0740 proposed regulations respecting the method for determining the number of members appointed by participating municipalities to RCAs and additional eligibility criteria for appointments to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA);

AND WHEREAS under the proposed governance framework, upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will be responsible for appointing members to RCAs, resulting in lower-tier municipalities no longer having the ability to directly appoint representatives to the governing board;

AND WHEREAS lower-tier municipalities continue to have a direct and significant interest in the programs, services, land use planning matters, natural hazard management, environmental protection and other responsibilities undertaken by conservation authorities within their communities;

AND WHEREAS meaningful local and watershed-based representation will be essential to ensuring that local municipal priorities, knowledge and watershed-specific considerations continue to inform decision-making within the new RCA structure;

AND WHEREAS the geographic size of the proposed RCAs further emphasizes the importance of ensuring that appointed Board members have a meaningful connection to the watershed they are responsible for governing;

AND WHEREAS there remains a need for additional information and guidance respecting several significant aspects of the proposed transition and future operation of the RCAs, including the governance framework, member recruitment and eligibility, travel and time commitments, budgeting, financial responsibility and the future apportionment and payment of conservation authority levies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara supports continued consultation with municipalities and existing local Conservations Authorities on the development and implementation of the new RCA governance framework;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that any individual appointed to a RCA Board of Directors reside within the applicable watershed of the RCA to which they are appointed, in order to ensure that Board members have a direct and meaningful connection to the communities, municipalities and watershed they are responsible for governing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the future regulations establishing the composition, role, and operation of Watershed Advisory Committees provide meaningful opportunities for lower-tier municipal representation and participation, recognizing that lower-tier municipalities will no longer directly appoint members to RCA Boards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to reconsider the proposed eligibility restrictions for the OPCA Board in order to establish a meaningful connection between the RCAs and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, including consideration of providing for at least one representative from each RCA on the OPCA Board, or another formal mechanism to ensure direct communication and coordination between the two levels of governance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide clear guidance to upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities respecting the recruitment and appointment of RCA Board members, including eligibility criteria, desired qualifications and expertise, expected roles and responsibilities, anticipated meeting frequency, travel requirements, and the time commitment associated with serving on the larger regional authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide municipalities with additional information regarding the financial and operational implications of the consolidation, including how RCA budgets will be developed and approved, how municipal levies and apportionment will be determined and collected, whether upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will assume responsibility for levy payments on behalf of lower-tier municipalities, and how costs and financial obligations will be allocated throughout the transition and ongoing operation of the new RCAs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be encouraged to provide this information as soon as possible to allow municipalities sufficient time to understand the governance, operational and financial implications of the new model and to prepare for implementation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; Conservation Ontario; Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop; the County of Simcoe; all Ontario municipalities; the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA); and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA).

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration of the enclosed resolution and encourages support for the continued involvement of municipalities and conservation authorities in the development and implementation of the proposed Regional Conservation Authority governance framework. The Township further believes that meaningful watershed-based representation, opportunities for lower-tier municipal participation, and greater clarity regarding governance and financial implications will be essential to the successful transition to the new model.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
Conservation Ontario
County of Simcoe
Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA)
Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA)

Bcc. All Ontario municipalities

From: [Regional Clerk](#)
Subject: Regional Council Decision - Advancing Collective Advocacy on Provincial Funding for Health and Human Services
Date: October 2, 2026 2:23:40 PM

On September 24, 2026 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. The Regional Chair, the nine York Region Mayors and York Region Nonprofit Network write and jointly sign letters to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Long-Term Care, Minister of Health, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, and Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario to acknowledge the impact of recent provincial investments in health and human services, highlight ongoing service and funding pressures in York Region, and advocate for enhanced provincial-municipal collaboration and sustainable funding that reflects population growth, socio-economic shifts, and rising service delivery costs.
2. The Province of Ontario be invited to participate in a collaborative meeting with York Region municipal elected officials, Regional staff, and nonprofit sector representatives, to examine the impacts of current provincial funding approaches and co-develop sustainable, long-term solutions that ensure funding levels are responsive to community needs and support the continued delivery of critical services.
3. Regional staff work with the York Region Nonprofit Network and community partners to develop, implement, and support a coordinated advocacy strategy that advances sustainable provincial funding for health and human services and raises awareness among residents, stakeholders and decision-makers about the impacts of funding pressures on community services.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report and attachment to partners – including local municipalities, York Region Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament, York Regional Police Service Board, local hospitals, Ontario Health Teams, Newcomer Inclusion Table, Human Services Planning Board of York Region, York Region Nonprofit Network through the Urban Change Lab Action Coalition, Ontario Alliance to End Homelessness, United Way Greater Toronto, Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario – to request their support in the

collective advocacy efforts.

The original staff report is available for your information at the following link:

[Advancing Collective Advocacy on Provincial Funding for Health and Human Services](#)

Please contact Monica Bryce, Director, Strategies and Partnerships Branch at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72096 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Regards,

Christopher Raynor (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300 | christopher.raynor@york.ca | york.ca

Our Mission: **Working together to serve our thriving communities – today and tomorrow**



King Township
2585 King Road
King City, Ontario
Canada L7B 1A1

Phone: 905.833.5321
Fax: 905.833.2300
Website: www.king.ca
Email: clerks@king.ca

October 2, 2026

Sent via email premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Township of King Resolution – MFOA Request for the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026

Please be advised, at its meeting on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King adopted the following resolution:

Whereas recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*; and

Whereas municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026; and

Whereas the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs; and

Whereas increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality; and

Whereas municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity; and

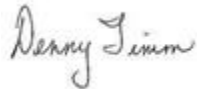
Whereas the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that:

1. The Township of King supports MFOA's letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure.
2. A copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Infrastructure, the Hon. Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, the Hon. Susan Lahey, MPP for York-Simcoe, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Regional Municipality of York, and all local York Region municipalities.

Carried Unanimously.

Yours sincerely,



Denny Timm
Township Clerk

cc. Hon. David Piccini, Minister, Infrastructure david.piccini@pc.ola.org
 Hon. Stephen Lecce, MPP, King-Vaughan stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org
 Hon. Susan Lahey, MPP - York-Simcoe susan.lahey@pc.ola.org
 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca
 Chris Raynor, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York regional.clerk@york.ca
 Town Clerk, Town of Aurora clerks@aurora.ca
 Lisa Lyons, Town Clerk, Town of Newmarket clerks@newmarket.ca
 Rachel Dillabough, Town Clerk, Town of Georgina rdillabough@georgina.ca
 Tara Lajevardi, Municipal Clerk, Town of East Gwillimbury clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca
 Stephen Huycke, City Clerk, City of Richmond Hill clerks@richmondhill.ca
 Todd Coles, City Clerk, City of Vaughan clerks@vaughan.ca
 Jennifer Peplinski, Town Clerk, Town of Stouffville clerks@townofws.ca
 Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, City of Markham kkitteringham@markham.ca
 Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Township of King spellegrini@king.ca
 Councillor Schaefer, Township of King dschaefer@king.ca



The Corporation of
The Township of Brock
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0
705-432-2355

September 29, 2026

Honourable Todd McCarthy
Minister of Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of
Health Ontario

Sent via email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

Re: Combating Tick Borne Diseases

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Brock, at their meeting held on September 28, 2026 adopted the following resolution:

C-2026-225

Moved by: Regional Councillor Pettingill
Seconded by: Councillor Canavan
Motion Carried.

“Whereas the prevalence of ticks, including those known to carry Lyme disease, and other Vector borne diseases have increased across Ontario; and

Whereas Lyme disease diagnoses have increased by 27% in 2024 to 2369 (Public Health Agency of Canada, PHAC); and

Whereas residents across the Township of Brock have registered growing concerns about public health risks associated with tick exposure in parks, trails and residential areas; and

Whereas municipalities have limited jurisdiction and resources to effectively manage tick populations on a broad ecological scale; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario is responsible for public health policy, environmental management and vector-borne disease prevention and detection;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Township of Brock formally requests the Government of Ontario investigate and implement measures to reduce burgeoning tick populations and to mitigate their associated health risks; and

That such measures may include safe and effective tick control methods, public education campaigns and coordinated regional strategies; and

That the Province consider increased funding and support for local public health units to address tick-borne disease prevention; and

That a copy of this motion be sent to Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Kieran Moore, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, Durham Region Public Health, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Kawartha Conservation Authority, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all 444 municipalities across Ontario.”

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Clerks@Brock.ca.

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK



Fernando Lamanna, C.M.O. Dipl. M.M., B.A.
Acting CAO & Clerk

FL:ss

cc. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Durham Region Public Health
Mark Critch, Acting CAO/ General Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Mark Majchrowski , CAO Kawartha Conservation Authority
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Bcc. All Ontario Municipalities



Legislative Services
Anne Kantharajah
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

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

September 30, 2026

Ron Lynn, Chair
York Region District School Board

Delivered by email
ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca

Bill Cober, Director of Education and Chief Executive Officer
York Region District School Board

ceo@yrdsb.ca

Melanie Wright, Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville
York Region District School Board

melanie.wright@yrdsb.ca

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026
Member Motion Item 8.9.2 – Councillor Weese; Re: Review of York Region
District School Board (YRDSB) Gymnasium Permitting Fee Schedule**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 22, 2026, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the significant contribution that local sport organizations make to the health, well-being, development and quality of life of children and youth in Aurora; and

Whereas community-based sport provides children and youth with opportunities to participate in regular physical activity while developing teamwork, discipline, confidence, leadership, friendships and other important social skills in a structured, supervised and safe environment; and

Whereas local not-for-profit sport organizations rely extensively on school gymnasiums and other school facilities to deliver affordable recreation and sport programming to children and youth, particularly during the fall, winter and spring seasons when indoor facilities are unavailable, or unsuitable; and

Whereas access to affordable gymnasium space is therefore an important component of maintaining accessible and affordable community sport programming in Aurora; and

Whereas the York Region District School Board (YRDSB) has recently published its gymnasium permitting fee schedule, which represents significant increases in facility rental costs for community organizations and sport groups that come into immediate effect without adequate notice for budgeting purposes; and

Whereas increased facility rental costs place additional financial pressure on local volunteer-led and not-for-profit sport organizations, which already face increasing costs associated with insurance, equipment, officials, coaches, staffing, administration and program delivery; and

Whereas these additional costs must ultimately be passed on to families through increased registration fees, creating a barrier to participation for children and youth from families who may already be experiencing financial pressures; and

Whereas higher participation costs risk preventing some children and youth from accessing healthy, socially constructive, supervised and safe sport activities, potentially reducing participation in organized community sport; and

Whereas the impact of increased facility rental fees is particularly concerning for programs serving children and youth with disabilities, where program delivery may require specialized facilities, additional staffing, smaller participant-to-coach ratios, adapted equipment and additional operational resources; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora has an interest in ensuring that children and youth, including children and youth with disabilities, have equitable access to affordable opportunities for physical activity, recreation and sport; and

Whereas collaboration among the Town, the YRDSB and local sport and recreation organizations is essential to maintaining a sustainable and accessible community sport system; and

Whereas a review of the current gymnasium permitting fee schedule by the YRDSB would provide an opportunity to assess the impact of the increased fees on local sport organizations, program affordability and participation by children and youth;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora request that the York Region District School Board review the most recent published permitting fee schedule, with particular consideration given to its impact on not-for-profit community sport organizations and the affordability of children's and youth sport programming; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the YRDSB be requested to consult with affected municipalities, local not-for-profit sport organizations and other community recreation providers as part of that review; and**

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026

Review of York Region District School Board (YRDSB) Gymnasium Permitting Fee Schedule

September 30, 2026

3 of 4

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the YRDSB be requested, as a priority, to either restore the current published gymnasium permitting fees to the levels in effect prior to the recently announced increases, or establish a dedicated municipal/non-profit community-sport rental rate that provides affordable access to school gymnasiums for eligible not-for-profit organizations delivering children's and youth sport programming; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That any municipal/non-profit community-sport rate recognizes the public benefit provided by volunteer-led sport organizations and is structured to support affordable participant registration fees, rather than requiring increased facility costs to be passed on to families; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That consideration be given to programs serving children and youth with disabilities, including consideration of reduced or subsidized facility rental rates where appropriate, recognizing the additional costs frequently associated with accessible and adaptive sport programming; and**
- 6. Be It Further Resolved That this resolution authorizes the Town Clerk to forward this resolution to the Chair and Director of Education of the York Region District School Board and to the local school trustees representing Aurora, requesting that the matter be reviewed as soon as practicable; and**
- 7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to all municipalities within The Regional Municipality of York, requesting their consideration and support for affordable access to school facilities for community-based children's and youth sport programming; and**
- 8. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education; Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora; and Honourable Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill.**

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026
Review of York Region District School Board (YRDSB) Gymnasium Permitting Fee
Schedule
September 30, 2026

4 of 4

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

Sincerely,



Anne Kantharajah
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

AK/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: The Regional Municipality of York (regional.clerk@york.ca)
All York Region Municipalities
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca)
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca)
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
(dawn.gallaghermurphy@pc.ola.org)
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
(michael.parsaco@pc.ola.org)



100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
(905) 727-3123
aurora.ca

Town of Aurora

Council Meeting Extract

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.9.1, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

8.9 Member Motions

8.9.2 Councillor Weese; Re: Review of York Region District School Board (YRDSB) Gymnasium Permitting Fee Schedule

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the significant contribution that local sport organizations make to the health, well-being, development and quality of life of children and youth in Aurora; and

Whereas community-based sport provides children and youth with opportunities to participate in regular physical activity while developing teamwork, discipline, confidence, leadership, friendships and other important social skills in a structured, supervised and safe environment; and

Whereas local not-for-profit sport organizations rely extensively on school gymnasiums and other school facilities to deliver affordable recreation and sport programming to children and youth, particularly during the fall, winter and spring seasons when indoor facilities are unavailable, or unsuitable; and

Whereas access to affordable gymnasium space is therefore an important component of maintaining accessible and affordable community sport programming in Aurora; and

Whereas the York Region District School Board (YRDSB) has recently published its gymnasium permitting fee schedule, which represents significant increases in facility rental costs for community organizations and sport groups that come into immediate effect without adequate notice for budgeting purposes; and

Whereas increased facility rental costs place additional financial pressure on local volunteer-led and not-for-profit sport organizations, which already face increasing costs associated with insurance, equipment, officials, coaches, staffing, administration and program delivery; and

Whereas these additional costs must ultimately be passed on to families through increased registration fees, creating a barrier to participation for children and youth from families who may already be experiencing financial pressures; and

Whereas higher participation costs risk preventing some children and youth from accessing healthy, socially constructive, supervised and safe sport activities, potentially reducing participation in organized community sport; and

Whereas the impact of increased facility rental fees is particularly concerning for programs serving children and youth with disabilities, where program delivery may require specialized facilities, additional staffing, smaller participant-to-coach ratios, adapted equipment and additional operational resources; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora has an interest in ensuring that children and youth, including children and youth with disabilities, have equitable access to affordable opportunities for physical activity, recreation and sport; and

Whereas collaboration among the Town, the YRDSB and local sport and recreation organizations is essential to maintaining a sustainable and accessible community sport system; and

Whereas a review of the current gymnasium permitting fee schedule by the YRDSB would provide an opportunity to assess the impact of the increased fees on local sport organizations, program affordability and participation by children and youth;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora request that the York Region District School Board review the most recent published permitting fee schedule, with particular consideration given to its impact on not-for-profit community sport organizations and the affordability of children's and youth sport programming; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the YRDSB be requested to consult with affected municipalities, local not-for-profit sport organizations and other community recreation providers as part of that review; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That the YRDSB be requested, as a priority, to either restore the current published gymnasium permitting fees to the levels in effect prior to the recently announced increases, or establish a dedicated municipal/non-profit community-sport rental rate that provides affordable access to school gymnasiums for eligible not-for-profit organizations delivering children's and youth sport programming; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That any municipal/non-profit community-sport rate recognizes the public benefit provided by volunteer-led sport organizations and is structured to support affordable participant registration fees, rather than requiring increased facility costs to be passed on to families; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That consideration be given to programs serving children and youth with disabilities, including consideration of reduced or subsidized facility rental rates where appropriate, recognizing the additional costs frequently associated with accessible and adaptive sport programming; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That this resolution authorizes the Town Clerk to forward this resolution to the Chair and Director of Education of the York Region District School Board and to the local school trustees representing Aurora, requesting that the matter be reviewed as soon as practicable; and
7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to all municipalities within The Regional Municipality of York,

requesting their consideration and support for affordable access to school facilities for community-based children's and youth sport programming; and

8. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education; Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora; and Honourable Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill.

Carried

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Transport Canada
Hon. Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport
Adam Chambers, MP Simcoe North

**Re: Request for Transport Canada Review and Amendment of Water Aerodrome
Public Consultation Requirements**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.234.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju
Seconded by Sherri Bell

WHEREAS the Aeronautics Act defines an aerodrome as any area of land water (including frozen surfaces thereof), or other supporting surface used, designed, prepared, equipped, or set apart for use either in whole or in part for the arrival, departure, movement, or servicing of aircraft and includes any buildings, installations, and equipment situated thereon or associated therewith;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada's public consultation framework for the establishment and operation of aerodromes, as reflected in Canadian Aviation Regulation 307, recognizes the importance of public interest considerations, including compatibility with surrounding land uses, community impacts, and aviation safety;

AND WHEREAS the current regulatory framework expressly excludes water aerodromes from certain public consultation requirements that apply to land aerodromes;

AND WHEREAS the impacts associated with aerodrome operations, including aviation safety, noise, environmental considerations, compatibility with existing land and water uses, and community well-being, are equally relevant to water aerodromes and may, in some circumstances, be more significant due to the shared use of waterways by residents, recreational users, commercial operators, and emergency services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities possess critical local knowledge regarding land use planning, navigation patterns, environmental constraints, recreation, tourism, community safety, and potential conflicts with existing transportation infrastructure that may not otherwise be available during federal decision-making processes;

AND WHEREAS a regulatory framework that requires public consultation for land aerodromes but not water aerodromes creates an inconsistency that may limit opportunities for affected municipalities, Indigenous communities, interest-holders, and residents to provide meaningful input regarding proposed aviation operations within their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have a formal opportunity to identify potential safety concerns, including conflicts between proposed water aerodrome operations and established aircraft flight paths, existing airport traffic circuits, heavily used waterways, and other local operational considerations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Ramara respectfully requests that Transport Canada undertake a review of the consultation requirements contained within Canadian Aviation Regulation 307 and related policies and guidance documents respecting the exclusion of water aerodromes from public consultation requirements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to amend the applicable regulations and policies to require an appropriate public consultation process for the establishment or significant expansion of water aerodromes, particularly where commercial operations are proposed or where there may be impacts on surrounding communities, public safety, navigation, or existing aviation infrastructure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to ensure that municipalities, Indigenous communities, airport authorities, conservation authorities where appropriate, and affected interest-holders receive meaningful notice and opportunity to comment on proposed water aerodrome developments before operational approvals or registrations are finalized;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ramara requests that the federal government recognize the importance of municipal input in assessing the suitability of water aerodrome locations and the potential cumulative impacts of aviation activity on local communities and waterways;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- Transport Canada;
- The Honourable Minister of Transport;
- The local Member of Parliament;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA);
- All Ontario municipalities; and
- The Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration and support of the enclosed resolution, which calls upon Transport Canada to review the current regulatory framework governing water aerodromes and establish appropriate public consultation requirements to ensure meaningful municipal, Indigenous, stakeholder, and public input.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA)
The Chippewas of Rama First Nation

Bcc. All Ontario Municipalities



Legislative Services
Anne Kantharajah
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

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

September 30, 2026

Executive Director
York Regional Police Services Board

Delivered by email
psb@yrp.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

minister.mah@ontario.ca

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO)

municipal@agco.ca

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026
Report No. CS26-022 - Cannabis Retail Review Task Force - Findings and
Recommendations**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 22, 2026, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

1. That **Report No. CS26-022** be received; and
2. That the Local Actions set out in the Recommendations section of the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be implemented; and
3. That the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be circulated to York Regional Police, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario for consideration and support.

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

Sincerely,

Anne Kantharajah

Anne Kantharajah
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026
Cannabis Retail Review Task Force - Findings and Recommendations
September 30, 2026

2 of 2

AK/lb

Attachments (Council meeting extract and final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force)

Copy: Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
(dawn.gallaghermurphy@pc.ola.org)
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
(michael.parsaco@pc.ola.org)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) (resolutions@amo.on.ca)
All Ontario Municipalities



100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
(905) 727-3123
aurora.ca

Town of Aurora

Council Meeting Extract

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.9.1, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

8.4 Corporate Services Committee Agenda

8.4.4 CS26-022 - Cannabis Retail Review Task Force - Findings and Recommendations

1. That Report No. CS26-022 be received; and
2. That the Local Actions set out in the Recommendations section of the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be implemented; and
3. That the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be circulated to York Regional Police, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario for consideration and support.

Carried

Cannabis Retail Review Task Force

Final Findings and Recommendations

August 27, 2026

1. Purpose

The Cannabis Retail Review Task Force was established by Council to review the Town of Aurora's experience since opting in to Ontario's retail cannabis framework and to report back to Council with findings and recommendations.

The Task Force reviewed the provincial regulatory framework, previous Council decisions and reports, information from Town staff and York Regional Police, enforcement and complaint information, community concerns, the experience of neighbouring residents and businesses, and feedback received through the 2026 Cannabis Retail Review Survey.

The Task Force recognizes that legal cannabis retailers are legitimate businesses operating within a provincially regulated framework. The purpose of this review is not to reconsider the legalization of cannabis or Aurora's decision to opt in, but to determine what has been learned from Aurora's experience and identify opportunities to better address community impacts.

2. Background

Aurora Council opted in to permit private cannabis retail stores on January 21, 2019.

At the same time, Council recognized potential concerns regarding the location and concentration of cannabis retail stores and requested that the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario consider additional location restrictions.

Specifically, Council requested:

- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores and specified sensitive uses, including daycares, nurseries, parks, group homes, addiction and

counselling facilities, recreation facilities, the Aurora Public Library, Town Hall and similar public gathering uses.

Despite Council's request, these additional criteria were not adopted by the AGCO.

The Province currently requires a 150-metre separation from schools and private schools. Municipalities do not have authority to license private cannabis retailers or regulate cannabis retail as a separate land use. Cannabis stores are otherwise subject to the same applicable municipal zoning requirements as other permitted retail uses.

The Town's 2023 Retail Cannabis Update subsequently confirmed that the number or proximity of cannabis stores is not an objectionable criterion under the provincial framework and that municipalities have no control over their locations beyond the zoning requirements applicable to retail uses generally.

3. Community Survey

Council authorized a Cannabis Retail Review Survey to provide the Task Force with current community feedback.

The survey was conducted from July 14 to August 9, 2026 and was promoted through Town communication channels.

The survey received:

- 479 visits; and
- 154 completed responses.

The survey should be considered an important source of community feedback rather than a statistically representative referendum of all Aurora residents.

Overall, the survey indicates that the principal concern among respondents is not simply the existence of legal cannabis retail stores. Concerns are more strongly associated with:

- The number of cannabis retail stores;
- Concentration and clustering;
- Store locations;
- Proximity to sensitive uses;

- Youth exposure; and
- Neighbourhood impacts.

The Task Force also recognizes that a segment of respondents supports cannabis retail and considers these businesses legitimate and appropriately regulated retail operations.

These results generally reinforce the location and concentration concerns identified by Aurora Council when it opted in to cannabis retail in 2019.

4. Task Force Findings

Finding 1: Cannabis retail has not created a significant town-wide enforcement problem

The available information does not demonstrate widespread public safety, crime or municipal enforcement problems associated with cannabis retail stores across Aurora.

Town staff have historically reported relatively few complaints associated with legal cannabis retailers, and proactive By-law inspections conducted in March 2026 did not identify violations.

The Task Force therefore does not find evidence supporting a conclusion that cannabis retail stores, as a class of business, represent a significant town-wide enforcement problem.

Finding 2: Town-wide statistics do not necessarily reflect localized impacts

While aggregate complaint and enforcement numbers are relatively low, the Task Force heard concerns regarding impacts experienced by residents and businesses neighbouring certain cannabis retail locations.

Issues identified during the Task Force's work included:

- Litter and discarded cannabis packaging;

- Parking;
- Signage;
- Patron behaviour;
- Loitering or prolonged gathering;
- Neighbourhood compatibility; and
- Other nuisance and quality-of-life concerns.

The Task Force finds that a relatively small number of locations can generate significant impacts for immediate neighbours without producing large town-wide complaint statistics.

Accordingly, aggregate complaint data should not be the sole measure used to determine whether a localized problem exists.

Finding 3: Location and concentration are central concerns

The Task Force finds that one of the most consistent concerns is the location and concentration of cannabis retail stores rather than the existence of legal cannabis retail itself.

This finding is reinforced by the 2026 community survey, which identified the perceived number, concentration and location of stores as primary concerns.

The existing provincial framework provides Aurora with little ability to address these concerns.

Finding 4: Aurora anticipated these concerns in 2019

The Task Force finds it significant that Aurora Council identified location and concentration as potential concerns before cannabis retail stores began operating in the Town.

Council's 2019 request for:

- 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- 150-metre separation from specified sensitive uses

was intended to provide reasonable safeguards while allowing legal cannabis retail businesses to operate in Aurora.

Seven years of experience and the results of the 2026 review demonstrate that many of the concerns identified by Council in 2019 remain relevant.

Finding 5: The provincial framework significantly limits municipal control

The Task Force finds that there is a significant gap between municipal responsibility for responding to community concerns and municipal authority to prevent or address the underlying location issues.

Aurora can enforce generally applicable municipal bylaws, including parking, signage and property-related regulations.

However, Aurora cannot:

- License cannabis retail stores;
- Regulate cannabis retail as a separate land use;
- Establish cannabis-specific zoning;
- Establish mandatory separation distances between cannabis stores; or
- Establish additional cannabis-specific setbacks from sensitive uses.

The ultimate authority respecting retail cannabis authorizations rests with the Province through the AGCO.

Finding 6: Localized problems require targeted responses

Given the relatively low level of town-wide complaints but more significant concerns associated with particular locations, the Task Force finds that targeted intervention is preferable to blanket enforcement.

Where persistent problems are identified, the Town should coordinate available resources and work with retailers, property owners, neighbouring businesses, residents, By-law Services, YRP and the AGCO, as appropriate, to address the specific circumstances.

Finding 7: Residents need clearer information about where and how to report concerns

Responsibility for cannabis-related concerns is divided among several organizations.

Depending upon the issue, residents may need to contact:

- Town of Aurora By-law Services;
- York Regional Police;
- The AGCO;
- York Region; or
- A property owner or business operator.

The Task Force finds that clearer public information would improve reporting, allow concerns to be directed to the appropriate authority and improve the quality of information available for future monitoring.

5. Recommendations

The Cannabis Retail Review Task Force recommends that Council endorse the following actions.

A. Local Actions

1. Improve public information and reporting

That the Town develop clear public information identifying where residents and businesses should report cannabis retail concerns, including the respective responsibilities of the Town, AGCO, York Regional Police and other appropriate agencies.

2. Establish a targeted response approach

That where recurring concerns are identified around a cannabis retail location, appropriate Town departments coordinate a targeted response using existing municipal

enforcement authorities and engage the retailer, property owner, neighbouring residents and businesses, YRP and AGCO where appropriate.

3. Encourage retailer and property-owner engagement

That the Town encourage cannabis retailers and property owners to proactively address legitimate neighbourhood concerns, including litter, parking, property maintenance and patron behaviour occurring on their properties.

4. Continue monitoring

That the Town periodically monitor cannabis retail-related complaints and enforcement activity to identify emerging trends or recurring locations of concern and report significant developments to Council as appropriate.

B. Provincial Advocacy

5. Reaffirm Aurora's 2019 position

That Council reaffirm its January 21, 2019 position respecting cannabis retail store locations and advocate to the Province of Ontario and the AGCO for implementation of those principles.

Specifically, Aurora should continue to advocate for authority to establish:

- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores and appropriate sensitive uses, including daycares, nurseries, parks, group homes, addiction and counselling facilities, recreation facilities, libraries and other appropriate public gathering places.

6. Provide municipalities greater authority over location and clustering

That Council request that the Province amend the cannabis retail regulatory framework to provide municipalities with meaningful authority to address the location, density and clustering of cannabis retail stores within their communities.

Any expanded municipal authority should allow municipalities to develop locally appropriate standards while maintaining reasonable opportunities for legal cannabis retailers to operate.

7. Strengthen municipal input into AGCO decisions

That Council request that the Province strengthen the municipal role in the AGCO retail store authorization process, including requiring meaningful consideration of municipal concerns regarding location, concentration, sensitive uses and documented community impacts.

8. Review operating conditions where neighbourhood impacts exist

That the Province and AGCO be requested to examine whether additional regulatory tools are appropriate where a cannabis retail operation generates repeated, documented impacts on neighbouring residential or commercial properties, including whether operating conditions or hours may be considered where warranted.

9. Coordinate advocacy with other Ontario municipalities

That Aurora's final Task Force report and Council resolution be forwarded to:

- The Premier of Ontario;
- The appropriate Provincial Ministers;
- The AGCO;
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- York Region;
- All Ontario municipalities,

with a request for support for greater municipal authority over cannabis retail location and clustering.

6. Conclusion

Aurora's experience with legal cannabis retail is nuanced.

The Task Force did not find evidence that cannabis retailers generally represent a significant town-wide public safety or enforcement problem. Legal cannabis retailers

are regulated businesses that contribute to Aurora's economy and should be treated fairly.

At the same time, the review demonstrates that legitimate localized impacts can occur and that the current provincial framework leaves municipalities with limited tools to address one of the community's principal concerns: where cannabis stores locate and how closely they may be concentrated.

Importantly, Aurora anticipated these issues in 2019.

When Council opted in to cannabis retail, it supported reasonable separation distances between stores and from sensitive uses. Those recommendations were not incorporated into the provincial framework. The concerns identified through the Task Force's work and the 2026 community survey demonstrate that those principles remain relevant today.

The Task Force therefore recommends a balanced approach.

Locally, Aurora should improve reporting, monitoring, communication and targeted responses where problems occur.

Provincially, Aurora should renew and strengthen its advocacy for the principles Council established in 2019 and request meaningful municipal authority over cannabis retail location, concentration and neighbourhood compatibility.

This approach recognizes cannabis retailers as legitimate businesses while also recognizing the responsibility of municipal government to protect the quality of life of residents and neighbouring businesses.

Councillor John Gallo
Town of Aurora
Cannabis Retail Review Task Force Chair

**Regular Council Meeting**

Resolution Number 189
Title: Communications
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Moved by Deputy Reeve King
Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, Council support the August 25, 2026, correspondence from the Town of Greater Napanee regarding the permanent doubling of Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) funding from \$200 million to \$400 million annually beginning in 2027; and

THAT, this supporting resolution and the originating resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Member of Provincial Parliament for Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, and Ontario municipalities.

ADOPTED

Reeve, Peter McLaren

Title: A.F. & P. 36/2026 - Support for Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) - Motion Required

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Moved by: Lori Sebben

Seconded by: Shelley Wagner

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

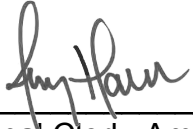
AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) request to the Ministry of Infrastructure that the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) be maintained beyond 2026; and further THAT Council request the Province of Ontario expand OCIF funding beyond the current doubled funding level and consider enhancements to the funding formula that recognize the unique infrastructure challenges faced by small, rural municipalities with large geographic areas, small population bases, and agricultural land comprising a significant majority of the municipal land area; and further

THAT a copy of the resolution and the supporting letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario be circulated to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Ministry of Infrastructure, MPP Mike Harris, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Amy Harron", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Municipal Clerk, Amy Harron



STAFF REPORT
Corporate Services

Subject: Support for Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Report No.: A. F. & P. 36/2026

To: Council

Meeting Date: September 22, 2026

Prepared by: Jeff Dyck, Director of Corporate Services

Recommendation

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) request to the Ministry of Infrastructure that the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) be maintained beyond 2026; and further

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario expand OCIF funding beyond the current doubled funding level and consider enhancements to the funding formula that recognize the unique infrastructure challenges faced by small, rural municipalities with large geographic areas, small population bases, and agricultural land comprising a significant majority of the municipal land area; and further

THAT a copy of the resolution and the supporting letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario be circulated to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Ministry of Infrastructure, MPP Mike Harris, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support for a resolution requesting the Province of Ontario to permanently maintain the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) at its current doubled funding level beyond 2026. The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is advocating on behalf of municipalities across Ontario to secure continued investment in municipal infrastructure renewal. Municipal asset management plans continue to identify significant infrastructure replacement and rehabilitation needs, while recent provincial and federal infrastructure funding programs have largely focused on growth-related and housing-enabling projects. Maintaining the enhanced OCIF funding level would assist municipalities in addressing state-of-good-repair infrastructure needs, preserving service levels, supporting economic prosperity, and continuing to deliver housing-enabling infrastructure investments.

Report

1. Background

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) provides predictable and formula-based funding to municipalities for critical infrastructure projects. In response to growing municipal infrastructure needs, the Province of Ontario increased annual OCIF funding from \$200 million to \$400 million for the period 2021 through 2026.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has requested municipal support for advocacy efforts directed to the Ministry of Infrastructure seeking a permanent commitment to maintaining the doubled OCIF funding level beyond 2026.

Municipalities across Ontario are subject to asset management requirements established under Ontario Regulation 588/17, Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, enacted under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act,

2015. These regulations require municipalities to identify infrastructure assets, assess asset condition, and develop long-term plans for maintaining service levels.

Asset management plans throughout Ontario, as well as reports from the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario, have identified significant infrastructure renewal requirements and state-of-good-repair backlogs.

2. Analysis

Municipal infrastructure networks including roads, bridges, water systems, wastewater systems, and stormwater infrastructure represent significant public investments that require ongoing rehabilitation and replacement. Municipal asset management plans consistently demonstrate that available funding sources are insufficient to fully address long-term infrastructure renewal needs.

Small, rural municipalities face additional infrastructure funding challenges that are not fully reflected in population-based funding formulas. Municipalities with extensive geographic areas and significant agricultural land holdings are responsible for maintaining large road and bridge networks that support agricultural production, goods movement, and rural economic activity. These municipalities often have limited population growth and a smaller tax base over which to distribute infrastructure costs, resulting in disproportionately higher infrastructure costs on a per-capita basis.

In recent years, infrastructure funding programs offered by senior levels of government have generally focused on growth-related and housing-enabling infrastructure projects. While those investments are important, municipalities continue to face considerable challenges in funding the rehabilitation and replacement of existing infrastructure assets.

The enhanced OCIF allocation has become a critical funding source for municipalities by:

- Supporting infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement projects;
- Assisting municipalities in meeting regulatory asset management requirements;
- Helping maintain municipal service levels;
- Preserving existing community infrastructure assets; and
- Complementing local capital funding strategies.

MFOA has noted concerns from municipal finance professionals regarding the potential deterioration of municipal infrastructure and service levels if the enhanced OCIF funding level is not maintained.

Further, current geopolitical and economic uncertainties have increased the importance of maintaining public infrastructure investments that support economic activity, community resilience, and long-term growth. Municipal infrastructure serves as a foundational component of local and provincial economic prosperity.

Without a commitment to continue the doubled OCIF funding beyond 2026, municipalities may face increased challenges in closing infrastructure funding gaps, potentially requiring the deferral of capital renewal projects or increased reliance on property taxation and debt financing.

3. Recommendations and Rationale

It is recommended that Council support the MFOA request for the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund beyond 2026.

Continued enhanced OCIF funding would provide municipalities with greater certainty in long-term capital planning and support efforts to address infrastructure renewal requirements identified through asset management planning processes. Maintaining the current funding level would help municipalities continue investing in housing-enabling infrastructure while simultaneously preserving and renewing existing public assets that support economic development and community well-being.

While maintaining the current enhanced OCIF funding level is important, Council may also wish to advocate for a more equitable allocation approach that recognizes the realities of rural Ontario. Municipalities with large geographic areas, low population density, and agricultural land comprising more than 50 percent of the municipal land base maintain infrastructure that is critical to Ontario's agricultural economy. Additional provincial investment targeted to these communities would help address longstanding infrastructure funding gaps and support the sustainability of rural transportation networks and municipal services.

Supporting the resolution aligns with municipal interests across Ontario and reinforces the importance of sustainable infrastructure funding programs that address both growth and state-of-good-repair infrastructure needs.

4. Implementation Plan

Should Council approve the recommendation:

1. Council will adopt the attached resolution supporting MFOA's advocacy initiative.
2. The Clerk's Office will forward the adopted resolution to MFOA, the Ministry of Infrastructure, AMO, and other interested municipalities.
3. Staff will monitor future provincial announcements regarding OCIF funding allocations and update Council as necessary.

Administration/Finance & Personnel Committee

4. Staff will continue incorporating anticipated OCIF funding into long-term capital planning and asset management strategies.

Township Strategic Plan Alignment

Supporting stable and predictable infrastructure funding aligns with the Township's strategic objectives related to:

- Responsible asset management;
- Long-term financial sustainability;
- Infrastructure stewardship;
- Service delivery excellence; and
- Economic development and community prosperity.

The continued availability of enhanced OCIF funding supports the Township's ability to maintain and renew critical infrastructure assets in a financially sustainable manner.

Financial Implications

The continuation of the enhanced OCIF funding program beyond 2026 would positively impact municipal capital planning by providing ongoing support for infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement projects. Predictable infrastructure funding assists municipalities in managing asset renewal pressures while reducing reliance on taxation and debt financing.

Other Departments/Agency Comments

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario has requested municipal support for this advocacy initiative.

No additional departmental concerns have been identified.

Legal Considerations

N/A

Attachments

1. MFOA Letter to MOI permanent doubling of OCIF
2. History of OCIF

Previous Reports on this Topic

N/A

Reviewed by

Senior Management

Administration/Finance & Personnel Committee

Approved by

Rik Louwagie, Chief Administrative Officer

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of Infrastructure
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

June 25, 2026

Dear Minister McCarthy,

RE: Making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request that the Government of Ontario make permanent the five-year doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200 million/year to \$400 million/year in advance of the 2027 OCIF allocation calculations.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long-term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, governments at all levels have reoriented their priorities to address the ongoing housing crisis, with heightened attention on growth-related infrastructure and increasing housing production. Application-based or incentive-based funding programs for municipalities have placed greater emphasis on growth-related or housing-enabling capital projects (e.g., Development Charge Reduction Program, Building Communities Strong Fund – Community Stream, Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, Building Faster Fund). OCIF remains one of the few federal or provincial funding programs where the focus remains primarily on the preservation and renewal of existing infrastructure to maintain or improve municipal service levels.

With support from the Government of Ontario and MFOA, municipalities have made significant improvements to their municipal asset management plans and programs. The Government of Ontario introduced O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) in late 2017, which provided a standard framework for infrastructure planning. To support the transition to O. Reg. 588/17, MFOA has partnered with the Government of Ontario on many asset management initiatives, including guides, workshops, direct consulting support and other resources. As a result of these and significant municipal efforts, most municipalities in Ontario have an asset management inventory that identifies their infrastructure assets, including conditions, replacement costs and renewal schedules of those assets.

By leveraging municipal asset management plans in 2020, the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario estimated the state-of-good-repair backlog to be \$52.1 billion for core municipal infrastructure. That is an estimated cost of restoring such infrastructure to a 'good' condition. The report notably focused primarily on core assets and thus likely understated the full extent of the backlog. Addressing this should not be a priority that falls by the wayside due to an increased focus on growth-related capital projects by other funding programs. OCIF's flexible design provides municipalities with the opportunity to fund asset management staff, which can improve data and analysis quality, and it provides a critical means by which municipalities address the infrastructure funding challenges identified in their asset management plans.

In 2021, the Government of Ontario doubled OCIF for a five-year period. Minister Surma, in announcing that initiative, commented that the Government of Ontario was "providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities as they repair, upgrade and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier and more reliable for all." And Minister Bethlenfalvy said that "by nearly doubling our investment in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, our government is supporting public safety, job creation and economic growth." In the current climate of geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and the resulting economic shocks and instability, the need to provide municipalities predictability and to preserve and enhance the economic activity and benefits provided by well-supported and well-maintained municipal infrastructure is as imperative as it was in 2021.

We have also heard from our members on this matter. Municipalities outside of high-growth regions have expressed concern about the diminishing level of grant funding opportunities for municipalities trying to preserve the economic value of their existing infrastructure. Additionally, while growing municipalities have made significant efforts to emplace new, housing-enabling infrastructure, which has been rewarded through the Building Faster Fund, many of their state-of-good-repair capital plans remain underfunded. To maximize the economic potential of federal and provincial investment in infrastructure, all orders of government must work together to preserve service levels and the public value of existing infrastructure, and permanently doubling OCIF to \$400 million/year will especially help small and rural municipalities preserve that economic foundation throughout Ontario.

By adopting a Team Ontario approach during recent and ongoing economic challenges, we have seen how significant progress can be made when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge (donna@mfoa.on.ca).

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Found, Ph.D., PLE
President and Chair

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
cc. Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance



History and Timeline of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was announced in 2014 to support core infrastructure needs in small, rural and northern municipalities. The program was initially designed to provide \$100 million annually for local road, bridge, water and wastewater projects. At the time, half of the funding was distributed through a formula-based allocation, intended to reflect differences in municipal infrastructure and fiscal needs, while the remaining \$50 million was delivered through an application-based stream. Eligibility was focused on municipalities with populations under 100,000, as well as municipalities located in northern or rural Ontario.¹

OCIF was later expanded through the 2016 Ontario Budget, which committed to increasing the program to \$300 million annually by 2018–19 to further support infrastructure projects in small, rural and northern communities.² Under this expanded structure, formula-based funding increased to \$200 million annually, while the application-based stream was expected to increase to \$100 million annually. However, in 2019, the Province indicated that fiscal circumstances prevented the full expansion of OCIF, resulting in the cancellation of the top-up application component, while maintaining the increase in formula-based funding to \$200 million for that year.³

In 2021, the Province announced a further expansion of OCIF through the Fall Economic Statement, committing an additional \$1 billion over five years. This brought the total OCIF investment to nearly \$2 billion over the 2022-2026 period, or about \$400 million per year. Beginning in 2022, allocations continued to be based on a formula recognizing the different needs and economic conditions of communities across Ontario, with the minimum annual allocation increasing from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per community.⁴

Starting with the 2023 allocations, the Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) updated the OCIF formula to incorporate current replacement values for eligible core infrastructure, shifting from the use of historic cost data to CRVs. A municipality's core infrastructure was calculated using either asset management plan CRV estimates or MOI's CRV estimates for eligible core infrastructure categories. Starting with the 2024 OCIF cycle, the Ministry introduced a standardized Excel-based CRV template to collect municipal CRV data more consistently, building on the initial 2023 shift from historic cost data to current

¹ [Province Supporting the Infrastructure Needs of Small Communities | Ontario Newsroom](#)

² [2016 Ontario Budget | Background: Building Tomorrow's Infrastructure Now](#)

³ [Association of Municipalities of Ontario \(AMO\). *Ontario Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program Review and the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, 2019.*](#)

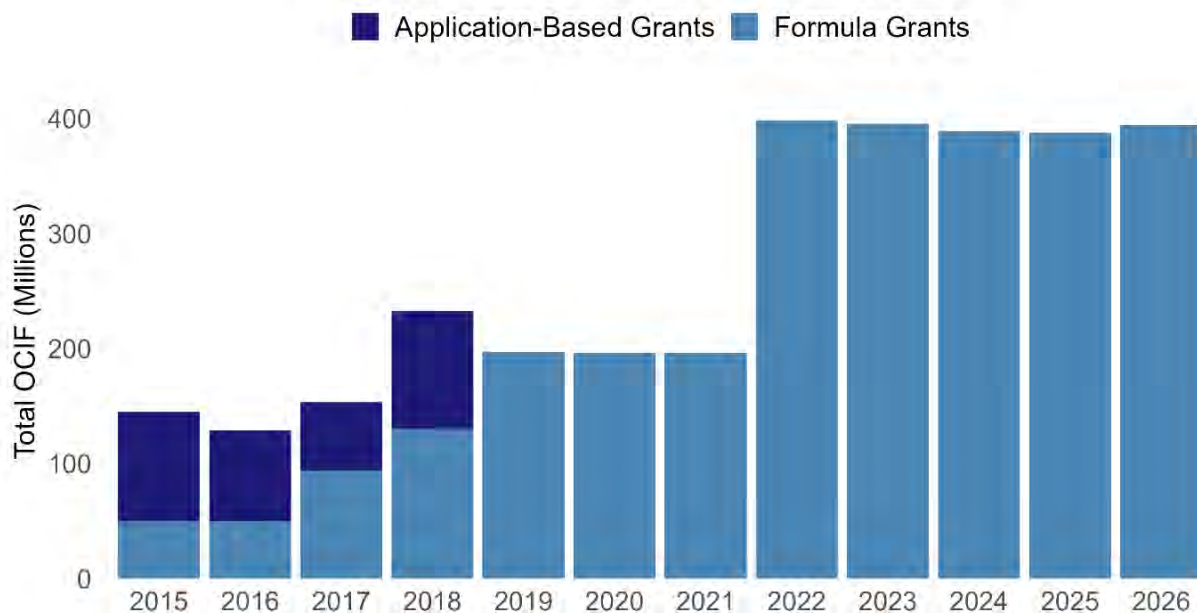
⁴ [Building Ontario with Investments in Critical Infrastructure for Small, Rural and Northern Communities | Ontario Newsroom](#)

replacement values.⁵ A smoothing mechanism was also implemented to generally limit changes in 2023 funding to within ± 15 percent of prior year's allocations.⁶

In 2026, 423 small, rural and northern communities across Ontario are receiving approximately \$400 million in OCIF funding to renew and rehabilitate critical infrastructure. Starting this year, the minimum grant amount has increased from \$100,000 to \$125,000. The smoothing mechanism has also been adjusted, generally limiting year-over-year changes in 2026 allocations to within ± 10 percent of 2025 grants.⁷ However, as 2026 is the final year of the current five-year funding commitment, municipalities are seeking greater clarity on the future of the program.

The graph below shows annual OCIF grants to Ontario municipalities from 2015 to 2026, including both formula-based and application-based grants where applicable. Totals are based on actual approved yearly grants from MOI data and may not fully match announced OCIF allocation amounts.

OCIF Grants to Ontario Municipalities



Source: MFOA chart, based on data from Ontario's Ministry of Infrastructure.

⁵ Ministry of Infrastructure, *Ministry of Infrastructure – Update*, presentation at the 2024 Municipal Finance Officers' Association Annual Conference, September 2024.

⁶ Ministry of Infrastructure, *Information Session: 2023 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Formula Calculation*, 2023.

⁷ [Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund recipients - Dataset - Ontario Data Catalogue](#)



The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.2.

Resolution Number 26-140

Title: Township of Central Frontenac - Support for MFOA: Making Permanent the Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Date: Friday, September 18, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Frost

Seconded by: Councillor Emery

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) provides important funding to rural and small municipalities for critical infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS increased OCIF funding helps municipalities address infrastructure needs and reduce the financial burden on local taxpayers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of The Archipelago supports the Township of Central Frontenac's resolution requesting that the Province of Ontario make the doubling of OCIF funding permanent; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, the Honourable Rob Flack, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Infrastructure, Graydon Smith MPP Parry Sound - Muskoka, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

Carried

From: [Amber Chrastina](#)

To:

RE: Resolution 2026-256- Funding for Public Libraries
October 7, 2026 11:09:52 AM
[image001.png](#)

Good morning,

Please be advised that at its regular meeting held October 6, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wainfleet passed the following motion:

“**THAT** Correspondence Item C228 from the Village of Burk’s Falls respecting sustainable provincial funding for Ontario public libraries be received and supported.”

Thank you.

Amber Chrastina

Municipal Clerk

905-899-3463 Ext. 224

31940 Highway 3, P.O. Box 40 Wainfleet, ON L0S

1V0

www.wainfleet.ca

From: Camille Barr <SeniorAdmin@burksfalls.ca>

Sent: September 23, 2026 8:39 AM

Subject: Resolution 2026-256- Funding for Public Libraries

Good day,

Please find attached a resolution passed by Council for the Village of Burk’s Falls regarding funding for public libraries.

Regards,

Camille Barr

Deputy Clerk

Village of Burk’s Falls; 172 Ontario Street, Box 160 Burk’s Falls ON; 705-382-3138;

www.burksfalls.net

Woodstock <clerksinfo@cityofwoodstock.ca>; Woolwich <clerk@woolwich.ca>; York
<regional.clerk@york.ca>; Zorra <clerk@zorra.ca>

Subject: Resolution 2026-256- Funding for Public Libraries

Good day,

Please find attached a resolution passed by Council for the Village of Burk's Falls regarding funding for public libraries.

Regards,

Camille Barr

Deputy Clerk

Village of Burk's Falls; 172 Ontario Street, Box 160 Burk's Falls ON; 705-382-3138;

www.burksfalls.net

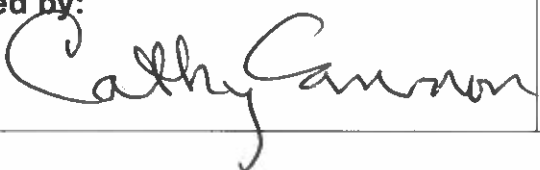


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Resolution # RC26178	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) through the Superior East OPP Detachment; and

WHEREAS OPP policing costs represent a significant expenditure within the Municipality of Wawa's annual operating budget, and the Municipality has experienced increasing policing costs, including an 11% increase identified as a financial pressure in the Municipality's 2026 budget; and

WHEREAS the Municipality has been advised by the Province of Ontario that, for the 2027 calendar year, no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

WHEREAS an increase of up to 11% in municipal policing costs represents a significant financial pressure for small and rural municipalities such as Wawa and ultimately places additional pressure on the municipal property tax levy; and

WHEREAS municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small, rural and northern municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost-of-living pressures;
- provides municipalities with a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations;
- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural, northern and OPP-policed municipalities and ensures that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise municipalities' ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and
- recognizes that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulation, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions, and provides appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Member of Provincial Parliament for Algoma-Manitoulin; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); all Ontario municipalities policed by the Ontario Provincial Police; and the Superior East OPP Detachment Board.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

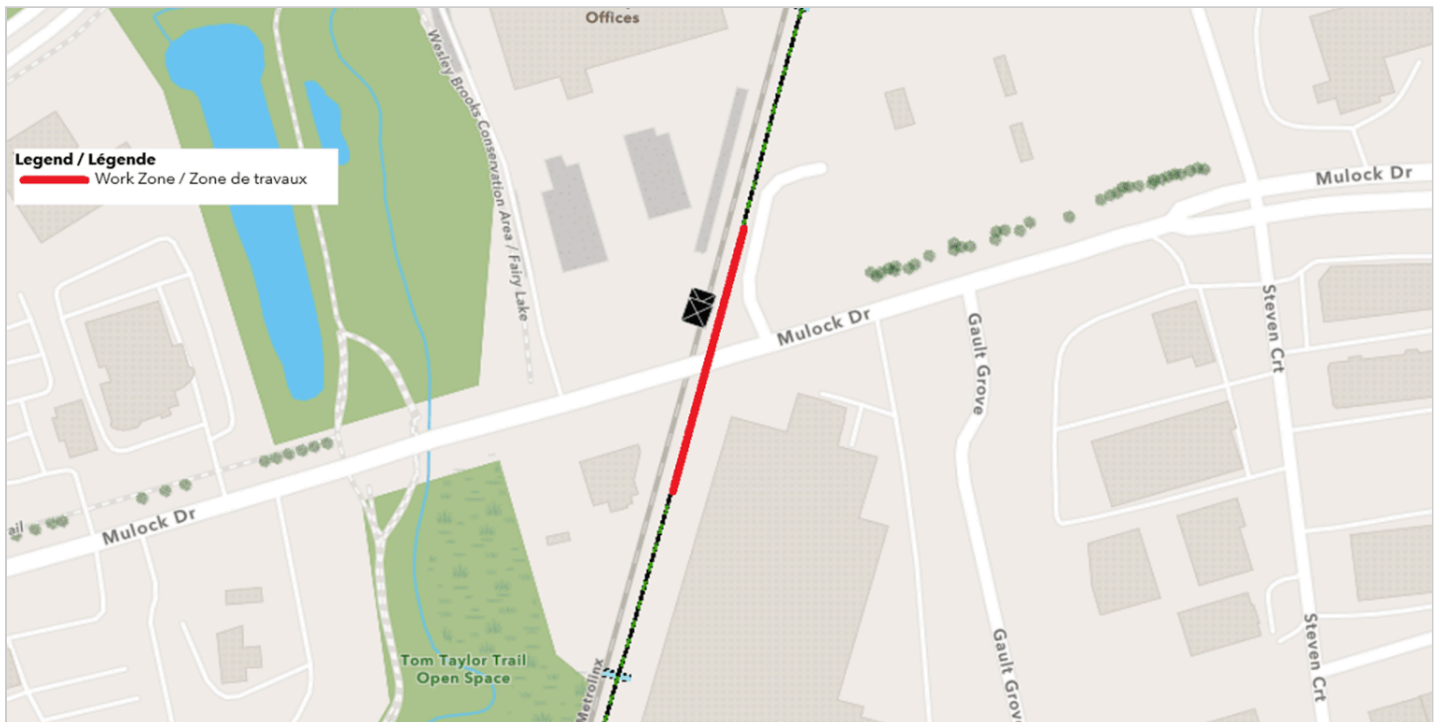
MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

Crossing Rehab Works on Mulock Drive in Newmarket

Scheduled Start Date: October 09, 2026

Scheduled End Date: October 12, 2026

Working Hours: Friday 10:00 p.m., to Sunday 5:00 a.m., 24 hours



Map depicting work zone. Work area is marked in red.

What Is Happening?

As part of state of good repair maintenance work, crews working on behalf of Metrolinx will be replacing existing rail infrastructure at the Mulock Drive rail crossing. This work will include removing the crossing surface to perform the rail replacement, followed by welding and destressing. Once the track work is complete, the crossing surface will be restored and final asphalt paving will be completed.

- Construction lighting may be visible from the work site.
- Trucks and construction equipment may generate dust during construction.
- Crews will take precautions to monitor and reduce dust.
- No utilities disruptions are anticipated.
- Increased presence of construction vehicles and equipment can be expected in the work area.
- No impacts to driveway access in the construction area.
- Work areas will be clearly marked or fenced off to ensure public safety.
- Please exercise caution around active construction sites.
- Work may be delayed or rescheduled due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.
- Approximately 8 trucks will leave the site each day to move materials overnight. In certain circumstances, trucks may need to operate during the day.

Traffic Changes

- Mulock Drive will be reduced for the duration of the work. Signage will redirect traffic around the work zones.
- A paid duty officer, flaggers and detour signs will be onsite to direct traffic as needed.

Pedestrian Access

- Temporary sidewalk closures or pedestrian detours will be in place while the work is underway, with a flagger and signs in place to direct pedestrians as needed.

Noise & Vibration

- Residences and businesses in the area may experience noise and vibration caused by construction equipment related to this work.
- Crews will take measures to minimize disruptions to the surrounding area wherever possible.

Transit Service

- There is no anticipated impact to transit services.
-

About the Project

- Critical State of Good Repair projects collectively aim to ensure the safety and reliability of Metrolinx's rail network, as well as mitigate potential service disruptions and improve on-time performance, customer satisfaction and passenger comfort. This work will extend the life-span of essential infrastructure by reducing the need for frequent maintenance intervention.

Questions? We're here for you.

 https://www.metrolinx.com/en/projects_and_programs/barrie_line_go_expansion

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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

P.O. BOX 400 • 100 DEEP RIVER ROAD • DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO K0J 1P0
Tel: (613) 584-2000 • www.deepriver.ca • Fax: (613) 584-3237



October 9, 2026

Via Email

The following Resolution of Council was passed at the September 23, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council in support of the County of Renfrew and the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario's request for the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond 2026.

Re: Resolution in Support of the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026.

6.1.5 Request for the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026 250

MOVED BY: Councillor Myers
SECONDED BY: Councillor Fitton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the correspondence to Council from Glenn Doncaster, Reeve of the Town of Deep River / Council Member of the County of Renfrew, regarding a Resolution of the County of Renfrew Council in support of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario to request the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond 2026, be received,

THAT the Council of the Town of Deep River supports the initiative of The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario's position for the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund beyond 2026, and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Infrastructure, MPP Billy Deneault, and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

Regards,

Jackie Mellon, Clerk
Town of Deep River



October 9, 2026

BY EMAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

At its Regular Council Meeting held on October 5, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R26-10-471

Moved By Councillor Verbeek
Seconded By Councillor McGuire-Blais

That the correspondence from the Municipality of South Huron regarding OPP 2027 Policing Costs, be received and supported; and

That a letter from the Town of Essex be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Minister of the Solicitor General, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, AMO, ROMA, Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi, Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie, Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky, Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones and all Ontario municipalities noting concerns with the proposed increase of 11% as it may be challenging and have a significant budget impact for small municipalities.

Carried



I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Malandruccolo".

Joseph Malandruccolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandruccolo@essex.ca

- cc. Minister of the Solicitor General minister.solgen@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) resolutions@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org
Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org
Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky lgretzky-q@ndp.on.ca
Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones trevor.jones@pc.ola.org
Municipality of South Huron sjohnson@southhuron.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier Doug Ford
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026

Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt

Seconded: T. Oke

**Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and
Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and**

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

**Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:**

- 1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**
- 2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**
- 3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**
 - includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
 - that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
 - that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
 - that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**
- 4. that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried


CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
 Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
 519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org
resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ;
manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ;
glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com ;
jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca ; jwalker@bmross.net ; jennettewalker@hay.net ;
john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities
 policed by OPP.



Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council
From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO
Date: September 21, 2026
Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:

For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

“That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.”

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - [Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs](#)

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
 - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
 - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
 - considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;
4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.



Emily Thomas-Hopkins
Legislative Coordinator
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328 Station Main
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7
Email: ethomashopkins@newmarket.ca
Tel: 905-953-5300 x2210
Fax: 905-953-5100

October 8, 2026

Sent to: sue@dcdkids.com

Dear Sue Hille:

RE: Lighting Request – October 12, 2026 – Developmental Coordination Disorder Awareness Week

I am writing to advise that your lighting request has been approved in accordance with the Council-approved [Proclamation, Lighting Request and Community Flag Raising Policy](#), and the Town of Newmarket will illuminate the Riverwalk Commons and Fred A. Lundy Bridge located on Water Street teal on October 12, 2026 to recognize Developmental Coordination Disorder Awareness Week. Please note that the lighting will occur from sunset until 11:00 PM.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Emily Thomas-Hopkins

Legislative Coordinator



October 9, 2026

Sent to: lightitup@odenetwork.com

Dear Pawrnaa Perinpanayagam:

RE: Lighting Request – October 15, 2026 – National Disability Employment Awareness Month

On behalf of the Town of Newmarket Council I am pleased to recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month by illuminating the Riverwalk Commons and Fred A. Lundy Bridge located on Water Street in purple on October 15, 2026 from sunset until 11:00 PM.

Thank you for submitting your request and for your contributions to the community.

Yours sincerely,

John Taylor
Mayor



Emily Thomas-Hopkins
Legislative Coordinator
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328 Station Main
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7
Email: ethomashopkins@newmarket.ca
Tel: 905-953-5300 x2210
Fax: 905-953-5100

October 9, 2026

Sent to: lightitup@odenetwork.com

Dear Pawrnaa Perinpanayagam:

RE: Lighting Request – October 15, 2026 – National Disability Employment Awareness Month

I am writing to advise that your lighting request has been approved in accordance with the Council-approved [Proclamation, Lighting Request and Community Flag Raising Policy](#), and the Town of Newmarket will illuminate the Riverwalk Commons and Fred A. Lundy Bridge located on Water Street in purple on October 15, 2026 to recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Please note that the lighting will occur from sunset until 11:00 PM.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "ETH", written in a cursive style.

Emily Thomas-Hopkins

Legislative Coordinator