

## **TOWN OF HALTON HILLS – GENERAL INFORMATION PACKAGE**

### **COUNCIL MEETING – May 6, 2024**

#### **ADVISORY/SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>COMMITTEE/BOARD</b>	<b>MEETING DATE</b>
3-4	Acton BIA	April 17, 2024
5-7	Heritage	April 17, 2024
8-10	Committee of Adjustment	April 3, 2024

#### **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
11-13	AMO – WatchFile (April 25, 2024)
14-17	AMO – WatchFile (April 18, 2024)
18-21	AMO – WatchFile (April 11, 2024)

#### **PASSED RESOLUTIONS**

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
22-36	HALTON REGION – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on March 20, 2024 regarding Permanent Homelessness Funding Increase Needed for Halton Region.
37-39	LOYALIST TOWNSHIP – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 23, 2024 regarding Accessible Ontario by 2025.
40-42	LOYALIST TOWNSHIP – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 23, 2024 regarding Housing Funding.
43-44	LOYALIST TOWNSHIP – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 23, 2024 regarding Public Health Ontario Labs.
45-48	MUNICIPALITY OF WAWA – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 16, 2024 regarding Support for Prince Edward County – Accessible Ontario by 2025.
49-57	MUNICIPALITY OF WEST PERTH – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 15, 2024 regarding Conservation Authorities Act.
58-59	CITY OF RICHMOND HILL – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 10, 2024 regarding Extension of the Deadline for Listed Non-Designated Heritage Properties.
60-61	CITY OF ST. CATHARINES – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 8, 2024 regarding Provincial Regulations Needed to Restrict Keeping of Non-native ("exotic") Wild Animals.

- 62-64 TOWN OF GRIMSBY – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on April 2, 2024 regarding Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons.
- 65-66 MUNICIPALITY OF ST. CHARLES – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on March 20, 2024 regarding Social and Economic Prosperity Review.
- 67-71 HALTON-HAMILTON SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE – Resolution passed at its meeting held on March 19, 2024 regarding Recommended Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing.
- 72-73 CITY OF KITCHENER – Resolution passed at its Council meeting held on March 19, 2024 regarding the Ontario Heritage Act.

## **DOWNTOWN ACTON BIA**

### **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MINUTES**

**Wednesday April 17, 2024 – 7:00pm**

**Location: Acton Optical – 80 Mill Street East, Acton ON**

Regrets in advance: Michael Albano (Councilor), Chris Cambouris (Vice-Chairperson)

In Attendance: Monica Galway (Chairperson), Nicole Walker (Acton Optical), Norman Paulsen (Acton Motors), Patricia Daleman (Grant Thornton LLC), Matthew Galliford (DABIA Coordinator)

1. Chair's Welcome
2. Call to Order – 7:23pm
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests - None
4. Adoption of March 2024 Minutes – 1<sup>st</sup>: Nicole Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Norm Paulsen, All in favor: Yes
5. Motion to Approve April 2024 Agenda – Norm Paulsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Patricia Daleman
6. Coordinator's Report – Matthew Galliford – See following.
  - Administrative update
  - Beautification / Graffiti update
  - Events and Festivals update
  - Complaints
7. Financial Report – Patricia Daleman – Balanced and satisfactory.
8. Audit Report – Patricia Daleman – KPMG has given a clean opinion.
9. New Business – New Signage Proposal – Matthew Galliford
  - Matthew has requested to have made, new tourism signage to advertise the Acton Outdoor Market and Leathertown Festival. Additionally, a request for a 2-sided metal sign to welcome and thank travelers for visiting the Downtown Acton BIA area.
  - Monica raised a motion to approve, pending artwork and layout approval by the Board, the purchase of: 1x Double Sided metal "Welcome / Thank you for Visiting" 24" x 36" at \$265.00 +tax AND 4x Double Sided coroplast signs to advertise the Acton Outdoor Market and Leathertown Festival dates. 32" x 48" at \$96.95 each (or \$69.95 each for single sided, qty TBD). The Sign Shoppe will be the provider.

\*Quotes were obtained from Sherwood Printing and The Sign Shoppe, Georgetown.

1<sup>st</sup>: Nicole Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Patricia Daleman, All in favor: Yes
10. Motion to Adjourn – 8:28pm

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday May 15, 2024 – 7:00pm

LOCATION: TBD due to Line Dancing at the Town Hall Centre

*Shop, Eat & Play Local – It's Worth the Drive!*

**DABIA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday April 17, 2024 – 7:00pm**  
**Acton Optical**

**Coordinators Report**

**Administrative update:**

-OBIAA Conference on Monday April 22, 2024, I will be attending, Blake our Co-op student will be off for the day unless directed otherwise as OBIAA will not allow his attendance as a shadow for the day.

-Year end financials and the annual Audit have come in. See the report from Patricia Daleman

**Beautification / Graffiti update:**

-Holiday Lights came down Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. We received a bill from Halton Hills Hydro for \$937.76. Matthew Roj of Town of Halton Hills is dealing with the payment.

-Flowers: I have forwarded Julie Speck at The Flower Shed a list and map of our floral requirements with some baskets removed from last year's list. I have requested that she let us know what is suggested for planting, baskets and maintenance to fit our actual budget. A meeting will be held soon in Acton as Julie is currently suffering from bronchitis. Norm and Nicole will be informed as soon as a meeting date can be arranged.

-The graffiti clean-up day was scheduled for Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>, unfortunately it was cancelled due to weather. The rain date is set for Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>, the forecast does not look good, and it may be rescheduled again. If there is optimal weather during the weekdays, Blake and I will start the process of painting over the graffiti starting with Pizza Hub and continuing. Gorilla Property Maintenance from Georgetown have offered us 4 hours of free labor, materials and equipment to professionally clean the Dollar Stretcher wall and any masonry work around town. Date TBD due to weather.

**Events and Festivals update:**

-Outdoor Market and Leathertown applications are still available online. We have had a good response for the Market, most of last years vendors have returned, there are new vendors signed on as well. I have started a partnership with Halton Community Legal Services and Halton Community Health Network to be a part of the Market this year. They will attend bi-weekly with their outreach programs.

The Leathertown Festival with over 60 vendors registered and paid for already. The music lineup is set with Monty Grieg and The Crew, PulseX, Smile & Wave and Wicked Truth. Sponsorship packages have started going out. I am in the process of securing street engagements and buskers. There is the potential to add a Monster Truck as a photo op. I am waiting to hear back from Peter Duncanson about his involvement with the car show this year.

-Our Easter Gold Egg hunt was very successful. We had a great turn out of entries for each of the 3 eggs, the winners were Karina Chuffart – Profile Hair Salon Certificate, Cathy Miles – Titan Tek Gift Card, Brooke Cass – Joe's Great Pizza Certificate sponsored by Acton Optical. Thank you to our generous sponsors: Profile Hair Salon, Titan Tek Biz and Acton Optical.

-The multi-holiday tree is down and in storage for the year. Thank you to Titan Tek Biz for donating it to the Downtown Acton BIA. We had a lot of happy comments and feedback about the tree being decorated for each event from Christmas to Easter.

**Complaints:**

-Our only complaints this month have been about the burned-out lot on Mill Street East. People are concerned by the contents of the rubble heap, potential air borne debris and contaminants and the safety of the temporary fencing surrounding the lot. When is this going to be dealt with is the main question asked of us. I have responded that the BIA has done all we can do at this time, and it is between the Town, the Region and the Landowner / Insurance company.

-End of report-





## **HERITAGE HALTON HILLS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee meeting held on Wednesday April 17, 2024, in the Esquesing Room at Town Hall, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON.

**Members Present:** Councillor C. Somerville, Chair, Councillor J. Racinsky, C. Donaldson, L. Quinlan, M. Rowe, R. Denny, A. Walker, T. Brown

**Staff Present:** L. Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning, B. Parker, Director of Planning Policy, L. Bateson, Senior Administrative and Heritage Planning Coordinator, R. Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor C. Somerville, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

### **2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or conflict of interest.

### **3. RECEIPT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **3.a Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2024.**

Recommendation No. HHH-2024-0019

THAT the Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

##### **4.a Research and Evaluation Report - 13 Frederick Street North, Acton (James MooreHouse)**

L. Loney provided an overview of the research and evaluation report. L. Loney noted that staff have not heard from the owners. The property located at 13 Frederick Street, North (Acton) meets 5 out of the 9 criteria for designation. It is a unique example of a late 19th century Victorian building with a jerkinhead roof. The property is associated with the Moore Family, James Moore and several doctors including Dr. Thomas and Elizabeth Gray, and Dr. Elford Nelson. This building serves to define and maintain the 19<sup>th</sup> century character of the area and it is in its original location. For all of these reasons staff recommend designation.

Recommendation No. HHH-2024-0020

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 13 Frederick Street North, Acton for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

##### **4.b Research and Evaluation Report - 91 Mill Street East, Acton (Arnold House)**

L. Loney provided an overview of the research and evaluation report. L. Loney noted that the owners have requested and are in support of designation. The property located at 91 Mill Street, East (Acton) meets 5 out of the 9 criteria for designation. It is a representative Edwardian building, and it is associated with the prominent Arnold family and Roy and Mary Arnold. It serves to define and maintain the 19<sup>th</sup> century character of the area and it is in its original location. For all of these reasons staff recommend designation.

Recommendation No. HHH-2024-0021

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 91 Mill Street East, Acton for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.c Research and Evaluation Report - 49 Eastern Avenue, Acton (Hide House)**

L. Loney provided an overview of the research and evaluation report. L. Loney noted that staff have not heard from the owners. The property located at 49 Eastern Avenue (Acton) meets 7 out of the 9 criteria for designation. It is a rare surviving late 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian industrial warehouse featuring a high degree of craftsmanship in the brickwork. The Hide House has significant associations with the tanning industry, the growth of Acton, railway transportation, the Beardmore family, and is a tourist destination. It is a significant landmark, important in defining the character of the area, a focal point in the community and is historically linked to its surroundings. For all of these reasons staff recommend designation.

#### **Recommendation No. HHH-2024-0022**

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 49 Eastern Avenue, Acton for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.d Documentation Strategy Re-visit and Site Visit Assistance**

L. Loney asked for the committee's assistance with documentation and photos for upcoming properties. L. Loney asked if any committee members could help to please contact her directly.

#### **4.e Staff Announcements**

L. Loney advised that Caylee MacPherson has been hired as the new Planner – Development Review & Heritage and will be starting on April 22, 2024. L. Loney also advised that Austin Foster has been hired as the Heritage Student and will be starting soon.

### **5. ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING**

### **6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.



## COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MINUTES

Minutes of the Committee of Adjustment hearing held on **April 3, 2024**, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

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

Staff Present: Ruth Conard, 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 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.

#### **b) Minor Variance D13VAR24.008H – 17 Guelph Street**

**Location:** 17 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 interior side yard setback shown on schedule 3 of By-law 2022-0007 from the minimum 6.3 m to permit a 1.5 m interior side yard setback (north-east corner of building).
2. To reduce the rear yard setback as shown on schedule 3 of By-law 2022-0007 from the minimum 25.7 m to permit a 13.2 m rear yard setback (north-east corner of building).
3. To reduce the exterior side yard setback as shown on schedule 3 of By-law 2022-0007 from the minimum 2.8 m and 4 m to permit a 2.4 m exterior side yard setback.
4. To reduce the number of parking spaces from the minimum 21 to permit 10 parking spaces.

**To accommodate a proposed 12-unit apartment building.**

**Owner(s):** Homestarts Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Georg Schneider, **Agent:** Tim Welch Consulting Inc., Leah Bennett Cooke

Deferral: the Secretary-Treasurer noted that there are hydro issues that need to be addressed (proximity of the proposal to the hydro pole and existing infrastructure).

It was MOVED by Todd Jenney, SECONDED, and CARRIED

THAT the decision for the application be deferred.

**a) Minor Variance D13VAR24.007H – 11 Academy Road**

**Location:** 11 Academy Road, 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 interior side yard setback from the minimum 1.2 m to permit an interior side yard setback of 1.13 m.
2. To permit a door providing access to a dwelling to be located in a wall that is 1.13 m from a lot line, whereas the by-law requires the wall to be located a minimum of 1.2 m from a lot line.

**To accommodate a detached dwelling under construction.**

**Owner(s):** Eva Bosnjak & Robert Grubescic

The Town Planner noted no staff objections to approval, subject to conditions. The owners 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.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.



April, 25 2024

## In This Issue

- Nominations open for AMO Board of Directors.
- Municipal Information & Data Analysis System.
- Nominate your local Senior of the Year.
- Nominations open for Lieutenant Governor's Award.
- ERO posting: Development Charges.
- ERO posting: Land Use Planning matters under Bill 185.
- ERO posting: Newspaper Notice Requirements.
- ERO posting: Removing Barriers for Additional Residential Units.
- ERO posting: Municipal Planning Data Reporting Regulation.
- ERO posting: Streamlining Pipeline Relocation to support Transit.
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Lake Erie habitat restoration efforts.
- Technical session - CMHC Housing Design Catalogue.
- Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop.
- Cybersecurity workshop for Municipally Elected Officials.
- Anti-Semitism and Anti-Islamophobia: Spring workshops.
- Councillor training - Refresh and refine your leadership, May workshop.
- Councillor workshops.
- Understanding Competing Human Rights - Upcoming workshop.
- OSUM Conference study tours.
- Managing Communications During a Time of Crisis.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships: Transforming conflict into collaboration.
- Canoe Spring webinar series continue.
- Careers.

## AMO Matters

AMO is seeking candidates to serve on its Board of Directors. [Click here](#) for information on eligibility and nomination requirements. Elections will occur at the AMO Annual Conference in August.

The [Municipal Information & Data Analysis System](#) (MIDAS) is a web-based tool that provides access to the Financial Information Returns (FIRs) to all Ontario municipalities. The FIR is the main data collection tool used by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to collect municipal financial and statistical information. Municipal elected officials and staff can contact [MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca](mailto:MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca) for access.

## Provincial Matters

Municipalities are invited to submit a nomination for the 2024 Ontario Senior of the Year Award by April 30, 2024. For more details, visit [honours and awards](#).

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate someone](#) from your municipality by April 30.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking feedback on proposed changes to repeal the five-year DC phase in and reinstate certain costs as eligible for DCs. [Comments are open](#) until May 10, 2024.

The province has posted land use planning changes to be made under *Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act* [for comment](#) until May 10, 2024.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is proposing to allow digital publication of public notices for certain land use and development charge by-laws where local newspapers are not available. [Comments are open](#) until May 10, 2024.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking input on barriers to the development of additional residential units. [Comments are open](#) until May 10, 2024.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is proposing expanding the list of municipalities required to report municipal planning data, and to enhance the quality of the data provided. [Comments are open](#) until May 10, 2024.

The Ministry of Energy is proposing exempt energy infrastructure relocation from seeking leave to construct if the relocation supports priority transit. [Comments are open](#) until May 11, 2024.

### Federal Matters

If you are a municipality located in the Lake Erie watershed and interested in DFO's Fish and Fish habitat restoration initiative, contact [DFO](#) on how to participate in upcoming engagements.

AMO and CMHC are hosting a technical session on April 30 to provide information and gather feedback from municipalities on a standard housing design catalogue. [Register over Zoom](#).

### Education Opportunities

AMO Education has partnered with the Abilities Centre to deliver a workshop designed to enhance elected official understanding and approach to inclusion. Register for this important [Disability Inclusion June 5 workshop](#).

AMO has partnered with the Toronto Metropolitan University's (TMU) Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst to prepare elected officials in understanding cybersecurity and to make critical decisions related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to cyber security incidents. Register for the [June 12 Cybersecurity workshop](#) to learn how to prevent, prepare, and respond.

Don't miss this time limited opportunity: register for the [May 7 antisemitism workshop](#) and the [May 15 anti-islamophobia workshop](#). These important workshops provide you invaluable insight on the historical and contemporary roots of antisemitism and anti-islamophobia, how to address these and how to build relationships and allyships.

The Councillor Training interactive workshop delves into the key areas of your responsibility as an elected official in a forum where you can ask questions that you can't always raise locally. Register for the [May 14 Councillor Training workshop](#) today.

AMO is offering a number of education workshops focusing on the most integral aspects of municipal leadership and governance. For full information including workshop descriptions, dates and registration visit [amoeducation.ca](#)

As an elected municipal official we know the pressure you deal with is real and we are here to support you. AMO has developed [Advanced Councillor Training](#) in 3 sessions focused on core elements of leadership. Register for the [May 8 Session 1 workshop](#), [May 29 Session 2 workshop](#), and the [October 2 Session 3 workshop](#).

AMO and Hicks Morley have developed training to support municipal elected officials and council in understanding their obligations related to human rights and understanding how to manage seemingly competing human rights. Register for this important [Competing Rights May 23 workshop](#).

[Register today](#) for OSUM 2024 Conference study tours hosted by the City of Orillia. Gain firsthand insight into the City of Orillia's local initiatives.

During times of crisis such as natural disasters or public disruption, municipally elected officials find themselves at the front line and facing the expectations of providing up to date and useful information to their communities. The [June 19 Managing Communications through Crisis workshop](#) is an opportunity to develop and enhance your approach to managing all aspects of crisis communications during and emergency. Join your colleagues to learn techniques for effective and proactive communications with community and media.

Having conflict-free and collaborative relationships can play a significant role in helping locally elected officials carry out your collective responsibilities as decision-makers of their communities. Learn how to

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



## LAS

Canoe's [spring webinar series](#) continues this spring. Do your local suppliers contact you wondering how they can get on Canoe's vendor list? On May 2 at 11am, Tony DeSciscio explains on how suppliers are selected and the benefits of Canoe Procurement to the private sector. [Register here to attend](#).

## Careers

[Director, Legislative & Information Services - Township of The Archipelago](#). Closing Date: May 17, 2024.

[Director of Finance/Treasurer - Municipality of North Grenville](#). Closing Date: May 17, 2024.

[Project Manager - City of Toronto](#). Closing date: May 06, 2024.

[Manager, Tangible Capital Assets - The District Municipality of Muskoka](#). Closing Date: May 8, 2024.

[Communications Officer, Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer - City of Quinte West](#). Closing Date: May 5, 2024.

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## 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!

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## 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](#)



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April, 18 2024

## In This Issue

- 2024 is an AMO Board election year!
- Media responses to M3RC waste advocacy.
- Circular Materials' response to blue box advocacy.
- Nominate your Local Senior of the Year.
- Inclusive Community Grants Program applications due.
- IPC Transparency Challenge.
- Consultation on Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Nominations open for Lieutenant Governor's Award.
- Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund.
- Survey: Asset Management Quality Assurance Review.
- ERO posting: Development Charges.
- ERO posting: Land Use Planning matters under Bill 185.
- ERO posting: Newspaper Notice Requirements.
- ERO posting: Removing Barriers for Additional Residential Units.
- ERO posting: Municipal Planning Data Reporting Regulation.
- ERO posting: Streamlining Pipeline Relocation to support Transit.
- Technical session - CMHC Housing Design Catalogue.
- Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop.
- Land Use Planning - Foundations and Deeper Dive workshops.
- AntiSemitism and Anti-Islamophobia: Spring workshops.
- Councillor Training - Refresh and refine your leadership, May workshop.
- Advanced Councillor Training Series to revitalize your leadership.
- Municipal Codes of Conduct Workshop: Essential to Good Governance.
- Understanding Competing Human Rights - Upcoming workshop.
- OSUM Conference study tours.
- Blog: eScribe's 2024 "State of the Clerk's Office" survey report.
- Canoe Spring webinar series continue.
- Road & Sidewalk Assessments booking now.
- Registration open for Basic Income Forum.
- Call for delegates to SIESLR Conference.
- Future of Aging Summit - May 15-17.
- Careers.

## AMO Matters

Elections for positions to the AMO Board of Directors will occur at the AMO Annual Conference, hosted by the City of Ottawa in August 2024. [Click here](#) for answers to some frequently asked questions if you are considering running.

AMO's advocacy via the Municipal Resource, Recovery and Research Collaboration (M3RC) gained media attention. [A CBC article](#) quoted AMO on extended producer responsibility, while The Narwhal wrote a piece on Ontario landfills [citing AMO's research](#).

## Provincial Matters

Circular Materials (CM) replied to a [letter from municipal governments](#) on CM blue box advocacy. [CM's response](#) remains vague on the details of the changes they are seeking and on the details on how the changes will reduce costs.

Municipalities are invited to submit a nomination for the [2024 Ontario Senior of the Year Award](#) by April 30.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

communities develop and implement local age-friendly community plans. Applications are due by May 22.

Show and tell us how your transparency project or program is modern and innovative, improves government transparency creatively, and has a solid positive impact for Ontarians. [Submissions](#) due May 31.

The province is conducting a [survey](#) to inform the creation of a Rural Economic Development Strategy. Share your ideas on how the province can support rural communities plan for economic success.

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate someone](#) from your municipality by April 30.

Applications to the Ministry of Infrastructure's Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund [are open](#) until April 19, 2024. Review the program and application guidelines online.

On behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Optimus SBR sent a survey to municipalities on March 26. It closes April 23, 2024. Complete it to provide the province feedback on its asset management requirements and supports.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking feedback on proposed changes to repeal the five-year DC phase in and reinstate certain costs as eligible for DCs. [Comments are open](#) until May 10, 2024.

The province has posted land use planning changes to be made under Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act* for [comment](#) until May 10, 2024.

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### Education Opportunities

AMO Education has partnered with the Abilities Centre to deliver a workshop designed to enhance elected official understanding and approach to inclusion. Register for this important [Disability Inclusion June 5 workshop](#).

AMO's is offering two education opportunities focused on planning issues and strategies: [April 17 Foundations in Planning workshop](#) builds foundational knowledge and insight into planning legislation and municipal roles and responsibilities. Our [April 18 Advanced Land Use Planning workshop](#) includes analysis of case studies and lessons learned to build your strategic management and decision making on local planning matters.

Don't miss this time limited opportunity: register for the [May 7 antisemitism workshop](#) and the [May 15 anti-islamophobia workshop](#). These important workshops provide you invaluable insight on the historical and contemporary roots of antisemitism and anti-islamophobia, how to address these and how to build relationships and allyships.

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As AMO and municipalities await provincial direction, your Association has developed a course that helps and guides municipal leaders in the development, communication, adherence, and issues management of codes of conducts. [Register for the April 25 Code of Conduct workshop](#) today.

AMO and Hicks Morley have developed training to support municipal elected officials and council in understanding their obligations related to human rights and understanding how to manage seemingly competing human rights. Register for this important [Competing Rights May 23 workshop](#).

[Register today](#) for OSUM 2024 Conference study tours hosted by the City of Orillia. Gain firsthand insight into the City of Orillia's local initiatives.

## **LAS**

Our Electronic Meeting Management and Livestreaming Service partner conducted a survey that garnered over 500 responses from city/municipal clerks. [Read the results](#) in our latest blog.

Canoe's [spring webinar series](#) continues this spring. Do your local suppliers contact you wondering how they can get on Canoe's vendor list? On May 2 at 11am, Tony DeSciscio explains on how suppliers are selected and the benefits of Canoe Procurement to the private sector. [Register here to attend](#).

Is a road or sidewalk survey part of your Summer 2024 plans? [Contact Tanner](#) for a no-obligation quote through the [LAS Road & Sidewalk Assessment Service](#). Better data helps you make better decisions for your infrastructure.

## **Municipal Wire\***

Registrations for Canada's inaugural Basic Income Guarantee Forum are open. [BIG 2024](#) takes place from May 23-26 at the University of Ottawa. Elected officials and staff are encouraged to attend.

Explore economic trends impacting Canada and the world at the [Summer Institute on Economic Security and Local Resilience](#) (SIESLR) conference on July 18-19, 2024 in Orillia. Register by June 1.

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

## **Careers**

[Supervisor-Facilities Management - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: April 25, 2024.

[Administrator - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: April 27, 2024.

[Director of Planning and Development - Town of Petawawa](#). Closing Date: April 26, 2024.

[Corporate Project Manager - County of Hastings](#). Closing Date: May 12, 2024.

[Director of Infrastructure Services & Town Engineer - Town of Erin](#). Closing Date: April 23, 2024.

[Manager, Works Operations - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: May 3, 2024.

[Director, Communications and Customer Experience - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: May 15, 2024.

[Chief Administrative Officer - Municipality of West Grey](#). Closing Date: May 14, 2024.

[Director of Operations and Human Resources - Municipality of Casselman](#). Closing Date: May 1, 2024.

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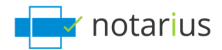
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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April, 11 2024

## In This Issue

- 2024 is an AMO Board election year!
- Application for the PJ Marshall Awards is open.
- Consultation on Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Nominations open for Lieutenant Governor's Award.
- Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund.
- Survey: Asset Management Quality Assurance Review.
- Consultation: 2025 National Construction Codes.
- Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop.
- Land Use Planning - Foundations and Deeper Dive workshops.
- AntiSemitism and Anti-Islamophobia: Spring workshops.
- Councillor Training - Refresh and refine your leadership, May workshop.
- Advanced Councillor Training Series to revitalize your leadership.
- Municipal Codes of Conduct Workshop: Essential to Good Governance.
- Understanding Competing Human Rights - Upcoming workshop.
- OSUM 2024: Join provincial leaders at OSUM.
- Demystifying Digital Access: Small Changes that Make a Big Impact.
- Canoe Spring webinar series on now.
- Upcoming webinar: Measurement and Verification for Energy.
- Municipal Energy Reporting Consulting Service: Limited time only.
- Elliot Lake awarded Kraft Hockeyville 2024!
- Survey: National Climate Project.
- Registration open for Basic Income Forum.
- Call for delegates to SIESLR Conference.
- Invasive Species Action Fund.
- Future of Aging Summit - May 15-17.
- Matrix Cares Affordable Housing Summit.
- Careers: Brampton, Peterborough and Simcoe County.

## AMO Matters

Elections for positions to the AMO Board of Directors will occur at the AMO Annual Conference, hosted by the City of Ottawa in August 2024. [Click here](#) for answers to some frequently asked questions if you are considering running.

The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Award celebrates municipal governments in Ontario that implement new and innovative ways to make public services, facilities, and infrastructure better for Ontarians. View [full details here](#).

## Provincial Matters

The province is conducting a [survey](#) to inform the creation of a Rural Economic Development Strategy. Share your ideas on how the province can support rural communities plan for economic success.

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate someone](#) from your municipality by April 30.

Applications to the Ministry of Infrastructure's Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund [are open](#) until April 19, 2024. Review the program and application guidelines online.

On behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Optimus SBR sent a survey to municipalities on March 26. It closes April 23, 2024. Complete it to provide the province feedback on its asset management requirements

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

## Federal Matters

The Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes is [consulting on proposed changes](#) for the 2025 national codes. Feedback collected will also serve as [consultation for Ontario's 2026/27 Building Code](#). Submissions due April 14.

## Education Opportunities

AMO Education has partnered with the Abilities Centre to deliver a workshop designed to enhance elected official understanding and approach to inclusion. Register for this important [Disability Inclusion June 5 workshop](#).

AMO's is offering two education opportunities focused on planning issues and strategies: [April 17 Foundations in Planning workshop](#) builds foundational knowledge and insight into planning legislation and municipal roles and responsibilities. Our [April 18 Advanced Land Use Planning workshop](#) includes analysis of case studies and lessons learned to build your strategic management and decision making on local planning matters.

Don't miss this time limited opportunity: register for the [May 7 antisemitism workshop](#) and the [May 15 anti-islamophobia workshop](#). These important workshops provide you invaluable insight on the historical and contemporary roots of antisemitism and anti-islamophobia, how to address these and how to build relationships and allyships.

The Councillor Training interactive workshop delves into the key areas of your responsibility as an elected official in a forum where you can ask questions that you can't always raise locally. Register for the [May 14 Councillor Training workshop](#) today.

As an elected municipal official we know the pressure you deal with is real and we are here to support you. AMO has developed [Advanced Councillor Training](#) in 3 sessions focused on core elements of leadership. Register for the [May 8 Session 1 workshop](#), [May 29 Session 2 workshop](#), and the [October 2 Session 3 workshop](#).

As AMO and municipalities await provincial direction, your Association has developed a course that helps and guides municipal leaders in the development, communication, adherence, and issues management of codes of conducts. [Register for the April 25 Code of Conduct workshop](#) today.

AMO and Hicks Morley have developed training to support municipal elected officials and council in understanding their obligations related to human rights and understanding how to manage seemingly competing human rights. Register for this important [Competing Rights May 23 workshop](#).

This year's OSUM Conference will include remarks from provincial leaders; Marit Stiles, Bonnie Crombie, and Mike Schreiner. [View the full program](#) and [register today](#).

## LAS

Join our Barrier-free Website Builder Program partner on April 15 for an [accessibility webinar](#) with a panel of experts.

Canoe's [spring webinar series](#) continues this spring. Do your local suppliers contact you wondering how they can get on Canoe's vendor list? On May 2 at 11am, Tony DeSciscio explains on how suppliers are selected and the benefits of Canoe Procurement to the private sector. [Register here to attend](#).

'You can't manage what you can't measure'. Measurement & Verification is the missing link that plays a crucial role in energy projects. Join SaveONenergy with us on April 18 at 2:30pm to explore how to monitor and assess your project outcomes. [Register here today](#).

With the July 1, 2024 Energy Reporting deadline less than 3 months away, the focus is on 5-year Conservation Plans. LAS is here to help with a limited time energy consulting service. Don't wait til the last minute - [contact us](#) to get started before it's too late.

## Municipal Wire\*

Congratulations to Elliot Lake! Crowned [2024 Kraft Hockeyville](#), Elliot Lake will receive the opportunity to host an NHL ® Pre-Season game and \$250,000 for upgrades to Centennial Arena.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Are you from a small or medium-sized municipality with perspectives on local climate initiatives? If yes, share your thoughts here [EN](#) | [FR](#) by April 15. Insights inform supports for carbon resilience.

Registrations for Canada's inaugural Basic Income Guarantee Forum are open. [BIG 2024](#) takes place from May 23-26 at the University of Ottawa. Elected officials and staff are encouraged to attend.

Explore economic trends impacting Canada and the world at the [Summer Institute on Economic Security and Local Resilience](#) (SIESLR) conference on July 18-19, 2024 in Orillia. Register by June 1.

The Invasive Species Centre with support from Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry opens the [Invasive Species Action Fund](#) intake. The fund assists municipalities in combating priority species. Apply by April 18.

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

Join the [Affordable Housing Summit & Skilled Trades Fair](#) from May 23-26 with over 10,000 policymakers, prospective housing project owners and the off-site modular industry to accelerate actionable, affordable housing projects.

### Careers

[Coordinator, Financial - Zero Emission Mobility - City of Brampton](#). Closing date: April 21, 2024.

[Manager, Public Works Operations \(Forestry and Sanitation\) - City of Peterborough](#). Closing date: April 26, 2024 at 12:00 pm.

[Manager, People & Inclusivity - County of Simcoe](#). Closing date: April 20, 2024.

[Engineering Technician II - County of Simcoe](#). Closing date: April 14, 2024.

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### 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!

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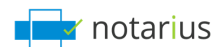
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Office of the Regional Chair  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

VIA EMAIL – [sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca)

April 10, 2024

The Honourable Sean Fraser  
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0A6

**RE: Permanent Homelessness Funding Increase Needed for Halton Region**

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Dear Minister Fraser:

On behalf of Halton Regional Council, I am writing to request an immediate review and increase to Halton Region's base Reaching Home funding allocation to recognize pressures on the Region's emergency shelter, outreach and supportive housing programs.

Halton Region recently received notification of an approximate \$7 million reduction in Reaching Home funding over the next four years. This reduction will have a considerable impact on the homelessness system in Halton. It is coming at a time when local need has never been greater.

The Reaching Home funding reduction will significantly impact the Region's ability to maintain existing homelessness prevention and response services and will lead to increased levels of unsheltered homelessness in our community. At a minimum, over 50 units of supportive housing are at imminent risk of closure. The employment of over 25 full-time staff from 12 different non-profit organizations serving our most vulnerable residents is also at risk. This reduction represents a decrease in Federal operating funding of over 75% towards Regional homelessness prevention and associated supports.

Federal funding for homelessness is imperative to Halton Region's ability to respond to urgent situations in the community, particularly in the areas of emergency shelter, encampment outreach, and supportive housing. The homelessness system overall has become more complex and requires increased Federal funding to support vulnerable populations on a permanent, sustained basis. An immediate review and increase to Halton Region's base Reaching Home funding allocation is needed to adequately fund the new realities in Halton's homelessness response system and meet ongoing operational requirements related to the delivery of much needed supportive housing.

Accordingly, at its meeting held March 20, 2024, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton endorsed Report SS-05-24 "Allocation of Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program Funding in 2024-2025 and Federal Reaching Home 2024-2028 Update" which is attached for your reference. Through this report, Regional Council approved the following recommendations:

**Regional Municipality of Halton**

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1  
905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

1. THAT the Regional Chair write to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities requesting Halton Region's Reaching Home base allocation cuts be immediately reviewed and reversed to recognize pressures on Halton Region's emergency shelter, outreach and supportive housing programs.
2. THAT a copy of Report No. SS-05-24 be circulated to Halton Members of Parliament (MPs), Halton Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Corporation of the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, The Town of Milton, the Town of Oakville, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their information.

It is imperative that the Federal Government recognize and appropriately fund costs associated with homelessness prevention in Halton Region alongside the Government of Ontario. Without urgent federal funding, a number of services that vulnerable populations depend on are at imminent risk. The reasons for this significant reduction in Halton Region's Reaching Home funding allocation remain unclear. The rationale for this reduction, alongside an immediate review and increase in funding, is needed. With your help, I am hopeful that we can continue to work together to support Halton's most vulnerable residents and advance Canada's goal to eliminate chronic homelessness.

Sincerely,



Gary Carr  
Halton Regional Chair

Attachment: Report No. SS-05-24 – Allocation of Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program Funding in 2024-2025 and Federal Reaching Home 2024-2028 Update

Cc:

The Honourable Anita Anand, MP, Oakville  
The Honourable Karina Gould, MP, Burlington  
Michael Chong, MP, Wellington-Halton Hills  
Pam Damoff, MP, Oakville North-Burlington  
Adam Van Koeverden, MP, Milton  
The Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills  
Natalie Pierre, MPP, Burlington  
Stephen Crawford, MPP, Oakville  
Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP, Oakville North – Burlington  
Victoria Tytaneck, Town Clerk, Town of Oakville  
Kevin Arjoon, City Clerk, City of Burlington  
Valerie Petryniak, Clerk and Director of Legislative Services, Town of Halton Hills  
Meaghan Reid, Director, Legislative and Legal Services/Town Clerk, Town of Milton  
Carole Saab, Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario



Report To:	Regional Chair and Members of Regional Council
From:	Alex Sarchuk, Commissioner, Social and Community Services
Date:	March 20, 2024
Report No:	SS-05-24
Re:	Allocation of Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program Funding in 2024-2025 and Federal Reaching Home 2024-2028 Update

### RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Regional Council approve Halton Region's Investment Plan of \$14,279,700 for the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) for the period of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025 as set out in Report No. SS-05-24 re: "Allocation of Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program Funding in 2024-2025 and Federal Reaching Home 2024-2028 Update."
2. THAT the Commissioner of Social and Community Services be authorized to submit the HPP Investment Plan to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and execute all agreements and ancillary documents with the MMAH and agencies approved for HPP funding in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services.
3. THAT the Commissioner of Social and Community Services be authorized to reallocate funding from one HPP service category to another within the approved funding envelope, if required, to ensure full utilization of the Provincial allocation during the funding period.
4. THAT the Commissioner of Social and Community Services be authorized to execute funding agreements and ancillary documents with Infrastructure Canada and agencies approved for Reaching Home funding for the period of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2028, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services.
5. THAT the Commissioner of Social and Community Services be authorized to reallocate funding from one Reaching Home project to another within the approved funding envelope, if required, to ensure full utilization of the Federal allocation during the funding period.
6. THAT the Regional Chair write to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities requesting Halton Region's Reaching Home base allocation cuts be

immediately reviewed and reversed to recognize pressures on Halton Region's emergency shelter, outreach and supportive housing programs.

7. THAT a copy of Report No. SS-05-24 be circulated to Halton Members of Parliament (MPs), Halton Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Corporation of the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, The Town of Milton, the Town of Oakville, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their information.

## REPORT

### **Executive Summary**

#### Homelessness Prevention Program

- This report provides an update on provincially funded homelessness prevention initiatives. It seeks Regional Council approval of a 2024-2025 annual Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) Investment Plan which must be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing before March 31, 2024.
  - Halton Region has been allocated \$14,279,700 in Provincial HPP funding for the period April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. This allocation remains unchanged from the current year.
  - Funding will assist residents to access emergency shelter supports and prevent homelessness

#### Reaching Home

- This report also provides an update on Halton Region's federally funded Reaching Home allocation for the next four years (April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2028). There is a significant funding reduction which will directly impact homelessness responses.
  - The Region's 2023-2024 base Reaching Home allocation is \$4,223,551. Funding is used to mitigate encampments, prevent homelessness, and operate supportive housing.
  - On November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Halton Region was notified that its annual program allocation will decrease by \$7 million over the next four-year period starting April 1, 2024.
- All communities across Canada have been given a similarly proportionate reduction. This significant funding cut is expected to impact Regional homelessness prevention programs and services.

- This report recommends that the Regional Chair write to the Federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities requesting an immediate review and increase to Halton Region's base federal Reaching Home allocation. The federal government should ensure that Halton Region is appropriately funded for homelessness/supportive housing related costs.

## Background

On March 7, 2022, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP). This program consolidated three former provincially funded homelessness prevention initiatives - the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative, Home for Good, and the Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program.

The Region has been allocated HPP funding of \$14,279,700 for the period of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. This is unchanged from our current allocation. No base or inflationary increase has been provided.

The following outcome measures must be reported to the Province as a condition of funding:

1. Prevent homelessness: People at risk of homelessness remain housed and have connections to support services;
2. Address homelessness: People who are homeless obtain and retain housing and support services; and,
3. Reduce chronic homelessness: Reduction in chronic homelessness through a Coordinated Access approach.

These three broad outcome based measures are further divided into 29 annual performance metrics reported to the Ministry. Examples of performance metrics include:

- Housing Loss Prevention – number of residents experiencing homelessness who have received community outreach and support services funded by HPP.
- Coordinated Access Placements – number of residents experiencing homelessness who moved into housing.
- Permanent Housing Assistance – number of residents assisted to obtain or retain housing with rent supplements or housing allowances funded by HPP.

Progress on homelessness prevention will continue to be reported to Regional Council and the public through annual Comprehensive Housing Strategy (CHS) progress reports. Halton Region's current 10-year CHS is in its final year. An updated strategy for the period 2025-2035 was anticipated for Regional Council approval in 2025. On March 1, 2024 the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing directed all municipalities responsible for assisted housing, including Halton Region, to immediately pause strategy updates until new provincial requirements are made available. It is anticipated that the updated CHS will have a greater

focus on homelessness prevention and creating new supportive housing opportunities to mitigate unsheltered homelessness. Regional Council will be kept updated as more information is known.

## Discussion

### Halton Region's 2024-2025 Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan

This report seeks Regional Council's approval of Halton Region's Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) investment plan for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. A Regional Council approved investment plan must be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing before March 31, 2024 as a condition of funding.

Halton Region has flexibility to allocate funding between five HPP funding service categories based on local priorities. Program guidelines allow 5% of funding to be used to support program administration costs. Recommended funding allocations across the service categories are summarized in the chart below:

HPP Service Category	Provincial Funding
1/ Emergency Shelter Program	\$3,911,491
2/ Supportive Housing	\$3,188,000
3/ Community Outreach and Supports	\$1,542,616
4/ Housing Assistance	\$4,923,593
5/ Capital Development	\$0
6/ Administration	\$714,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,279,700</b>

#### 1.0 Emergency Shelter Program

Staff recommends utilizing provincial HPP funding in the amount of \$3,911,491 to support the Emergency Shelter Program for the period April 1, 2024 through to March 31, 2025. Emergency shelter supports are provided to homeless individuals and families. A total of 2,455 shelter calls were received in 2023.

An emergency supportive housing facility with 45 self-contained rooms is operated by Wesley Urban Ministries serving women, families, and couples in Burlington. In 2023, 170 households were served at this location including 94 families and 76 single women (378 total individuals). Hotels were utilized during peak demand. In 2024, four (4) additional units of permanent supportive housing have been purchased to address increasing demand and reduce the use of hotels.

The Lighthouse Shelter in Oakville is operated by the Salvation Army and serves single men experiencing homelessness. The Town of Oakville currently permits a maximum capacity at the facility of 40 beds, including 9 self-contained rooms. A total of 350 individuals were served onsite and in hotel overflow by the Lighthouse in 2023.

Across both programs, emergency shelter intakes increased by 16% in 2023 from 390 households to 451 households. Eighty-two (82) individuals identifying as newcomers and asylum seekers were supported through Halton Region's emergency shelter system in 2023, representing 11% of all intakes.

An additional 1,514 households across Halton were successfully diverted from shelter. They received intensive case management to stabilize their existing housing. The high cost of private market rental housing, the growing gap between incomes and rising housing costs, rapid population growth, as well as high supportive housing demand for individuals with mental health and addictions has made securing affordable housing more difficult. Additional purpose-built rental housing and supportive housing is required to more effectively serve individuals experiencing homelessness. Trends in shelter use and diversion will be closely monitored throughout 2024 with a continued emphasis on preventing homelessness.

Please see Attachment #1 to this report for additional information on Halton Region's emergency shelter programs in 2023.

## 2.0 Supportive Housing

Staff recommends utilizing provincial HPP funding in the amount of \$3,188,000 to fund supportive housing programming for the period April 1, 2024 through to March 31, 2025.

In 2019, a Homelessness Action Table was established through the Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan to coordinate supportive housing vacancy fulfillment across the Region for all providers. Action Table members include a cross section of homelessness and community services agencies, supportive housing providers, mental health and addiction providers and both Halton Ontario Health Teams. The Action Table continues to meet regularly with a renewed emphasis on moving individuals from encampments to supportive housing.

### *2.1 Coordinated Access*

Halton's Coordinated Access strategy is a system-level approach to addressing homelessness that provides a consistent way to assess, prioritize and connect individuals and families to housing and supports. Regional staff maintain a By-Name List of all households experiencing homelessness. Staff match clients with community partners to provide the best possible housing opportunity with customized supports. The By-Name List includes a broad set of data points recording inflow and outflow of the homelessness system to support our understanding of Halton specific trends and individual outcomes.

With HPP funding, Halton Region funds 152 permanent supportive housing beds across three congregate housing providers; two in the Town of Halton Hills (Millhouse and Parkside) and one in the City of Burlington (Bethany Residence). These facilities house some of Halton Region's most vulnerable and chronically homeless residents, including individuals with



disabilities, cognitive impairments, and the frail elderly in a 24/7 supportive environment. Funding also supports daily life enrichment activities for residents.

Through Coordinated Access and oversight of the By-Name List, Regional staff are responsible for facilitating housing placements for 12 additional supportive housing providers across the Region. These supportive housing providers include: Halton Children's Aid Society, Wesley Urban Ministries, Salvation Army, Home Suite Hope, Milton Transitional Housing, HMC Connections, Summit Housing and Outreach Programs, Support House, Oasis Youth Care, ADAPT, and Shifra Homes. In 2023, a total of 277 individuals experiencing homelessness were moved into permanent housing using this approach.

Since the formal launch of Coordinated Access in 2021, five hundred and seventy-four (574) households have moved from homelessness into permanent housing. Attachment #2 provides a snapshot of data from Halton's Coordinated Access system in 2023.

## *2.2 Supportive Housing Need*

Halton Region has sufficient capacity to assist the current volume of low and medium need clients in supportive housing environments through its Coordinated Access strategy. As noted in Regional Council report SS-20-23 re: "Comprehensive Housing Strategy Update", at least 120 units of supportive housing are required in the near-term to prevent increases in homelessness and encampments in Halton. Progress is being made with 57 purpose built supportive housing units currently in development. However, there continues to be a significant gap in specialized supportive housing options for clients with chronic mental health and addictions.

Per SS-26-23 re: "Update on Homelessness and Encampment Responses in Halton Region" the ongoing need for additional supportive housing with 24/7 on-site services for high needs individuals is the primary driver of prolonged homelessness and encampments in Halton. Individuals with complex mental health and addictions challenges often cycle through congregate emergency shelter environments. They can end up in encampments given the complexity of their needs and limited availability of targeted health supports. Halton Region's updated CHS will have a significant emphasis on the creation of new supportive housing units for complex populations to prevent unsheltered homelessness. Federal and provincial funding will be critical in achieving this.

## 3.0 Community Outreach and Supports

Staff recommends utilizing provincial HPP funding in the amount of \$1,542,616 for community Outreach and Supports for the period April 1, 2024 through to March 31, 2025. Funding will support Halton Housing Help, Bridging the Gap and Housing First initiatives.

### *3.1 Halton Housing Help*

Halton Housing Help provides information and support to precariously housed and homeless individuals. Halton Housing Help utilizes landlord engagement specialists to build

relationships with landlords and provides outreach services to individuals who may be unsheltered. By providing services to both landlords and tenants, Housing Help continues to provide access to safe and affordable rental housing throughout the Region.

In 2023, Halton Housing Help received 1,910 requests for housing help assistance. Eight hundred and twenty-two (822) residents were supported with short-term housing, including navigation to affordable rental listings, assistance completing applications and other landlord/tenant information. An additional 440 residents received longer-term intensive 1:1 case management to retain or obtain permanent housing.

The Halton Housing Help Street Outreach Team is responsible for supporting individuals in encampments and encouraging them to access emergency shelter and other social services. The Outreach team collaborates with and receives considerable support from the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS). A dedicated email box has been established at [outreach@halton.ca](mailto:outreach@halton.ca) which allows residents and businesses to interact directly with Regional staff to identify individuals who may require assistance.

These collective efforts are yielding positive results. In 2023, two hundred and forty-five (245) individuals moved from some form of unsheltered homelessness into emergency shelter, with one hundred and thirty-nine (139) of these individuals directly supported by the Street Outreach Team. In 2024, the Action Table will continue to meet to ensure community integration efforts continue to decrease unsheltered homelessness in Halton.

### *3.2 Bridging the Gap*

Bridging the Gap provides outreach and transitional housing support for youth aged 16-24 who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness in Halton Region. Bridging the Gap provides 37 units of housing across their program, including seven units dedicated to LGBTQ2S youth. In 2023, Bridging the Gap provided intensive case management and housing placement services to 163 youth across Halton Region. Many youth served by Bridging the Gap have previously received support from the Halton Children's Aid Society and are transitioning from care environments.

### *3.3 Halton Housing First*

The Halton Housing First program is operated by Wesley Urban Ministries and provides two years of rental assistance and comprehensive wrap-around supports for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in Halton Region. 'Housing First' is a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centers on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional supports and services as needed.

The basic underlying principle of Housing First is that people are better able to improve their outcomes related to physical and mental health, education, employment, substance abuse and community connections if they are provided housing with intensive follow-up support

customized to their individual needs. In 2023, the Halton Housing First program supported 77 individuals in 44 households.

#### 4.0 Housing Assistance (Homelessness Prevention)

Staff recommends utilizing provincial HPP funding in the amount of \$4,923,593 to fund homelessness prevention supports in the community for the period April 1, 2024 through to March 31, 2025. Funding maintains the Housing Stability Fund, Housing Allowance and Rent Supplement programs.

##### *4.1 Housing Stability Fund*

Halton Region provides financial support to individuals and families at risk of homelessness to retain their current housing or to move to more appropriate housing. This homelessness prevention initiative is known as the Housing Stability Fund. It provides financial assistance with rental and utility arrears, first and last month's rent deposits, moving and storage costs and essential furniture. It also supports with navigation to other existing social and health related supports in the community.

This initiative improves the overall cost efficiency of homelessness programming by diverting Halton residents from costlier emergency shelter supports. Two thousand, two hundred and sixty-eight (2,268) households received Housing Stability Fund assistance in 2023. While this remained consistent with historical program utilization, one hundred and twenty-six (126) more households were assisted to secure new housing than in 2022. The following table highlights the total number of households assisted since 2016 by form of assistance:

<b>Homelessness Prevention Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Evictions Prevented	201	200	219	295	369	475	546	539
Utility Disconnects Prevented	154	108	155	152	114	147	157	186
Permanent Housing Secured	487	477	494	512	366	451	420	546
Moving and Storage Assistance	373	335	353	353	354	515	443	431
Beds and Furniture	510	626	704	720	616	543	561	566
<b>Total Households Supported Annually</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>1,746</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>1,819</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>2,127</b>	<b>2,268</b>

Six-month follow up with recipients of the Housing Stability Fund revealed that an average 93% of residents continue to retain their housing.

Please see Attachment #3 to this report for additional information regarding the Housing Stability Fund.

#### *4.2 Housing Allowances*

Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) funded housing allowances are short term funding instruments used to assist vulnerable residents obtain or retain permanent housing and prevent homelessness. Eligible Halton households are provided with monthly rental assistance and case management supports for a period ranging from six months to two years. In 2023, sixty-one (61) new Halton households were supported with a housing allowance to secure permanent housing directly from homelessness or prevent an immediate episode of homelessness.

In 2023, HPP funded Housing Allowances were also used to continue the Ukrainian transitional housing program for an additional year. Funding has supported 74 households afford permanent housing in Halton Region and avoid emergency shelter.

#### *4.3 Rent Supplements*

HPP funded rent supplement units provide longer term funding used to make rent affordable for residents in the private market who have experienced homelessness. In this model, social service agencies provide case management on a long-term basis. Key agency partners include Community Living, Halton Women's Place, Support House, and HMC Connections.

In 2023, one hundred and twenty-eight (128) Halton households continued to be supported with a rent supplement through this funding stream. Annual rent increases mandated by the province will continue in 2024. This will place additional budgetary pressures on HPP funding going forward without subsequent inflationary increases from the Province.

### 5.0 Capital Development

All HPP funding is being committed to operational programs. As such, no funding is being recommended for capital development or repair in 2024-2025. Halton Region actively advocates for and pursues capital funding from senior levels of government through its Assisted Housing Portfolio Approach.

### 6.0 Administration

In alignment with HPP guidelines, \$714,000 will be used to support Regional administration costs. This represents 5% of the overall expenditure plan.

## Federal Reduction in Homelessness Investments (Reaching Home Allocation)

The Reaching Home program aims to reduce chronic homelessness across Canada by 50% by 2028. The federal government has designated Halton Region a 'Community Entity' for the purposes of delivering federal Reaching Home funding. In this capacity, the Region works with community partners to invest in homelessness prevention and supportive housing priorities.

The Region's base Reaching Home funding allocation until March 31, 2024 is \$4,233,551. Reaching Home funding is used to mitigate encampments, prevent homelessness and provide supportive housing as follows:

- \$1,700,000 is used to fund 81 units of supportive housing provided by 8 supportive housing providers.
- \$1,300,000 is used to support street outreach, encampment prevention and mental health and addictions programs.
- \$1,000,000 is allocated to capital repairs and maintenance of emergency shelter and supportive housing facilities.
- Per program guideline, the remaining balance of \$233,551 supports program administration costs.

On November 28, 2023, Halton Region was informed of its next four-year program allocation (April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2028). A significant funding reduction was announced. It will significantly impact the Region's ability to maintain existing homelessness prevention and response services.

In 2024-2025 and 2025-2026, the Region's base Reaching Home allocation will be reduced by \$208,864 (5%) annually. In 2026-2027 and 2027-2028, this reduction will grow to \$3,273,734 (77%) annually.

This federal funding cut amounts to approximately \$7 million in total over the next four-years. This comes at a time when local need has never been greater. Federal funding cuts will have considerable impact on the homelessness system and could lead to program closures and increases in homelessness in Halton Region.

The table below highlights federal funding reductions in Halton through to March 31, 2028:

Reaching Home Allocation	Base Funding Total	Annual Reduction	Reduction %
2023-2024	\$ 4,233,551		
2024-2025	\$4,024,687	\$208,864	-5%
2025-2026	\$4,024,687	\$208,864	
2026-2027	\$959,817	\$3,273,734	-77%
2027-2028	\$959,817	\$3,273,734	
<b>Total 2024-2028</b>	<b>\$9,969,008</b>	<b>\$6,965,196</b>	

While staff believe the reduction can be risk managed in the near-term, beginning in 2026-2027 there could be a significant impact. Staff will continue to closely monitor the proposed funding reduction and potential longer-term impact. Regional Council will be kept updated with any changes to the federal funding allocation.

#### Federal Funding Unpredictable

Federal Reaching Home funding has been historically unpredictable and variable. The federal government has increased and decreased funding with no prior consultation or understanding of the impact of its decisions on regional service delivery. This variability makes it difficult for Halton to plan and best serve our most vulnerable.

After announcing Halton's sizable Reaching Home reduction in November, a one-time Reaching Home enhancement of \$1,567,720 was announced on December 22, 2023, which must be fully spent by March 31, 2024. An additional \$103,259 was announced for Halton on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 under the same terms and conditions. While these are welcome one-time investments to support overflow in Halton's emergency shelter system, this does not assist Halton Region maintain its existing homelessness prevention and supportive housing programming, or to effectively plan long-term.

The chart below illustrates how the Region's Reaching Home funding has been adjusted year-over-year since 2019:

Reaching Home Year	Annual Funding	Enhancement	Fiscal Total	Change %
2019-2020	\$773,356		\$773,356	-
2020-2021	\$755,856		\$755,856	-2%
2021-2022	\$4,557,748		\$4,557,748	+503%
2022-2023	\$4,282,719		\$4,282,719	-6%
2023-2024	\$4,233,551	\$1,670,979	\$5,904,530	+38%
2024-2025	\$4,024,687		\$4,024,687	-32%
2025-2026	\$4,024,687		\$4,024,687	-
2026-2027	\$959,817		\$959,817	-76%
2027-2028	\$959,817		\$959,817	-

### **Next Step – Advocacy to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities**

The homelessness system has become more complex and requires increased base federal funding to support vulnerable populations on a permanent, sustained basis. Proposed federal cuts are significant and could have a considerable impact on the homelessness system in Halton.

It is recommended that the Regional Chair write to the Minister of Infrastructure Canada requesting an immediate review and increase to Halton Region's base Reaching Home allocation. The federal government must ensure that Halton Region is appropriately funded for homelessness related costs. The Region will continue to work with Municipal partners, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on joint advocacy for appropriate and sustained funding for homelessness and supportive housing. The Region cannot do it alone.



## FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

The 2024 Budget and Business Plan includes all costs associated with the Homelessness Prevention Program and Reaching Home funding for the calendar year.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Balahura  
Director, Housing Services



Alex Sarchuk  
Commissioner, Social and Community  
Services

Approved by



Jane MacCaskill  
Chief Administrative Officer

If you have any questions on the content of this report,  
please contact:

Andrew Balahura

Tel. # 4445

Attachments: Attachment #1 - Halton Region's Emergency Shelter 2023 Dashboard  
Attachment #2 - Halton Region's Coordinated Access 2023 Dashboard  
Attachment #3 - Halton Region's Housing Stability Fund 2023 Dashboard



April 24, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queens Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Motion regarding Accessible Ontario by 2025**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 23, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

**Resolution 2024-93**

Moved by Councillor Proderick  
Seconded by Councillor Willis

**WHEREAS** the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

**WHEREAS** Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

**WHEREAS** at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

**WHEREAS** the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;



**WHEREAS** people with disabilities and advocates note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

**WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of Loyalist Township strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Honourable Raymond Sung Joon Cho Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, Honourable Micheal Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities for their support.

**Motion carried.**



Sincerely,

*Anne Kantharajah*

Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk  
[akantharajah@loyalist.ca](mailto:akantharajah@loyalist.ca)  
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: Honourable Raymond Sung Joon Cho Minister of Seniors and Accessibility  
Honourable Micheal Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services  
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Proderick, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township  
Ontario Municipalities

April 24, 2024

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

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Prime Minister,

**Re: Motion regarding Housing Funding**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 23, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

**Resolution 2024-95**

Moved by Councillor Willis  
Seconded by Councillor Ennis

**WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is in need of \$4,375,000 in funding to complete the Peak Flow Equalization and Headworks Upgrades at the Amherstview Water Pollution Control Plant in 2024, which is critical in the ongoing development of new homes in Loyalist Township;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township cannot afford to increase Water or Sewer rates to fund all of this infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** increased Debt to build the project will just increase costs to Water and Sewer rates, or increased costs to developers;

**AND WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is currently experiencing a housing crisis from all citizens;



**AND WHEREAS** Peak Flow Equalization and Headworks Upgrades at the Amherstview Water Pollution Control Plant are projected to accommodate 1889 new residential units to be completed, 607 which are shovel ready;

**AND WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is not currently eligible for funding under the Provincial Building Faster Fund as its population is below the threshold;

**AND WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is submitting an application to the provincial Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund which has only \$825M available in funding of which the province would only fund up to 73% to a maximum of \$35M for one project;

**AND WHEREAS** additional funding has not been allocated from the Federal Government to enhance the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Funding;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Loyalist Township calls on the Federal Government to re-evaluate their lack of funding for municipalities with a population less than 50,000 in rural Ontario and to make available funding for infrastructure programs to help build infrastructure to help build much-needed new homes;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Province of Ontario be asked to prioritize funding from the \$825M Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund to municipalities without housing targets that are not eligible for funding under the Building Faster Fund;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this motion be circulated to Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, Honourable Sean Fraser, Federal Minister for Housing, Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington and Ric Bresee MPP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington, and all municipalities, for their support.  
**Motion carried.**



Sincerely,

*Anne Kantharajah*

Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk  
[akantharajah@loyalist.ca](mailto:akantharajah@loyalist.ca)  
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: the Honourable Sean Fraser, Federal Minister for Housing  
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Ministry of Infrastructure  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP Hastings - Lennox and Addington  
Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings - Lennox and Addington  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Ennis, Loyalist Township  
Ontario Municipalities

April 24, 2024

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
5th Floor - 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Minister,

**Re: Motion regarding Public Health Ontario Labs**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 23, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

**Resolution 2024-94**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Townend  
Seconded by Councillor Willis

**WHEREAS** the mission of Public Health Ontario (PHO) is to "enable informed decisions and get actions that protect and promote health and contribute to reducing health inequities", there are grave concerns that the closure of six community-based PHO labs will increase health inequities, especially for rural communities; and

**WHEREAS** combined these labs collect and process thousands of water samples and time sensitive medical tests each day; and

**WHEREAS** there are grave concerns about the integrity of samples being compromised if travel time is increased by centralizing all tests to a few locations; and

**WHEREAS** these labs already process overflow tests and samples when labs such as Toronto and Ottawa cannot keep up to demand and many scaled up to meet demand during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS** frequent drinking water testing services is vital for Ontarians who draw their water from private drinking water systems (i.e. wells) and protecting groundwater quality and quantity is a shared responsibility.



**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** As stewards of care for the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2022, Council of Loyalist Township urges the provincial government to take caution against acting on the recommendations stated in the aforementioned audit report.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this motion be circulated to Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington, Ric Bresee MPP of Hastings-Lennox and Addington and all municipalities, for their support.

**Motion carried.**

Sincerely,

Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk  
[akantharajah@loyalist.ca](mailto:akantharajah@loyalist.ca)  
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: Shelby Kramp-Neuman MP - Hastings-Lennox & Addington  
Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings - Lennox & Addington  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Deputy Mayor Townend, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township  
Ontario Municipalities




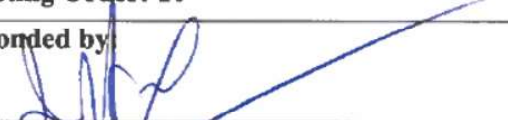


## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

### RESOLUTION

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Resolution # RC24087	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

**WHEREAS** the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

**AND WHEREAS** Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

**AND WHEREAS** at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

**AND WHEREAS** the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** people with disabilities and advocates, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipality of Wawa is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

*p.2...*



## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

### RESOLUTION

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa Council strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modelled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

**AND FURTHER THAT** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opat		

#### Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

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

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURU O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

March 28, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 26, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for 'a call to action' to meet the deadline of an Accessible Ontario by 2025 was carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-151**

**DATE:** March 26, 2024

**MOVED BY:** Councillor MacNaughton

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Pennell

**WHEREAS** the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

**WHEREAS** Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

**WHEREAS** at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

**WHEREAS** the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

**WHEREAS** people with disabilities and advocates, including Prince Edward County's Accessibility Advisory Committee, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

**WHEREAS** Prince Edward County is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA

standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of Prince Edward County strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Mayor write a letter in support of this resolution to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

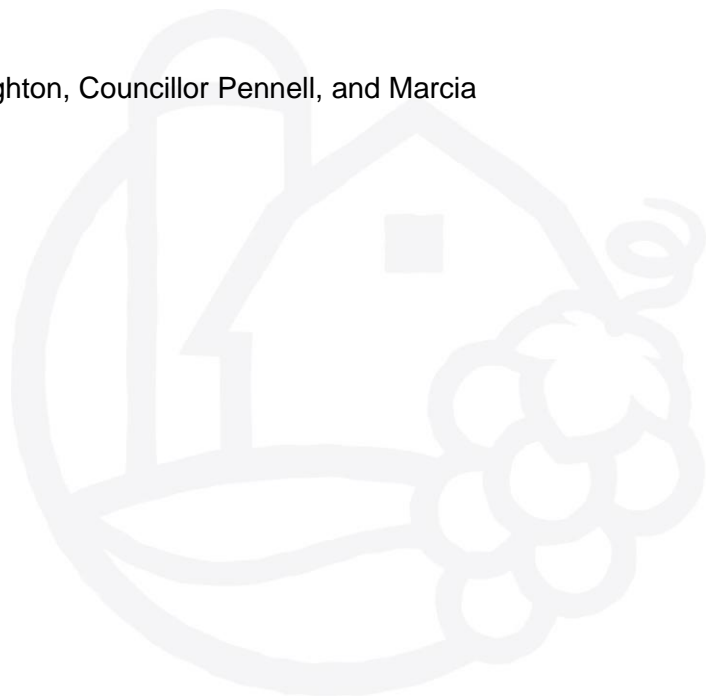
**CARRIED**

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton, Councillor Pennell, and Marcia Wallace, CAO



April 16, 2024

Conservation Authorities and  
Natural Hazards Section  
Ministry of Natural Resources and  
Forestry – RPDPB  
By E-mail: [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca)

Matthew Rae  
MPP for Perth-Wellington  
By E-mail: [matthew.rae@pc.ola.org](mailto:matthew.rae@pc.ola.org)

**RE: Conservation Authorities Act**

Please note that in response to the attached Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's proposal "Regulation detailing new Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act" on April 5, 2024, Council of the Municipality of West Perth at its Regular Council Meeting held on April 15, 2024, passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: 122/24

Moved By: Councillor Trentowsky

Seconded by: Councillor Duck

CARRIED

"That the Council for the Municipality of West Perth recommends to the province that any proposed changes contemplated by the province be put on hold until such time that the planning statement is finalized by the province and communicated to the municipalities and that this motion be circulated to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) All Ontario Municipalities for support."

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk's Department.



Daniel Hobson  
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk  
Municipality of West Perth

cc: Matthew Rae, MPP for Perth-Wellington  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All Ontario Municipalities

# Regulation detailing new Minister’s Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act.

ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) number	019-8320
Notice type	Regulation
Act	Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990
Posted by	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Notice stage	Proposal
Proposal posted	April 5, 2024
Comment period	April 5, 2024 - May 6, 2024 (31 days) Open
Last updated	April 5, 2024

This consultation closes at 11:59 p.m. on:  
**May 6, 2024**

## Proposal summary

We are proposing a regulation specifying the circumstances under which the Minister may issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and make the permitting decision in the place of a conservation authority or may undertake a review of a conservation authority permitting decision.

## Proposal details

Conservation authorities regulate development and other activities through a permitting process under the *Conservation Authorities Act* for the purposes of natural hazard management and to protect people and property from natural hazards, such as flooding and erosion. Each conservation authority implements the permitting framework based on provincial legislation, regulatory



requirements, and technical standards, as well as conservation authority board-approved policies that outline how the conservation authority administers regulations locally.

Recently proclaimed provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act* and associated regulations came into effect on April 1, 2024, including new powers for the Minister to 1) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and to take over the permitting process in the place of a conservation authority, and 2) review a conservation authority permit decision at the request of the applicant.

The Ministry is proposing a regulation which would set out the circumstances under which these powers could be used. If the regulation is approved, public guidance would be made available on the criteria and processes outlined in the regulation.

## 1. Permits issued by the Minister

Existing requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* regarding permits issued by the Minister under section 28.1.1 include:

- The Minister may issue an order directing a conservation authority not to issue a permit to a specific individual to engage in a specified activity, or to persons who may wish to engage in a certain type or class of activity, that would be prohibited under section 28 without a permit.
- The Minister's decision to issue an order is discretionary, and it may be issued either before or after an application for a permit has been submitted to the relevant conservation authority.
- Notice of any order must be provided to affected conservation authorities, any person who applied for the permit in question prior to the order and be posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario)) within 30-days.
- If an order made, the Minister has the power to issue a permit in place of the conservation authority. When making a permitting decision, the Minister is required to satisfy the same criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities. This includes whether the activity is likely to affect the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or



bedrock. It also must consider whether the activity is likely to create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard, might jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction of property.

- The Minister may refuse the permit or issue a permit subject to such conditions as the Minister determines are appropriate.

### **Proposed additional requirements that would be set out in regulation include:**

- The Minister may make an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and take over the permitting process only if the development activity or type or class of permits pertains to or supports a specified provincial interest, including:
  - Housing (community, affordable and market-based)
  - Community services (health, long-term care, education, recreation socio-cultural, security and safety, environment)
  - Transportation infrastructure
  - Buildings that facilitate economic development or employment
  - Mixed use developments
- If a proponent wishes to petition the Minister to issue an order, the proponent must submit a request to the Minister that would include information on:
  - Overview of proposed development.
  - Why the Minister's involvement is requested (e.g., development of provincial interest, timing/urgency; permitting process to date if applicable; other barriers) and preferable to the standard process in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
  - Indication of whether the local municipality has endorsed the project and the request for Minister's involvement (e.g., by municipal letter or resolution).
  - Status of other required project approvals including the extent of any engagement with the conservation authority in the permitting process that the applicant has had to date.

## 2. Permits reviewed by the Minister

Existing requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* relating to requests for review under section 28.1.2 regarding permits where there is an order made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under section 34.1 or 47 of the *Planning Act* and section 28.1 regarding all other conservation authority permits include:

- An applicant who has been refused a permit or had conditions attached to a permit by a conservation authority to which the applicant objects can, within 15-days of receiving reasons for the authority's decision, submit a request to the Minister for the Minister to review the authority's decision. Alternatively, an applicant also has the option to appeal the authority's decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.
- After receiving a request, the Minister has 30-days in which to decide whether or not they intend to conduct a review. If the Minister decides to conduct the review, a notice shall be posted on the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) within 30-days of a reply indicating the Minister intends to review the decision by the authority. If the Minister does not reply within 30-days of the request, this is deemed to indicate that the Minister does not intend to conduct a review.
- After conducting a review, the Minister may confirm or vary the authority's decision or make any decision that the Minister considers appropriate, including issuing the permit subject to conditions.
- The Minister is required to base the decision on same criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities. This includes whether the activity is likely to affect the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or bedrock. It also must consider whether the activity is likely to create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard, might jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction of property.

**Proposed additional requirements that would be set out in regulation include:**

- The Minister may conduct a review of a conservation authority permit decision only if the development activity pertains to or supports a development of specified provincial interest, including:
  - Housing (community, affordable and market-based)

- Community services (health, long-term care, education, recreation socio-cultural, security and safety, environment)
- Transportation infrastructure
- Buildings that facilitate economic development or employment
- Mixed use developments

Note: This criteria would not apply to permit reviews under section 28.1.2 regarding permits where there is an order made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under section 34.1 or 47 of the *Planning Act*.

- The request submitted to the Minister for a review would include information on:
  - Overview of proposed development.
  - If the request relates to conditions imposed by the conservation authority to which the applicant objects, identification of the specific conditions that are subject to the request for review, the changes requested to the conditions and the rationale in support of the requested changes.
  - If the request relates to an authority's decision to refuse a permit, the rationale in support of requesting that the Minister varies the decision and issues the permit.
  - Why the Minister's involvement is requested (e.g., development of provincial interest, timing/urgency; permitting process to date; other barriers) and preferable to alternative mechanisms in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
  - Indication of whether the local municipality has endorsed the project and/or the request for Minister's involvement (e.g., by municipal letter or resolution).
  - Status of other required project approvals.

## Regulatory impact analysis

By clearly communicating the circumstances under which the Minister would consider whether to issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and to make permitting decisions in place of a conservation authority or to review a conservation authority permitting decision, this proposal would ensure that development proponents pursue the appropriate permitting channel. Efficiently navigating the permitting process is

expected to help save proponents time and resources. We expect that there will be some minor administrative costs for development proponents based on the time needed to learn about and understand the proposed changes.

## Supporting materials

### Related links

Conservation Authorities Act

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90c27#BK43>)

O. Reg. 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/240041>)

### View materials in person

Some supporting materials may not be available online. If this is the case, you can request to view the materials in person.

Get in touch with the office listed below to find out if materials are available.

MNRF - RPD PB - Resources Development Section  
300 Water Street  
2nd Floor South  
Peterborough, ON  
K9J 3C7  
Canada

## Comment

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

Have questions? Get in touch with the contact person below. Please include the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) number for this notice in your email or letter to the contact.

[Read our commenting and privacy policies. \(/page/commenting-privacy\)](#)

## Submit by mail

Conservation Authorities and  
Natural Hazards Section

Ministry of Natural Resources and  
Forestry - RPDPB

300 Water Street

2nd Floor South Tower

Peterborough, ON

K9J 3C7

Canada

## Connect with US

### Contact

Conservation Authorities and  
Natural Hazards Section



[ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca)

## 15. Committee and Staff Reports

### 15.1 Minutes - Committee of the Whole Meeting CW#05-24 held April 3, 2024

#### 15.1.10 Member Motion - Councillor Cilevitz - Extension of the Deadline for Listed Non-Designated Heritage Properties - (CW Item 12.1)

Moved by: Councillor Shiu  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

Whereas, subsection 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* on or before January 1, 2025; and

Whereas, since January 1, 2023, municipal staff and members of the municipal heritage committee in the City of Richmond Hill have been working to review the municipal heritage register, research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties, review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties, determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

Whereas, the above-noted work involving 235 listed properties in the City of Richmond Hill is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024.

Now therefore be it resolved,

That Council for the City of Richmond Hill requests the Government of Ontario to amend Subsection 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030; and

---

For Your Information and Any Action Deemed Necessary



That the Clerk be directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of the Province of Ontario; the Honourable Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism; Richmond Hill MPP Daisy Wai; Aurora - Oak Ridges - Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa; AMO; and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried Unanimously

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For Your Information and Any Action Deemed Necessary

225 East Beaver Creek Road, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 3P4 905-771-8800 [RichmondHill.ca](http://RichmondHill.ca)

April 23, 2024

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

Sent via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Provincial Regulations Needed to Restrict Keeping of Non-native ("exotic") Wild Animals  
Our File 35.11.2**

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting held on April 8, 2024, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS Ontario has more private non-native ("exotic") wild animal keepers, roadside zoos, mobile zoos, wildlife exhibits and other captive wildlife operations than any other province; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has of yet not developed regulations to prohibit or restrict animal possession, breeding, or use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals in captivity; and

WHEREAS non-native ("exotic") wild animals can pose very serious human health and safety risks, and attacks causing human injury and death have occurred in the province; and

WHEREAS the keeping of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can cause poor animal welfare and suffering, and poses risks to local environments and wildlife; and

WHEREAS owners of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can move from one community to another even after their operations have been shut down due to animal welfare or public health and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS municipalities have struggled, often for months or years, to deal with non-native ("exotic") wild animal issues and have experienced substantive regulatory, administrative, enforcement and financial challenges; and

PO Box 3012, 50 Church St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

Tel: 905.688.5600 | TTY: 905.688.4889 | [www.stcatharines.ca](http://www.stcatharines.ca)



WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) and the Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association (MLEOA) have indicated their support for World Animal Protection's campaign for provincial regulations of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and roadside zoos in letters to the Ontario Solicitor General and Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines hereby petitions the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding, and use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and license zoos in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario's citizens and the non-native ("exotic") wild animal population; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support, the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Solicitor General, Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry, MPP Jennie Stevens, MPP Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Jeff Burch, AMO, AMCTO, and MLEAO.

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



Kristen Sullivan, City Clerk  
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk  
:av

cc: The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General  
The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Local MPPs  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)  
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association of Ontario (MLEAO)  
All Municipalities of Ontario



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby  
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

**Phone:** 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

**Email:** [vsteele@grimsby.ca](mailto:vsteele@grimsby.ca)

April 16, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Honourable Arif Virani  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Virani,

**RE: Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on April 2, 2024, passed the following resolution:

**Moved:** Councillor Charrois

**Seconded:** Councillor Korstanje

Resolved that Council support the Township of Clearview's resolution regarding the endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Victoria Steele  
Town Clerk

CC: Township of Clearview  
Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau  
Dean Allison, MP Niagara West  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Municipalities



**Clerk's Department**  
Township of Clearview  
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street  
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0  
[clerks@clearview.ca](mailto:clerks@clearview.ca) | [www.clearview.ca](http://www.clearview.ca)  
Phone: 705-428-6230

March 27, 2024

Honourable Arif Virani  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Sent by Email

**RE: Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons**

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Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview at its meeting held on March 25, 2024, passed the following resolution in support of the endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons:

Moved by Councillor Dineen, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas The Canadian Federal Government has drafted Bill C-63, The Online Harms Act, currently in front of Parliament and has had its first reading; and,

Whereas Bill C-63 requires that online tech companies and social media platforms remove child pornography and other dangerous content within 24 hours once the operator identifies the content, while also mandating the following duties:

- Duty to protect children;
- Duty to act responsibly;
- Duty to remove egregious content; and,

Whereas The Canadian Federal Government proposes to establish a "Digital Safety Commission" and nominate an "independent" Ombudsperson to proactively circumvent potential harms on behalf of Canadians; and,

Whereas online tech companies and social media platforms need to adhere to existing Criminal Laws; and,

Whereas online tech companies and social media platforms need to be held accountable to keep platforms safe from predators targeting children and other vulnerable Canadians and to protect them from bullying, hate, extremism, violence, discrimination, self harm, exploitation and sexual extortion that can lead to the most dire of consequences; and,

Whereas Clearview Township, as all Canadians, endeavours to foster safe homes, communities, schools and public spaces;

Be It Resolved That the Mayor and Council of Clearview Township endorse the passing of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons and the establishment of a "digital safety commission" and nomination of an "independent" Ombudsperson; and,

That a copy of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Terry Dowdall, MP; The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada and The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada. Motion Carried.

Sincerely,



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Sasha Helmkey-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC

Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau  
Simcoe Grey MP Terry Dowdall  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Municipalities

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles  
RESOLUTION PAGE**



**Regular Meeting of Council**

**Agenda Number:** 8.4.

**Resolution Number** 2024-072

**Title:** Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #10 and 20

**Date:** March 20, 2024

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**Moved by:** Councillor Loftus

**Seconded by:** Councillor Pothier

**WHEREAS** current provincial - municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

**AND WHEREAS** nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 Billion a year;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

**AND WHEREAS** unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

**AND WHEREAS** inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

**AND WHEREAS** property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can not afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

**AND WHEREAS** the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; **BE**

**IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

**AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

  
MAYOR

April 12, 2024

**The Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks**  
**The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health**

Via email: [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)  
[sylvia.jones@ontario.ca](mailto:sylvia.jones@ontario.ca)

**RE: Recommended Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing**

Dear Ministers,

The 2023 Auditor General's audit of Public Health Ontario (PHO) recommends that PHO, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, update and implement a plan to streamline public health laboratory operations. In response, the Halton Hamilton Source Protection Committee passed the following resolution at their meeting on March 19, 2024:

***THAT** the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee direct staff to write a letter to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Minister of Health, area municipalities, other Source Protection Committees and local health units requesting that the province does not proceed with the recommended phase out of free private well water testing in Ontario.*

The Halton Hamilton Source Protection Committee is concerned about the proposed phase-out of free water testing for private drinking water. Approximately 50,000 residents in the Halton Hamilton Source Protection Region rely on non-municipal water sources, like private wells, which lack legislative protection. Free testing reduces financial and logistical barriers for residents, enabling regular testing that helps ensure safe drinking water sources. The committee urges the province to not proceed with the phase-out, as outlined in the attached March 19, 2024 committee report.

Yours truly,



Robert Edmondson  
Chair, Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee

Cc. Source Protection Committee Chairs and Program Managers  
City of Hamilton Public Health  
Halton Region Public Health



Halton-Hamilton  
Source Protection Region

City of Hamilton, Town of Grimsby, Niagara Region, Township of Puslinch, County of Wellington, Halton Region, City of Burlington, Town of Halton Hills, Town of Milton, Town of Oakville, Peel Region, City of Mississauga



**Report To:** Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee  
**Report No.:** SPC-24-03-09  
**From:** Martin Keller, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection  
**Date:** March 19, 2024  
**Subject:** **2023 Auditor General Report – Proposed Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing**

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### **Recommendation**

**THAT** the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee receives for information the staff report SPC-24-03-09 2023 Auditor General Report – Proposed Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing;

**AND THAT** the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee direct staff to write a letter to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks and the Minister of Health requesting that the province does not proceed with the recommended phase out of free private well water testing in Ontario.

### **Executive Summary**

The 2023 Auditor General's Value-for-Money audit of Public Health Ontario (PHO) recommended that PHO, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, update and implement a plan to streamline public health laboratory operations. The plan included gradually discontinuing free private drinking water testing. The proposed phase out of free water testing for private drinking water is of concern. Private systems are not protected through legislated requirement under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, and *Clean Water Act, 2006*, but are more likely to contribute to cases of gastrointestinal illness than municipal systems. In the Halton Hamilton Source Protection Region, about 50,000 resident do not receive water from municipal systems, with many relying on private drinking water system, including wells. Currently, both the City of Hamilton and Halton Region offer free well water testing. In 2012, a quarter of all samples from private residential wells and cisterns in Hamilton had unsafe levels of bacteria. Free private well water testing reduces barriers for residents to regularly test their wells. If implemented, the proposal to privatize well water testing will increase the risk for residents on private systems becoming ill.

### **Report**

In December 2023 the Auditor General released its [Value-for-Money Audit of Public Health Ontario \(PHO\)](#). The audit, among other items, found that PHO's laboratory sites were not operating efficiently. In 2017, PHO developed a plan collaboratively with the Ministry of Health to modernize its laboratory operations by consolidating resources into

fewer laboratory sites and discontinuing or restricting eligibility for certain tests. This plan has not been approved and implemented. According to the audit, implementation of this plan was put on hold due to the construction of the new London public health laboratory, as well as increased capacity required from all PHO laboratory sites for COVID-19. Audit recommendation #5 states that PHO, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, should update and implement a plan within 12 months to streamline public health laboratory operations.

The 2017 plan proposed to gradually close six of the 11 public health laboratory sites (Hamilton, Kingston, Orillia, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins) and changing the types of test offered at the PHO laboratory sites, including gradually discontinuing free private drinking water testing. Mitigating rising costs of maintaining facilities and establishing a more efficient operating model that reduces the rerouting of samples to other PHO laboratory sites are stated as the main reasons for the plan.

The proposed phasing out of free private drinking water well testing is of concern. Private drinking water systems do not have the legislated safeguards that are required for municipal, communal, and public systems under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*. Neither are the water sources of private drinking water systems protected through the source protection program under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, only municipal drinking water systems are mandated to be included in the source protection program. According to Health Canada's guidance on waterborne pathogens, private and small community water systems are vulnerable and recognized as being more likely to contribute to cases of human gastrointestinal illness than municipal systems.

In the Halton Hamilton Source Protection Region, 95% of the population receive their drinking water from municipal systems. The remaining 5%, or about 50,000 residents, receive their drinking water from non-municipal systems, many of them private drinking water wells. Testing of private well water is one of the only avenues for residents on private systems to ensure their drinking water is safe. Well water testing of private wells is the responsibility of each well owner. Currently, both the City of Hamilton Public Health Services and Halton Region Public Health offer free private drinking water testing through the PHO Hamilton laboratory site. The City of Hamilton Public Health Services recommends testing at least three times a year for bacteria. In 2012, about a quarter of all water samples from private residential wells and cisterns in Hamilton had unsafe levels of bacteria.

Free private well water testing is important to reduce barriers for residents to test their wells on a regular basis. Without free water testing, well owners would need to use commercial labs for a fee, which disincentivizes testing. Without regular testing, water quality is unknown, and residents are at increased risk of falling ill.

In the Walkerton Inquiry Report Part 2, Justice Dennis O'Connor concluded the privatization of laboratory testing of drinking water samples contributed directly to the E. coli O157:H7 outbreak in Walkerton, Ontario in May 2000. Twenty-four years later, there is a proposal to privatize water testing once again.

Signed & respectfully submitted:



Martin Keller  
Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection



Mardi Bergen  
Source Water Information Coordinator, Watershed Planning and Source Protection



**AMANDA FUSCO**

Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Corporate Services Department

Kitchener City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118

Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7

Phone: 519.741.2200 x 7809 Fax: 519.741.2705

[amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca](mailto:amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca)

TTY: 519-741-2385

April 5, 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on March 18, 2024, passed the following resolution regarding the Ontario Heritage Act:

"WHEREAS The More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23) received Royal Assent on November 28, 2022. As part of this omnibus Bill, several changes were implemented to various pieces of legislation, including but not limited to, The Planning Act, The Development Charges Act, The Conservation Authorities Act, and The Ontario Heritage Act; and,

WHEREAS subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal heritage register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act on or before January 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS since January 1, 2023, municipal heritage planning staff and members of the municipal heritage committee (Heritage Kitchener) in this municipality have been diligently working to: review the municipal heritage register; research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties; review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties; contact owners of such properties; determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and take all required steps to designate such properties; and,

WHEREAS the above-noted work involving approximately 228 properties listed properties in this municipality is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024 with the current resources available given other competing interests including reviewing and supporting new housing development proposals; and,

WHEREAS given the volume of work required, on February 7, 2023 the Kitchener Heritage Committee Work Plan 2022-2014 was endorsed with an objective of reviewing and designating only 80 properties by January 1, 2025 given the time constraint imposed; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener call on the Province to amend Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030, and that a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Honorable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; and John Ecker, Chair, Ontario Heritage Trust. That is also be circulated to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Provincial MPPs, Municipal councils across the province, the Architectural Conservatory of Ontario (ACO), as well as the Waterloo Region branch of the ACO.”

Yours truly,



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A. Fusco  
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Cc: Honourable Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance  
John Ecker, Chair, Ontario Heritage Trust  
Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities Ontario  
F. Leslie Thompson, President, Architectural Conservatory of Ontario (ACO)  
Marg Rowell, President, Waterloo Branch of the Architectural Conservatory of Ontario  
Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament  
Ontario Municipalities