

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS – GENERAL INFORMATION PACKAGE

COUNCIL MEETING – January 22, 2024

ADVISORY/SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PAGE	COMMITTEE/BOARD	MEETING DATE
3	Acton BIA	December 13, 2023
4-8	Committee of Adjustment	December 6, 2023
9-14	Committee of Adjustment	November 1, 2023
15-17	Acton BIA	October 18, 2023

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

PAGE	INFORMATION
18	ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO ROAD SUPERVISORS – Letter of staff recognition for David Shirreffs on recent Associate Road Supervisor certification. (December 8, 2023)
19-21	AMO – WatchFile (January 11, 2024)
22-24	AMO – WatchFile (January 4, 2024)
25-27	AMO – WatchFile (December 21, 2023)
28-30	AMO – WatchFile (December 14, 2023)
31-33	AMO – WatchFile (December 7, 2023)

PASSED RESOLUTIONS

PAGE	INFORMATION
34-35	TAY TOWNSHIP – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on December 20, 2023 regarding Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request.
36-40	TOWN OF AURORA – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on December 12, 2023 regarding Homelessness Crisis.
41-44	TOWN OF AURORA – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on December 12, 2023 regarding Community Safety and Inciteful Speech.
45-46	TOWNSHIP OF ASPHODEL-NORWOOD – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on December 12, 2023 regarding Rising Municipal Insurance Costs.
47-55	CLEARVIEW TOWNSHIP – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on December 11, 2023 regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support.

56-61	TOWN OF PLAYMPTON-WYOMING – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on November 29, 2023 regarding Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold.
62-65	COUNTY OF BRANT – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on November 28, 2023 regarding Gender-based Violence and Intimate-partner Violence.

PROCLAMATIONS

PAGE	INFORMATION
66	Proclamation – Black History Month (February 2024)

DOWNTOWN ACTON BIA
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING
Wednesday December 13, 2023 – 6:30pm

Minutes

Attendance: Monica Galway, Mike Albano, Nicole Walker, Chris Cambouris, Patricia Daleman, Norman Paulsen, Matthew Galliford

1. Call to Order - 6:42 pm by Monica Galway
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests - None
3. Adoption of November 2023 Minutes –
1st Norman Paulsen, 2nd Chris Cambouris, All in favor: YES
4. Motion to Approve December 2023 Agenda
1st Nicole Walker, 2nd Mike Albano, All in favor: YES

5. Coordinator's Report – Matthew Galliford

Year end financials are being wrapped up. We will be leaving Wagepoint payroll company in 2024 and switching to Quickbooks Payroll. A new cell phone plan will be activated in January, cancelling the Cogeco landline phone, the phone number will be carried over. Grant applications are underway for Summer Students employment.

6. New Business – None

7. Motion to Adjourn – 6:57pm by Monica Galway
1st: Patricia Daleman, 2nd: Chris Cambouris. All in favor: YES

An email will be sent to select the date of our January meeting.

See you all in 2024



COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MINUTES

Minutes of the Committee of Adjustment hearing held on **December 6, 2023**, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present: Todd Jenney (Chair), Jane Watson, Lloyd Hillier, Keith Medenblik, Jason Smith

Staff Present: Ruth Conard, Planner
John McMulkin, Senior Planner
Niloo Hodjati, Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment & Consent Official

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPLICATIONS HEARD

The order of the listed applications as shown on the agenda was altered to address attendance.

The Chair's comments about the procedure were as follows:

- Town staff would speak.
- Owner or agent would be given an opportunity to speak.
- Any members of the public would be given an opportunity to speak (owner or agent would have an opportunity to respond, if needed).
- The Committee would then deliberate, ask any questions, and make a decision.
- A decision would be subject to a 20-day appeal period.

b) **Minor Variance D13VAR23.034H – Hastie**

Location: 59 Cobblehill Road, Town of Halton Hills (Acton), Regional Municipality of Halton

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To increase the floor area of an accessory garage from the maximum 40 sq m to permit a floor area of 53.2 sq m.
2. To permit the construction of a porch within the 4.5 m site triangle.
3. To permit the encroachment of a porch 1.18 m from the front lot line, whereas the bylaw indicates that no porch shall be located closer than 1.5 m to a front lot line.
4. To permit the encroachment of a porch 0.9 m from the exterior side lot line, whereas the by-law indicates that no porch shall be located closer than 1.5 m to an exterior side lot line.

To accommodate a proposed porch and detached garage.

Owner(s): Steven Hastie

The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to conditions. The owner was present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Todd Jenney, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to conditions.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

c) Minor Variance D13VAR23.035H – Cruz

Location: 13520 5 Side Road, Town of Halton Hills (Esquesing), Regional Municipality of Halton

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To reduce the interior side yard setback from the minimum 4.5 m to permit an interior side yard setback of 3 m, to the second storey addition over the garage (east).
2. To increase the driveway width from the maximum 7 m to permit a driveway width of 29.8 m.
3. To reduce the interior side yard setback for a driveway from the required 4.5 m to permit an interior side yard setback of 0 m to the driveway (east).

4. To increase the floor area of an accessory structure from the maximum 80 sq m to permit a floor area of 169 sq m.
5. To increase the total floor area of all accessory structures from the maximum 120 sq m to permit a total floor area of 178 sq m.

To accommodate an existing second storey addition over the garage, existing driveway, and proposed accessory structure.

Owner(s): Inervis Maria Bello Cruz & Natanael Perera Caceres, **Agent:** Douglas Lozada

The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to conditions. The owner(s) and agent were present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Keith Medenblik, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to conditions.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

d) Minor Variance D13VAR23.036H – Rakhra

Location: 8343 Tenth Line, Town of Halton Hills (Esquesing), Regional Municipality of Halton

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To reduce the side yard setback from the minimum 4.5 m to permit an interior side yard setback of 3.9 m (north).

To accommodate a detached dwelling under construction.

Owner(s): Paramjit Kaur Rakhra

The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to condition. The owner and her son (Balraj Rakhra) were present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Jane Watson, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to condition.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

e) Minor Variance D13VAR23.037H – Gallinger

Location: 21 Gooderham Drive, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown), Regional Municipality of Halton

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To increase the floor area of an accessory structure from the maximum 20 sq m to permit a floor area of 25.3 sq m.

To accommodate a proposed accessory structure (pavilion).

Owner(s): Tom Gallinger **Agent:** Scott Wood

The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to condition. The agent was present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Keith Medenblik, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to condition.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

a) Minor Variance D13VAR23.032H – Dykas

Location: 52 Barraclough Boulevard, Town of Halton Hills (Glen Williams), Regional Municipality of Halton

Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To increase the total floor area of all accessory structures from the maximum 20 sq m to permit a floor area of 45.6 sq m.

To accommodate a proposed accessory structure (cabana).

Owner(s): Dan Dykas, **Agent:** Alana + Kelly Design, Alana Nielsen

The Town Planner referenced received objections from 48, 49 and 50 Barraclough Boulevard regarding size/location of cabana, washroom, plumbing, inspections, visual impact, infiltration gallery, grading and drainage. The Town Planner responded that the proposal is consistent with previous relief granted on Barraclough, cabana meets all setbacks, washrooms and plumbing are not part of the Minor Variance application, revised proposal has reduced visual impact, the infiltration gallery is not intended to accept stormwater from patios or paved areas, the stormwater master plan is a high-level study which would not look at the construction of a cabana, and that the proposal meets the 4 tests. The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to condition. The agent was present to speak to the application.

Caterina Mikhael (50 Barraclough Boulevard) was present, and spoke against the application. Issues captured in Town Planner comments.

Sandra Marich (49 Barraclough Boulevard) was present, and spoke against the application. Issues captured in Town Planner comments.

Committee deliberations included: passionate pleas versus facts and data, estate lots (Barraclough subdivision) having the driveways and hardscaping already there to begin with, matters raised being outside of the Committee's jurisdiction, and the proposal meeting the 4 tests.

It was MOVED by Todd Jenney, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to condition.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.



COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MINUTES

Minutes of the Committee of Adjustment hearing held on **November 1, 2023**, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present: Todd Jenney (Chair), Jane Watson, Keith Medenblik, Jason Smith

Regrets: Lloyd Hillier

Staff Present: Greg Macdonald, Senior Planner
Ruth Conard, Planner
Josh Salisbury, Planner
Niloo Hodjati, Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment & Consent Official

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPLICATIONS HEARD

The order of the listed applications as shown on the agenda was altered to address attendance, and a deferral.

The Chair's comments about the procedure were as follows:

- Town staff would speak.
- Owner or agent would be given an opportunity to speak.
- Any members of the public would be given an opportunity to speak (owner or agent would have an opportunity to respond, if needed).
- The Committee would then deliberate, ask any questions, and make a decision.
- A decision would be subject to a 20-day appeal period.

d) Minor Variance D13VAR23.032H – Dykas

Location: 52 Barraclough Boulevard, Town of Halton Hills (Glen Williams), Regional Municipality of Halton

Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To increase the total floor area of all accessory structures from the maximum 20 sq m to permit a total floor area of 62.8 sq m.
2. To increase the height of an accessory structure from the maximum 4.5 m to permit a height of 5.2 m.

To accommodate a proposed cabana.

Owner(s): Dan Dykas, **Agent:** Alana + Kelly Design, Alana Nielsen

The Secretary-Treasurer stated that the owner/agent would like an opportunity to revise the proposal (public objections were received).

It was MOVED by Jane Watson, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the decision for the application be deferred.

c) Minor Variance D13VAR23.031H – Leyburne

Location: 5 Elizabeth Street, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown), Regional Municipality of Halton

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To reduce the minimum setback to the driveway in the front yard (that crosses the exterior side lot line), from the minimum 6 m to permit a setback of 2.69 m to the front lot line (Ewing Street).

To accommodate additional parking for a proposed accessory dwelling unit.

Owner(s): Troy Leyburne

The Town Planner referenced an objection from 9 Hewson Crescent regarding tree removal; responded that the Town does not have a tree-cutting by-law, and noted no staff objections to approval, subject to condition. The owner was present to speak to the application, and stated that he had no intention of cutting trees down.

It was MOVED by Keith Medenblik, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to condition.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

e) Minor Variance D13VAR23.033H – Canadian Tire

Location: 315 Guelph Street, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown), Regional Municipality of Halton

Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To reduce the minimum parking spaces from the required 592 to permit 439 parking spaces.

To accommodate a proposed expansion to the existing retail use.

Owner(s): Canadian Property Holdings (Ontario) Inc., Peter Brown, **Agent:** Zelinka Priamo Ltd., Jonathan Rodger

The Town Planner verbally amended the report by stating that condition 2 was no longer required as the parking information was sufficient to address concerns; referenced the previous decision, and noted no staff objections to approval, subject to condition. The agent (Connor Wright) was present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Jason Smith, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to condition.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

b) Minor Variance D13VAR23.030H – 1000187682 Ontario Inc.

Location: 504 Guelph Street, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown), Regional Municipality of Halton

Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To permit the encroachment of stairs accessing a basement, 1.98 m from the interior side lot line, whereas the By-law does not permit stairs to encroach into the 4.5 m side yard setback.

To accommodate proposed stairs accessing the basement.

Owner(s): Bhupinder Sidhu, **Agent:** Peter Vozikas

The Town Planner referenced received objections from 498 Guelph Street, 5 York Lane, 401 Draper Street, and 8 Green Street, regarding matters which included flooding, and basement entrance; responded that the proposal meets the tests, and that the Credit Valley Conservation and Halton Region had no objections. The Town Planner also referenced received submissions in support of the proposal from 500 and 506 Guelph Street, and noted no staff objections to approval, subject to conditions. The owner and agent were present to speak to the application.

It was MOVED by Todd Jenney, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the application be approved, subject to conditions.

The Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

a) Consent D10CON23.004H – Panchuk & Minor Variance D13VAR23.020H – Panchuk

Location: 100 Confederation Street, Town of Halton Hills (Glen Williams), Regional Municipality of Halton

Consent Purpose: Proposed **new lot**, and proposed **daylight triangle** (related to the Glen Williams Estates proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision, File No. D12SUB20.001). The parcels are shown on the sketch of the subject lands as **Parcel A ± 0.10 ha, and Parcel C ± 0.01 ha** prepared by Van Harten Surveying Inc., date stamped as received by the Committee of Adjustment on September 26, 2023.

Minor Variance Purpose: Requesting relief from Zoning By-law 2010-0050, as amended,

1. To reduce the lot frontage from the minimum 30 m to permit a lot frontage of 23.3 m (severed lot).
2. To reduce the lot area from the minimum 0.2 hectares to permit 0.1 hectares (severed lot).
3. To permit an existing garage and a barn on a lot prior to the erection of the main building (retained lot).
4. To increase the height of an accessory structure from the maximum 4.5 m to permit a height of 6.86 m (existing garage).

5. To increase the floor area of an accessory structure from the maximum 40 sq m to permit a floor area of 158 sq m (existing garage - proposed new roof and cladding).
6. To increase the total floor area of all accessory structures from the maximum 60 sq m to permit a total floor area of 360 sq m.
7. To permit the accessory structure to be located closer to the front lot line (2.7 m) than the future dwelling to the front lot line (existing garage - retained lot).

To accommodate a proposed new lot, alterations to existing garage, and improved access to future subdivision (related to Draft Plan of Subdivision, File No. D12SUB20.001).

Legal Description: PT LT 21, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 607981; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING

Owner(s): Neal & Ivana Panchuk, **Agent:** Wellings Planning Consultants Inc., Glenn Wellings

The Town Planner discussed the proposal and verbally amended the report by stating that the conditions were updated to add clarity, but that the intent remains the exact same. The Town Planner also referenced received objections (from 11 Mountain Street, 92, 118, & 144 Confederation Street, and the Glen Williams Community Association) regarding matters that included taxes being used, and the proposal being premature; responded that no taxpayer money is involved with the daylight triangle, and the proposal is not premature as a settlement is before the Ontario Land Tribunal. The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to conditions.

The owners, their lawyer, and the agent were present to speak to the application. The agent discussed the proposal, and stated that the preference would be to have the Committee's decisions prior to the Ontario Land Tribunal's decision. The owner's lawyer (Bert Arnold) stated that matters are being coordinated, a decision is needed from both the Committee and the Ontario Land Tribunal, and the imposed conditions will address any outstanding matters.

It was MOVED by Jane Watson, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the applications be approved, subject to conditions.

For the Minor Variance, the Committee considered the requested variance(s) to:

1. Meet the intent and purpose of the Official Plan.
2. Meet the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.
3. Be desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building or structure.
4. Be minor in nature.

For the Consent, the Committee considered:

- The matters set out under Section 51 (24) of the *Planning Act*, 1990, as amended.
- The proposal to conform to the Regional Official Plan.
- The proposal to conform to the Local Official Plan.

Note: submissions in support received from 98 and 104 Confederation Street.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

DOWNTOWN ACTON BIA
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING - Minutes

Wednesday October 18, 2023, 6:30pm
In-Person (BIA Office) Meeting / Zoom

AGENDA

1. Chairperson's Welcome

2. Call to Order: Monica Galway (Profiles Hair), Chairperson, called meeting to order at 6:31pm.

Attendance

Present: Monica Parker-Galway, Chris Cambouris, Nicole Walker, Mike Albano (Zoom), Norman Paulsen, Patricia Daleman (Zoom), Matthew Galliford

Regrets: SangWon Bak – Leave of Absence

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: None

4. Adoption of Minutes: Motion to adopt September 2023 Minutes.

First: Nicole Walker (Acton Optical)

Second: Chris Cambouris (Titan Tek Biz)

All in favour. YES - Motion Carried

5. Approval of Agenda: Motion: Approval of October 18, 2023, Meeting Agenda.

First: Chris Cambouris (Titan Tek Biz)

Second: Mike Albano (Councillor)

All in favor. YES - Motion Carried

6. Coordinator's Report: Matthew Galliford

Please see BIA Coordinator's Report - Attached after formal minutes: ATTACHMENT #1

Events:

-Trick or Treat / Zombie Walk & other October 28th events

- Narcan Training Session November 8th 2023 6:00pm - Acton Town Hall Centre Willow Room

Beautification:

- Legion Remembrance Banners - being installed Downtown Acton on Wednesday October 25 2023 by Halton Hills Electrical – instal paid for by the 197 Acton Legion.
- Christmas Holiday Décor Update: the 30 lights were picked up in Saint Catharines on Wednesday October 11 2023 by Matthew Galliford (BIA Coordinator)/ Lorie Cunningham (Volunteer). A couple extras were included t no cost. Now in storage.

7. Plans for AGM on Wednesday November 15th 2023 6:30pm

- Year to date review of BIA Activities and Initiatives. Share Plans for the future (Strategic Plan Items) Power Point presentation.
- 2022 Audit and 2023 Budget presentation
- Reveal the new holiday decorations and share the plan for various light displays around Downtown.
- Introduce the Shop Window Tree Decorating initiative and offer artificial trees to all BIA Members (in stock)
-

8. Other Business: BIA Communications

- Matthew Galliford (BIA Coordinator) proposes to find a way to get the BIA and all of the other community groups to

form a communication system so we all know what each other are doing and can potentially support each other and perhaps join the events to qualify for funding opportunities.

-Directors Insurance: We have been advised to obtain Directors Insurance to protect our Board and Organization. Matthew will contact Desjardins Insurance for a quote. - PENDING RESPONSE FROM LINDSAY AT PAUL ARMSTRONG INSURANCE BROKERAGE.

9. Budget Review and Vote: Presented by Patricia Daleman.

- The proposed budget required some reallocation of spending to achieve balance.
- Mike Albano agreed to follow up with the Town of Halton Hills to see if we are still paying the Town for parking lot snow removal. If not, this puts \$5000.00 back into our budget.

A two-part motion was made by Monica Galway (Chairperson)

Part 1) Motion to accept the Budget as balanced with a requested 5% tax levy increase.

Part 2) WITH THE PROVISION: of lowering the requested tax levy increase to 3% IF we are no longer paying the Town of Halton Hills for the parking lot snow removal.

Motion Part 1) First: Nicole Walker (Acton Optical) Second: Norman Paulsen (Acton Motors)

Motion Part 2) First: Mike Albano (Councillor) Second: Nicole Walker (Acton Optical)

All In Favor of both parts of the Motion(s): YES - Motion(s) carried.

10. Strategic Plan

Chris Cambouris (Vice-Chairperson) has proposed a 3 Year Strategic Plan format. It will be decided if this to become a sub-committee. Each Strategic Plan item will have sections of criteria:

- 1) Identify the project and set a timeline for action.
- 2) Identify the Processes and Procedures required by the Town / Region that need to be followed to achieve the goal of the set project.
- 3) Costs and Funding and Partnership Opportunities – How will this project be paid for?
- 4) 4) Once the project meets the above criteria has been met, set a timeline for completion.

11. Motion to adjourn: 7:31pm – Monica Galway (Chairperson)

1st: Nicole Walker (Acton Optical) 2nd: Norman Paulsen (Acton Motors)

All In Favor: Yes - Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday November 15 at 6:30pm – Town Hall Centre – **AGM**

Wednesday December 13 at 6:30pm – Meeting and Holiday Dinner (Red Harp – Acton)

Coordinators Report October 18th 2023
BIA Board Budget Planning Meeting

Beautification: See Above Comments

Events: The Trick or Treat (GHOST WALK) on Mill and Main Streets and Zombie Walk both on October 28th both have Facility Rental Agreements sponsored by Community Development at the Town of Halton Hills and both events have permits. Social media promotion is underway, and the list of participating businesses will be published within the next week.

Business:

I am continuing to look into changing our communications package from Cogeco to another mobile provider. Many mobile phone packages are offered at \$45 +/- month. We are spending about \$150/ month with Cogeco for internet and land line phone.

WSIB has been filed and paid for last quarter.

Community Partnership Program reports have been filed with the Community Development office at the Town of Halton Hills for the Canada Day Event and Leathertown Festival. Reports for the Acton Outdoor Market and Halloween Events will be filed in early November.

Halton Hills Electrical will be removing the Legion Banners and Canada Flags to install the Holiday Lights on or around November 16th.

I will be updating our Downtown Acton Website, Social Media platforms and contacts list. We have a lot of old, outdated and unused social media pages and accounts that will be deleted and redirected to our website.



AORS
PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE. PURSUING EXCELLENCE.

December 8, 2023

Town of Halton Hills
Attn: Mayor Ann Lawlor
1 Halton Hills Drive
Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2

Attention: Mayor Ann Lawlor and Council

Re: David Shirreffs Assoc. R.S.

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS), I would like to congratulate your employee, **David Shirreffs** for their recent **Associate Road Supervisor** certification. As well, thank you for supporting your employee and we encourage you to publicly acknowledge this achievement.

AORS has been serving public works professionals since 1961. In 1996 AORS was granted – by Provincial Legislation – the exclusive right to use the designation ‘Certified Road Supervisor’ (CRS). The four levels of Certification – Associate, CRS, Intermediate and Senior – have mandatory experience and education criteria established by the AORS Education Committee and Certification Board. Certified individuals may publicize their credential by using initials after their names and we would certainly encourage your employee to do so.

Certification is important for your Municipality because it increases corporate ‘professionalism’, accountability and morale. Certified Road Supervisors use their broad base of knowledge to make confident decisions and therefore serve Council and public more effectively.

AORS is committed to the training and development of experienced, reliable and efficient personnel for the construction and maintenance of public roads in rural and urban municipalities across Ontario.

Thank you again for supporting AORS and for helping us meet our objectives.

Yours truly,

John Maheu, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.
Executive Director

cc. David Shirreffs Assoc. R.S.

268 Maiden Lane, Suite 206, P.O. Box 2669, St. Marys, ON N4X 1A4
Tel: 226.661.2002 • Fax: 226.661.2003 • admin@aors.on.ca • www.aors.on.ca



January, 11 2024

In This Issue

- AMO has moved!
- Survey: Help advance Ontario's modular housing sector.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- ROMA Conference 2024: Pre-register by January 15.
- AMO Education 2024.
- Come to the City of Orillia for the 2024 OSUM Conference and Trade Show.
- Blog: Three Strategies to Streamline Ontario Municipal FOI Programs.
- Free webinar - Check out the latest version of RETScreen Expert!
- Helpful condo living tips for Ontario residents.
- Data standards for planning and development applications.
- IESO Procurement #2 - Feedback on proposed process.
- Register for IESO's energy webinars.
- Future of Aging Summit in May 2024.
- Careers: AMO, The Nation Municipality and City of Peterborough.

AMO Matters

AMO's new address:

*Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave, Suite 800
Toronto, ON, M5H 3B7*

Telephone and fax remain the same. Please amend your records with our new address.

Provincial Matters

The province is conducting a [survey](#) to shape the development of a modular housing strategy. Share your insights on barriers and opportunities for modular and innovative home construction by Feb 4, 2024.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (up to \$50,000). Visit their [website](#) for information and [webinar dates](#).

Education Opportunities

There is still time to register for the ROMA 2024 Conference! [View the program](#) and [register](#) before January 15th. On-site registration rates will apply as of Sunday, January 16.

AMO has developed a number of new educational opportunities for its members to continue to learn and advance your leadership skills and understanding of critical matters as municipally elected officials. You can see everything available to you in AMO Education [here](#).

Mark May 1 - 3 in your calendar for the OSUM 2024 Conference in Orillia. Check back [here](#) for more

information soon.

LAS

As a municipal leader, you may have noticed that your front-line Freedom of Information staff are working harder than ever. This week's [blog](#) suggests ways to ease the process while staying on budget.

Thinking of a low carbon retrofit but need a software to model your project? [RETScreen International](#) and LAS are offering a free municipal-focused webinar to showcase the latest version of RETScreen Expert. Space is limited so be sure to [register today](#). Attendees will receive a free 14-day RETScreen trial license.

Municipal Wire*

The Condominium Authority of Ontario's [2024 Winter Information Kit](#) offers useful and shareable tips to help Ontario condo residents navigate the ins and out of condo living this season.

The Digital Governance Standards Institute has opened public review on [terminology](#) and planning application [data fields](#) that establishes consistency in data requirements for planning and development applications in Ontario.

IESO is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed next round of procurements for energy projects including requirements for municipal support prior to applications being submitted.

The Independent Electricity System Operator will host [two webinars on January 15 & 17, 2024](#) for municipalities and Indigenous communities to learn about Ontario's energy transition and new initiatives underway.

The Future of Aging Summit in Toronto from May 15-17, 2024 will bring together policymakers and others focused on building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and register at [agingsummit.ca](#).

Careers

[Policy Intern - AMO](#). Closing Date: January 22, 2024

[Chief Administrative Officer - The Nation Municipality](#). Closing Date: January 26, 2024

[Program Manager, Facilities Preventive Maintenance - City of Peterborough](#). Closing Date: January 17, 2024

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

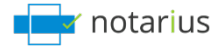
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)





January, 04 2024

In This Issue

- AMO has moved!
- New Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund.
- Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications.
- IESO Procurement #2 – Feedback on Proposed Process.
- Register for the IESO's Energy Webinars
- Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.
- Public Safety Personnel Mental Health Support.
- Applications Open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- ROMA Conference 2024: Pre-Register by January 15.
- AMO Hotel Release – Tuesday, January 9 at 10am.
- Free webinar – Check out the latest version of RETScreen Expert!
- Future of Aging Summit in May 2024.
- Careers: AMO, County of Frontenac and City of Thunder Bay.

AMO Matters

AMO's new address:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave, Suite 800
Toronto, ON, M5H 3B7

Telephone and fax remain the same. Please amend your records with our new address.

Provincial Matters

[Ontario's Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund](#) allows municipalities to nominate water infrastructure projects for funding (up to \$35 million). Applications and information webinars start early 2024. For details, e-mail HEWS@ontario.ca.

The Digital Governance Standards Institute has opened public review on [terminology](#) and planning application [data fields](#) that establishes consistency in data requirements for planning and development applications in Ontario.

IESO is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed next round of procurements for energy projects including requirements for municipal support prior to applications being submitted.

The Independent Electricity System Operator will host [two webinars on January 15 & 17, 2024](#) for municipalities and Indigenous communities to learn about Ontario's energy transition and new initiatives underway.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed renewal of the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

[PSPNET](#) offers free online cognitive behavior therapy for Canadian public safety personnel (PSP) dealing with mood, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress. They provide therapist-guided and self-guided courses.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (up to \$50,000). Visit their [website](#) for information and [webinar dates](#).

Education Opportunities

There is still time to register for the ROMA 2024 Conference! [View the program](#) and [register](#) before January 15th. On-site registration rates will apply as of January 16.

Do not miss the opportunity to book your hotel of choice for AMO 2024 in Ottawa. Hotel bookings open 10am sharp on Tuesday, January 9. We encourage you to book online [here](#).

LAS

Thinking of a low carbon retrofit but need a software to model your project? [RETScreen International](#) and LAS are offering a free municipal-focused webinar to showcase the latest version of RETScreen Expert. Space is limited so be sure to [register today](#). Attendees will receive a free 14-day RETScreen trial license.

Municipal Wire*

The Future of Aging Summit in Toronto from May 15-17, 2024 will bring together policymakers and others focused on building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and register at [agingsummit.ca](#).

Careers

[Policy Intern - AMO](#). Closing Date: January 22, 2024

[Chief Administrative Officer - County of Frontenac](#). Closing Date: January 22, 2024

[Manager, Capital Facility Construction - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: January 21, 2024

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

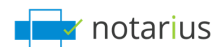
[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)



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

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

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

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



December, 21 2023

***Everyone at AMO wishes you, your friends and family,
and your community a happy and safe holiday season!***

In This Issue

- AMO has moved!
- AMO office closure during the holidays.
- Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.
- Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- ROMA Conference 2024: Programming update.
- Free asset management webinar series.
- Happy holidays from the LAS team.
- IESO Procurement #2 - Feedback on proposed process.
- Public safety personnel mental health support.
- Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May.
- Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology.
- Careers: AMO, Midland, Orillia, Halton and Thunder Bay.

AMO Matters

AMO's new address:

*Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave, Suite 800
Toronto, ON, M5H 3B7*

Telephone and fax remain the same. Please amend your records with our new address.

The AMO office will be closed December 25 through January 1, 2024 and will re-open on January 2. The next issue of the Watchfile will be on January 4, 2024.

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed renewal of the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

The Ontario Fire Marshal is conducting an [online survey](#) for volunteer firefighters and fire chiefs to inform their understanding on recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) (up to \$50,000). Visit their website for [webinars for potential applicants](#).

Education Opportunities

One month until the ROMA 2024 Conference! Take a look at the full slate of concurrent sessions available. [View the program](#) and [register today](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

experiences that AMO and Asset Management Ontario have learned working with nearly 100 municipalities in partnership with FCM's [Municipal Asset Management Program](#). The first webinar is on [Asset Hierarchy and Data Gaps](#) on January 18, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. EST. Click [here](#) for more details.

LAS

From [all the staff at LAS](#), we want to wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday season and a safe and joyous new year. Thanks for all your support this past year - we look forward to [serving you](#) in 2024!

Municipal Wire*

IESO is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed next round of procurements for energy projects including requirements for municipal support prior to applications being submitted.

[PSPNET](#) offers free online cognitive behavior therapy for Canadian public safety personnel (PSP) dealing with mood, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress. They provide therapist-guided and self-guided courses.

The [Future of Aging Summit](#) in Toronto, May 15 - 17, 2024, will bring together policymakers, researchers, designers, planners, advocates, and others focused on supporting healthy aging, ending ageism and building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and get early bird pricing when you [register](#) by December 31.

The Digital Governance Standards Institute has opened public review on [terminology](#) that will be used to establish consistency in data requirements for planning and development applications in Ontario.

Careers

[Policy Intern - AMO](#). Closing Date: January 22, 2024

[Executive Director, Digital Government & Service Innovation - Town of Midland](#). Closing Date: January 2, 2024.

[Senior Financial Planning Analyst - City of Orillia](#). Closing Date: January 12, 2024

[Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health - Halton Region](#). Closing Date: January 15, 2024.

[Manager, Corporate Financial Services - City of Thunder Bay](#). Closing Date: January 21, 2024.

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

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

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

To unsubscribe, please [Opt Out](#)

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

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



December, 14 2023

In This Issue

- AMO is moving!
- Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.
- Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- ROMA Conference 2024: Programming update.
- Free asset management webinar series.
- Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May.
- Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology.
- Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Effective January 2, 2024, AMO is moving to a new location:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Telephone and fax remain the same. Please amend your records with our new address.

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed renewal of the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

The Ontario Fire Marshal is conducting an [online survey](#) for volunteer firefighters and fire chiefs to inform their understanding on recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) (up to \$50,000). Visit their website for [webinars for potential applicants](#).

Education Opportunities

With just over a month until the ROMA 2024 Conference, the full slate of concurrent sessions is available. [View the program](#) and [register today](#).

The [webinar series](#) will unravel the intricacies of infrastructure asset management

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

working with nearly 100 municipalities in partnership with FCM's [Municipal Asset Management Program](#). The first webinar is on [Asset Hierarchy and Data Gaps](#) on January 18, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. EST. Click [here](#) for more details.

Municipal Wire*

The [Future of Aging Summit](#) in Toronto, May 15 - 17, 2024, will bring together policymakers, researchers, designers, planners, advocates, and others focused on supporting healthy aging, ending ageism and building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and get early bird pricing when you [register](#) by December 31.

The Digital Governance Standards Institute has opened public review on [terminology](#) that will be used to establish consistency in data requirements for planning and development applications in Ontario.

[Fleming College](#) is seeking municipal environmental land-use planning and management projects to be implemented by students in the [Environmental Land Management](#) program. Contact [Emily Markovic](#) to discuss partnership opportunities.

Careers

[Director of Finance/Treasurer - Municipality of North Grenville](#). Deadline: December 22, 2023.

[Traffic Engineer - City of Markham](#). Deadline: January 14, 2024.

[Administrative Monetary Penalty System \(AMPs\) Business Analyst / Policy Advisor - City of Markham](#). Deadline: January 7, 2024.

[Chief Administrative Officer - Town of Erin](#). Deadline: January 10th, 2024.

[Executive Director, Digital Government & Service Innovation - Town of Midland](#). Deadline: January 2, 2024.

[Director, Seniors Services - Municipality of Chatham-Kent](#). Deadline: December 21, 2023.

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

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

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

To unsubscribe, please [Opt Out](#)

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

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



December 7, 2023

In This Issue

- AMO is moving!
- Webinar on public health mergers.
- Help promote Canada's 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis line.
- Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.
- Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention.
- Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
- ROMA 2024 Conference: *Closer to Home* programming updates.
- Save the date: OSUM 2024 Conference.
- Don't get left in the dark!
- Municipal climate internship recruitment.
- Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May.
- Must attend: ORFA's Outdoor Ice Symposium.
- Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology.
- Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects.
- Careers: North Huron and Aurora.

AMO Matters

Effective January 2, 2024, AMO is moving to a new location:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Telephone and fax remain the same. Please amend your records with our new address.

On December 13, AMO and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies are hosting a webinar on voluntary mergers with Ministry of Health staff. See our [webpage](#) for additional information.

Guest Column

Last Thursday, Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health launched the [9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline](#). 9-8-8 provides lifesaving mental health support via phone or text. Help spread the word about 9-8-8 with this [social media toolkit](#)

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is [seeking feedback](#) on the proposed renewal of the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

The Ontario Fire Marshal is conducting an [online survey](#) for volunteer firefighters and fire chiefs to inform their understanding on recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters.

Federal Matters

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Planning and Design Projects Stream of the [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) (up to \$50,000). Visit their website for [webinars for potential applicants](#).

Education Opportunities

The ROMA 2024 Conference program will address important issues facing rural municipalities in Ontario, including housing, economic development, responding to gender based violence, and risk management. [View the program](#) outline including a full list of topics and [register today](#).

Mark April 30 - May 2 in your calendar for the OSUM 2024 Conference in Orillia. Check back [here](#) as details are confirmed.

LAS

Countries around the world, including Canada, are looking to phase out fluorescent and other mercury containing lights. Don't get left in the dark - consider the [LAS Facility Lighting Service](#) for environmentally-friendly, efficient LED upgrades. [Contact Christian Tham](#) to find out more and get started today.

Municipal Wire*

Environmental Leadership Canada is recruiting environmental leaders (aged 18-30) for a Municipal Climate Internship in eastern Ontario with Lanark, Frontenac, and Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry. [Applications are due December 12, 2023](#).

The [Future of Aging Summit](#) in Toronto, May 15 - 17, 2024, will bring together policymakers, researchers, designers, planners, advocates, and others focused on supporting healthy aging, ending ageism and building age-friendly societies. See the speaker lineup and get early bird pricing when you [register](#) by December 31.

ORFA's [Outdoor Ice Symposium](#) is a two-day event (January 23-24, 2024) focused on the opportunities and challenges of offering outdoor ice-skating experiences for communities. [Register](#) to join them in-person at The Bentway, Toronto or connect virtually!

The Digital Governance Standards Institute has opened public review on [terminology](#) that will be used to establish consistency in data requirements for planning and development applications in Ontario.

[Fleming College](#) is seeking municipal environmental land-use planning and management projects to be implemented by students in the [Environmental Land Management](#) program. Contact [Emily Markovic](#) to discuss partnership opportunities.

Careers

[Director of Recreation & Children's Services - Township of North Huron](#). Closing date: December 20.

[Associate Solicitor - Town of Aurora](#). Closing Date: January 5, 2024.

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow

[@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)

AMO's Partners



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



Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6
To unsubscribe, please [click here](#)



TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,

Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

December 19, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of December 12, 2023
Motion 10.1 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on December 12, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and**

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:**
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and**
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and**
 - c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and**
 - d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.**

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

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi
Deputy Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

JG/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, MPP
Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to

develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and

- c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and
 - d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.

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

Carried (7 to 0)



December 19, 2023

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Delivered by email
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of December 12, 2023
Motion 10.3 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Community Safety and Inciteful Speech

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on December 12, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas there has been an escalation in terrorist activity and unrest around the world that has triggered homeland rallies and advocacy that supports inciteful actions, which are causing uncertainty and unsafe feelings in our own country; and

Whereas inciteful speech is knowingly being utilized to create division, manipulation and spread misinformation, which could be defined as violent extremist propaganda and encouraging violent crimes; and

Whereas any loss of innocent civilian life is unacceptable and tragic; and

Whereas other local municipal councils and residents in Aurora have expressed concerns of uncertainty and safety who are asking for peace, protection and security; and

Whereas law exists to help maintain public safety, security, peace and order in society, and in Canada, where the responsibility for criminal justice is shared between the Federal, Provincial and territorial governments; and

Whereas it is important to protect our general freedoms of speech, while respecting the principles to protect and respect human rights, whether in

person or in a free, open and secure internet, and to ensure transparency and accountability;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledges that residents in the community have expressed feelings of uncertainty and safety concerns, due to the recent global unrest, and condemns all acts of terror and violence resulting in loss of life or injury; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on all levels of government to acknowledge this uncertainty and safety concerns in Canada and look to strengthening their available tools to deny inciteful speech that encourages violent extremists the ability to publicly manipulate, advocate, and incite violence or physical harm to another human being, whether it be online or in person; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That Council encourages our community and diverse local leaders of faith to bring the community together to promote peace, healing and understanding during this difficult time; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to both the Federal and Provincial government and all municipalities in Ontario.**

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

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi
Deputy Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

JG/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.3 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Community Safety and Inciteful Speech

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas there has been an escalation in terrorist activity and unrest around the world that has triggered homeland rallies and advocacy that supports inciteful actions, which are causing uncertainty and unsafe feelings in our own country; and

Whereas inciteful speech is knowingly being utilized to create division, manipulation and spread misinformation, which could be defined as violent extremist propaganda and encouraging violent crimes; and

Whereas any loss of innocent civilian life is unacceptable and tragic; and

Whereas other local municipal councils and residents in Aurora have expressed concerns of uncertainty and safety who are asking for peace, protection and security; and

Whereas law exists to help maintain public safety, security, peace and order in society, and in Canada, where the responsibility for criminal justice is shared between the Federal, Provincial and territorial governments; and

Whereas it is important to protect our general freedoms of speech, while respecting the principles to protect and respect human rights, whether in person or in a free, open and secure internet, and to ensure transparency and accountability;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledges that residents in the community have expressed feelings of uncertainty and safety concerns, due to the recent global unrest, and condemns all acts of terror and violence resulting in loss of life or injury; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on all levels of government to acknowledge this uncertainty and safety concerns in Canada and look to strengthening their available tools to deny inciteful

speech that encourages violent extremists the ability to publicly manipulate, advocate, and incite violence or physical harm to another human being, whether it be online or in person; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That Council encourages our community and diverse local leaders of faith to bring the community together to promote peace, healing and understanding during this difficult time; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to both the Federal and Provincial government and all municipalities in Ontario.

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

Carried (7 to 0)

December 22, 2023

Sent via E-mail
david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

David Piccini, MPP
Northumberland-Peterborough South
117 Peter St
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5

Re: Rising Municipal Insurance Costs

Dear MPP Piccini,

At its regular meeting held December 12, 2023, the Council of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood considered the above-noted matter and passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are experiencing higher insurance rates at each renewal with limited access to insurance providers willing to quote on municipal insurance needs;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Asphodel-Norwood's annual insurance premiums have increased from \$150,280 to \$299,729 from 2020 to 2024, representing an accumulated increase of 99.5% over this period;

AND WHEREAS these annual increases are unsustainable and divert funds from critical municipal services as one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood directs staff to send a letter to the MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South calling for action to reduce insurance costs;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all Ontario Municipalities for support.

Trusting you will find the foregoing satisfactory, but please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Melanie Hudson, Acting Clerk
Township of Asphodel-Norwood

-2-

Cc: Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

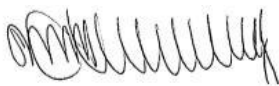
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO



Premier Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd A. Smith
Minister of Energy, Ontario
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL

December 1st, 2023

Re: Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Calandra, and Minister Smith,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolutions from the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus regarding Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold.

Motion 14 Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues
Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren
That Council support item 'S' Strong Mayor Powers & 'T' Leave to Construct Threshold from the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus
Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing – Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org
All Ontario Municipalities



October 24, 2023

Premier R. Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

and

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Send electronically via email
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra

Please be advised at the regular meeting of the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus held on October 13, 2023, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by M. Ryan, seconded by B. Milne:

THAT item of correspondence 7-1(b) be received; and

WHEREAS the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus Inc. (WOWC) is a not-for-profit organization representing 15 upper and single tier municipalities in Southwestern Ontario with more than one and a half million residents;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of WOWC is to enhance the prosperity and overall wellbeing of rural and small urban communities across the region;

AND WHEREAS the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 18, for select municipalities, transfers legislative responsibility from the deliberative body of the Council to the Head of Council;

AND WHEREAS the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 24 provides for provincially appointed facilitators to assess the regional governments to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between the upper and lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Building Faster Fund arbitrarily ties housing supportive funding to municipalities that establish a housing target based solely on population size;

AND WHEREAS "responsible and accountable governments with respect to matters within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario requires sustained, strategic, and focused efforts from all levels of government, informed from the expertise of all levels of government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WOWC calls on the provincial government to work with municipalities in Ontario, as a responsible and accountable level of government, to focus all efforts on tackling the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario by:

Revoking existing 'strong mayor powers' and not implementing legislation that transfers legislative responsibility from the body of Council to the Head of Council.

Respecting spheres of jurisdiction, recognizing that municipalities are best positioned to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between upper and lower-tier municipalities and only conduct structural and service delivery reviews of municipalities or regions where a majority of municipalities included within the region, request the same.

Recognizing rural and small urban municipalities are critical to overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario and not allocating the majority of scarce provincial housing supportive funding to a limited subset of large urban municipalities in Ontario.

AND THAT WOWC calls upon the provincial government to provide all municipalities with the financial resources to tackle the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario that is pricing too many people, especially young families and newcomers, out of home ownership, while amplifying socio-economic disparities and reliance on municipally provided human services;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for support so that the future governance of our communities is in the hands of its constituents;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to: the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Premier of Ontario; WOWC Members; the EOWC, and all WOWC area MPs and MPPs. - **CARRIED**

Please contact Kate Burns Gallagher, Executive Director, Western Ontario Warden' Caucus, kate@wowc.ca should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus



cc.

Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing

Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org

Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org

WOWC MPPs

WOWC MPs

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus



October 24, 2023

The Honourable Todd A. Smith,
Minister of Energy, Ontario
Send electronically via email
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

Re: Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Minister Smith,

On October 13, 2023, the WOWC passed a resolution in favour of the Government of Ontario updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$20M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M.

Western Ontario has seen significant growth in the past decade with pressures to build out the gas pipeline network. Many municipalities in our region have lost major investment opportunities because of the delays in getting natural gas to development sites. Any person or company planning to construct hydrocarbon transmission facilities within Ontario, must apply to the OEB for authorization, if the projected cost to build the pipeline is over \$2 million, a threshold that was set in 1998.

Industry proposes updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$10M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M. Increasing the cost threshold to \$10M would closer align Ontario with other Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., in B.C., these thresholds are \$15M for electricity and \$20M for natural gas). The WOWC is recommending a \$20M threshold for our Province to be competitive with other Canadian jurisdictions.

Ontario's outdated regulations are causing the LTC to apply far more broadly than intended when it was established over 20 years ago. Due to increased regulatory and cost pressures, as well as inflation, virtually all gas pipeline projects are now greater than \$2M rendering the threshold meaningless. Roughly 0.5 KM pipe in urban settings now often exceed the \$2M threshold.

Examples of businesses lost in the region due to the regulation include;

- EV Battery Manufacturer, investment of \$1 Billion
- New Distillery
- 2 New Agricultural processing plants - \$140 million total investment
- New Agricultural plant - \$225 million USD investment

Modernizing these outdated regulations would reduce delays and costs for economic development initiatives including new industries seeking to locate in Ontario and create jobs (or existing seeking to expand), transit projects, community expansion projects, housing developments, connections for low carbon fuel blending (e.g. renewable natural gas, hydrogen) as well as residential and business customer connections.

The WOWC supports an increase in the Leave to Construct threshold to \$20M.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glen McNeil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

cc.

Western Ontario MPPs
WOWC Members
WOWC Local Municipalities



The County of Brant

David Bailey
MAYOR

December 21, 2023

Re: County of Brant Resolution – Gender-based Violence and Intimate-partner Violence

I am writing on behalf of the County of Brant council to request that your municipality declare a gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic across Canada, as seen in the attached County of Brant resolution which was passed at the County of Brant Council meeting of November 28, 2023.

Sincerely,

David Bailey
Mayor
County of Brant

Encl. County of Brant Resolution – Gender-based Violence and Intimate-partner Violence

DAVID BAILEY, MAYOR • 26 Park Avenue • P.O. Box 160 • Burford, ON • NoE 1A0
T: 519.449.2451 • TF: 1.888.250.2295 • F: 519.449.2454 • david.bailey@brant.ca • www.brant.ca

November 28, 2023

Re: County of Brant Resolution – November 28, 2023

At the meeting of November 28, 2023, the Council of the County of Brant adopted the following:

WHEREAS more than 72 municipalities and regions including the Cities of Toronto, Ottawa, Burlington, Windsor, London, Woodstock and most recently, Brantford, along with Peel, Durham and Halton Regions, Norfolk County, Haldimand County, and, of course, Renfrew County, across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic; and

WHEREAS by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, The County of Brant can join the growing number of municipalities and regions in Canada in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic; and

WHEREAS the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and have not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace; and

WHEREAS In 2022, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (a division of Statistics Canada) issued a report to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women that highlighted the rural rate of reported intimate partner violence against women to be 598 per 100,000 population in Ontario, which compares to 378 per 100,000 population in urban locations; and

WHEREAS those experiencing gender-based and intimate partner violence in rural and farming communities, like those in the County of Brant, face unique risk factors such as isolation, lack of and/or barriers to service and support, strong traditions and community values around firearms, and a sense of responsibility for livestock and pets, which prevent women from seeking support and increase the risk of domestic violence and domestic homicide; and

WHEREAS The Brant OPP reported that, as of September 2023, year-to-date domestic disturbance calls have increased by 4.3%; and

County of Brant
26 Park Avenue P.O Box 160
Burford, ON N0E 1A0

T: 519.449.2451
TF: 1.888.250.2295
F: 519.449.2454

WHEREAS Nova Vita answered over 4,500 crisis and support calls in 2022, and in the same year, 648 women who were seeking safe shelter from family violence were turned away because the shelters were full and had no bed space to offer them. This number doesn't include their children; and

WHEREAS In Ontario last year, a woman was killed every week (52 femicides in 52 weeks) and, In Canada, a woman was killed every 2 days; and

WHEREAS 30% of women report having experienced a sexual assault since the age of 15, and 44% of women report having experienced some form of intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS Gender-Based Violence impacts individuals, families, and communities, and it also places a costly burden on the health, social, and justice systems. In 2009, it was estimated that IPV had an economic cost of \$7.4 billion annually and sexual violence a cost of \$4.8 billion annually; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario states that it will not declare gender-based and intimate partner violence an epidemic as the term epidemic refers to the spread of diseases; and

WHEREAS Merriam Webster defines disease as a condition of the living animal or of one of its parts that impairs normal functioning and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptoms; and

WHEREAS the numerous physical, psychological, and behavioral symptoms that are a consequence of gender-based and intimate partner violence reveal that it meets the definition of disease.

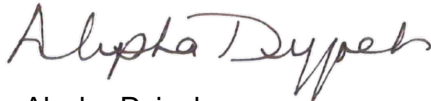
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT The County of Brant Council DECLARE Gender-based violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic in the County of Brant; and*
- B. THAT The County of Brant Council RECOMMEND that gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario; and*
- C. That The County of Brant Council REQUEST that Femicide be added as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada and state its position to the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General Canada, and the Prime Minister of Canada; and*
- D. THAT The County of Brant Council REQUEST that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all municipalities and regions in Ontario declare a gender-based and intimate partner violence epidemic across the country; and*
- E. THAT The County of Brant REQUEST the provincial and federal governments rightfully declare intimate partner and gender-based violence an epidemic and enact the additional 95 recommendations from the inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide; and*
- F. THAT The County of Brant REQUEST that the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions and their emergency and social*

services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence epidemic; and

- G. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to assess what would be required to complete a Community IPV Action Plan that includes items such as resources to address the local IPV epidemic, an awareness campaign, funding a dedicated rural outreach worker through Nova Vita, approaches to engaging with at-risk youth, and other opportunities for County of Brant Council to support, and bring a report back to council before the end of the year for possible inclusions to be considered for the 2024 budget; and*
- H. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to include within the plan the ways the County of Brant can ensure that all victims of intimate partner violence are included, regardless of gender, sex, identity, family status, social economic status, and other barriers to accessing traditional intimate partner violence support services.*
- I. THAT a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to the Brant County Health Unit, as well as the three MPs and three MPPs representing the County of Brant residents.*

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alysha Dyjach', written in a cursive style.

Alysha Dyjach
Director of Council Services, Clerk
County of Brant



PROCLAMATION
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
FEBRUARY 2024

WHEREAS Black History Month recognizes the contributions that People of African and Caribbean descent have made to Canada, shaping its identity;

AND WHEREAS Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario as of February 1993;

AND WHEREAS National recognition occurred on December 14th, 1995 when the House of Commons unanimously agreed to a motion to recognize February as Black History Month;

AND WHEREAS The United Nations proclaimed 2015-2024 the Decade for people of African Descent, an important step in the international community recognizing that people of African descent represent a distinct group whose human rights must be promoted and protected;

AND WHEREAS Black History Month in Canada is very important as it educates Canadians regarding slavery that once existed in Canada, and that many of the British Loyalists who came here after the American Revolution were Black;

AND WHEREAS Black History Month continues to provide residents of the Town of Halton Hills with the opportunity to learn, to share and to celebrate the important contributions and vital role that Canadians of African descent have made to strengthen the social, economic and cultural mosaic of our community, province, country and the world.

THEREFORE, I, Ann Lawlor, Mayor, of the Town of Halton Hills do hereby proclaim February 2024 as **Black History Month** in the Town of Halton Hills and encourage support for this proclamation.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ann Lawlor".

Ann Lawlor
Mayor, Town of Halton Hills