



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Bruce Morrison, Deputy Fire Chief

DATE: April 7, 2026

REPORT NO.: CES-2026-011

SUBJECT: Community Emergency Preparedness Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No.CES-2026-011, dated April 7, 2026, regarding the Ontario Community Emergency Preparedness Grant and New Capital Budget be received.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves a new 2026 capital project, Emergency Operations Centre (project 5500-10-2601) in the amount of \$30,427 and that the required funding be financed by the \$30,427.81 Ontario Community Emergency Preparedness Grant (CEPG) secured by the Town.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The Town successfully secured \$30,427.81 through the provincial CEPG program.
- Funding is designated for modernizing the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the Acton fire station with audio-visual conferencing, furnishings, and training.
- There is no impact on the 2026 capital budget as the project is 100% grant funded.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The Provincial Government earmarked \$110 million over three years to strengthen emergency preparedness across Ontario. In March 2026, the Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response announced that Halton Hills was among 115 recipients selected to receive funding to build local resiliency.

The grant proceeds will be used to enhance the Town's alternate EOC location at the Acton firehall. Specific acquisitions include:

- EOC Furnishings & Supplies: Portable tables and chairs to enable rapid setup in temporary locations.
- Audio-Visual Board: A dedicated conferencing solution to facilitate real-time coordination between emergency staff.
- Training: Incident management training and exercises to ensure staff readiness for diverse emergency scenarios.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report identifies a safe and welcoming community as one of the Town's Strategic priorities.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement was not needed as this report is administrative in nature.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Staff from the Fire Department, Finance, and IT divisions have been consulted to ensure technical specifications for the audio-visual and furniture requirements are met.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report has an immediate financial impact and requires a funding source.

As discussed, the Town has successfully secured the Ontario Community Emergency Preparedness Grant (CEPG). This grant, totaling \$30,427.81, aims to enhance the

Town's alternate EOC location at the Acton Fire Station. Staff is requesting approval for a new capital project, Emergency Operations Centre (project 5500-10-2601) be created with a total budget of \$30,427 and that the required funding be financed by the \$30,427.81 Community Emergency Preparedness Grant.

Reviewed and approved by,

Joseph Vandermeer, Treasurer

Martin Mills, Fire Chief & Director of Emergency Services

Jon Rehill, Commissioner of Corporate & Emergency Services

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer