

# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

## January 9, 2026

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**MINUTES**

Arthur White Sports Bursary Fund Committee

Wednesday September 17, 2025 – 12:00 p.m., Young Room

**Attendance:**

| NAME           | NAME                     | NAME                            |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chuck Langille | Lynda Kilpatrick         | Robert Benedetti                |
| John Rothwell  | Councillor Ross Earnshaw | Siobhan Haughey (staff liaison) |

**Regrets:** Joshua Obaigbena, Shawn Corrigan, Michael Goldberg

**Disclosure of Interest:** None

**Deferred Applications:** None

**1. Acceptance of June 18, 2025, Meeting Minutes**

Moved by: John Rothwell

Seconded by: Lynda Kilpatrick

CARRIED

**2. Standing Items**

a) Decision Items for input and discussion

i) New Bursary Applications

Application #1 Blaine Patel – 2025 Canada National Championships – Trampoline

Moved by: Lynda Kilpatrick

Seconded by: John Rothwell

THAT, a bursary be awarded from the Scott Thompson fund in the amount of \$135 to assist with costs incurred participating at the 2025 Canada National Championships – Trampoline, May 26-30, 2025, Calgary, AB.

CARRIED

Application #2 Jack Spittal – 2025 Walton Transcan Canadian Nationals

Moved by: Robert Benedetti

Seconded by: Lynda Kilpatrick

THAT, a bursary be awarded from the Arthur White fund in the amount of \$327.20 to assist with costs incurred participating at the 2025 Walton Transcan Canadian Nationals, August 6-9, 2025, Walton, ON.

CARRIED

Application #3 U15 Cambridge Coyotes – 2025 Youth Softball Nationals

Moved by: Lynda Kilpatrick

Seconded by: Robert Benedetti

THAT, a bursary be awarded from the Arthur White fund in the amount of \$300.00 to assist with costs incurred participating at the 2025 Youth Softball Nationals, June 27- July 3, 2025, Myrtle Beach, SC.

CARRIED

b) City Updates

i) Preston Auditorium Grand Opening Event

The Preston Auditorium Grand Opening Event will be held on Saturday September 27 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The event will include a Kid Zone with inflatables, face painting, games, crafts & activities, free public skating with complimentary skate and helmet rentals, sports showcases featuring local teams and clubs, walking tours of the facility, Beavertails and Fo'Cheesy food trucks, and the Cambridge Rivulettes Home Opener Game. Local sports groups will also be on-site to share what they do.

c) Other Business

i) Dave Menary Galt Arena Book Launch

Dave Menary will launch his Galt Arena Book at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts, in the Toyota Auditorium on Saturday September 20 at 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- ii) Any remaining funds from the Arthur White and Scott Thompson bursaries at fiscal year-end will be distributed to applicants who were successful in the year up to the last meeting of the fiscal year on an equal basis, from the respective fund.

Moved by: Robert Benedetti

Seconded by: John Rothwell

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

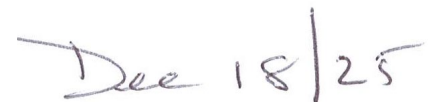
Moved by: John Rothwell

Seconded by: Robert Benedetti

CARRIED

Chair Athur White Committee:

Date:



Staff Liaison Arthur White Committee:

Date:



December 18, 2025



# MINUTES

## Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee

Meeting #11 - 25

December 18, 2025

Hybrid virtually via Zoom

7:00 p.m.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Susan Brown (MHAC Chair), Nelson Cecilia, Mark Melo, Rosemary Minella, Adele Sommerfeld and Councillor Corey Kimpson

**Regrets:** Meghan McKay, Nancy Woodman, Meg Oldfield, Michelle Goodridge

**Staff in Attendance:** Edwin Chiu (Heritage Planner), Jeremy Parsons (Senior Planner - Heritage), Nick Borcescu (Supervisor of Heritage Planning and Housing), Scott Abbott (Heritage Planner), select name of staff, select name of staff, Jake Clarmo (Council Committee Services Coordinator), Tena Michiels (Council Committee Services Coordinator) Missi O'Shaughnessy (Recording Secretary)

### Meeting Called to Order

The meeting of the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee was held in person at Cambridge City Hall, virtually via Microsoft Zoom and live streamed to the City of Cambridge YouTube channel. Susan Brown, MHAC Chairperson, welcomed everyone, and she advised those present that in its advisory role, MHAC makes recommendations that then go to Council for a decision. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

**Declarations of Interest – NIL**

**Presentation- NIL**

**Delegates – Mark Putt**

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by: Nelson Cecilia

Seconded by: Mark Melo

**THAT** the minutes of the December 4, 2025, meeting of the Cambridge Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee be considered for errors and omissions and be adopted.

ECM\Planning Services\Committees\MHAC\MHAC Agendas and Minutes\Minutes\2025 Minutes\12\_18\_2025 MHAC Minutes

**CARRIED**

**Reports:**

**1. Report 25-050 229 Queenston Rd Road – Cultural Heritage Evaluation**

Jeremy Parsons (Senior Planner - Heritage) provided a history of the property, built in 1894-1895. Property divorced from Clare House at 231 Queenston Road through lot division. Garage alone does not meet sufficient criteria for designation under Part IV. The property satisfies 1 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Nelson Cecilia

**Susan** asked if Lot had not been severed from main house, do you think the garage would have been recommended as one of the features to be part of the designation on the main house lot?

**THAT** Report 25-050 (MHAC) 229 Queenston Road - Cultural Heritage Evaluation be received

**CARRIED**

**2. Report 25-052 (MHAC) 927 King St E- Sign Permit Application**

Jeremy Parsons (Senior Planner - Heritage) provided a summary of the details for the proposed sign permit application for 927 King St E. Proposal does not remove any features, matches existing sign size, no internal illumination, design is text-based, and is located on an unarticulated section of wall.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Rosemary Minella

No questions to staff

**THAT** Report 25-052 (MHAC) 927 King Street East – Sign Permit Application be received.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) approves the Sign Permit application for 927 King Street East

**CARRIED**

**3. Report 25-048 (MHAC) 82 Glenmorris St- Recommendation to Designate**

Scott Abbott (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Constructed circa 1878. Well preserved Queen-Anne-style limestone residence with high-quality stone detailing. Directly associated with George Hogg, influential Galt industrialist and land developer. Contributes to the historic residential character of Glenmorris St. Part of a cohesive 19<sup>th</sup> century streetscape. The property satisfies 4 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Nelson Cecilia

Mark noted the house has recently changed ownership and wondered if the current owners are in favour of designation.

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 82 Glenmorris Street under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

**4. Report 25-047 (MHAC) 295 Ainslie St S– Recommendation to Designate**

Scott Abbott (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Built circa 1890, strong, intact example of late 19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular industrial architecture. Long standing association with the Galt knife company. Reflects Galt's industrial economy and employment history. Prominent building along Ainslie St S. Contributes to the historic character of Galt. The property satisfies 4 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Rosemary Minella

No questions to staff or to delegate

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 295 Ainslie Street South under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

**5. 25-055 (MHAC) 78 Barrie St – Recommendation to Designate**

Cheyenne Mailloux (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Built 1898, representative of the Edwardian architectural style and displays high degree of craftsmanship. Reinforces the historic character of Barrie St. The property satisfies 4 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Nelson Cecilia  
Seconded by: Mark Melo

No questions to staff or to delegate. staff or to delegate.

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 78 Barrie Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**CARRIED**

**6. 25-056 (MHAC) 78 Chalmers St N – Recommendation to Designate**

Cheyenne Mailloux (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Built circa 1878. Gothic Revival architectural features seen throughout the building. Reinforces the historic character of Chalmers St N The property satisfies 3 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Rosemary Minella

Susan asked if the Board & Batten on the house is original

Cheyenne advised through her research it was found that the board and batten had been touched up but is original

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 78 Chalmers Street North under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

**CARRIED**

**7. 25-051 (MHAC) 59 Bruce St – Recommendation to Designate**

Edwin Chiu (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Built 1851, representative of the Italianate architectural style and reflects work of Adam Hood who contributed to the early development history of Galt and association with the Knox Presbyterian church. Reinforces the historic character of Bruce Street and the East Galt neighborhood The property satisfies 5 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Nelson Cecilia

Mark Putt, the homeowner delegated with concerns about the property being designated. Stated he does not want to relinquish control of his property to an advisory committee. Feels the designation process having the homeowner involved as soon as possible was contradicted as he was only provided one week's notice of the meeting. He is requesting the decision be stayed until he can learn more about the process.  
insert any questions raised by MHAC members

Mark Melo asked the homeowner if there were any plans for the exterior of the house within the next year. Homeowner responded yes, siding, board & batten will be added. Landscape work to be completed as well

Susan Brown asked the homeowner if he had any concept of what features would be designated if designation were to go through. Homeowner stated his understanding is it would be limited to the exterior of the house.

Mark Melo asked Edwin when the owner becomes involved in this process and what does that communication look like.

Edwin responded that the homeowner is made aware 1-2 weeks ahead of meeting by receiving notice via registered mail, but due to the mass number of listed properties, we only reached out 1 week ahead of time.

Nick Borcescu advised that The Ontario Heritage Trust, the organization that oversees designations, has advised all municipalities in Ontario to refrain from sharing information with homeowners until after the initial Heritage Advisory Committee meeting. At that meeting, homeowners will have the opportunity to express their concerns and opinions. After this, one can also present one's views at the council level. Following this process, there is a 30-day window to file a formal objection, which council is required to hear, and staff must respond to within the next 60 days. This recommendation comes because many Listed properties are owned by numbered companies. If these companies become aware of any intent to designate their properties, they may submit an application for alterations. Once such an application is started, staff cannot proceed with any planned designation or heritage work.

Susan asked if there was any opportunity for homeowners to have conversations with Heritage Staff between now and Council meeting.

Edwin responded most definitely there is. There has already been ongoing discussion with this homeowner and staff that have been informative, and he welcomed the homeowner to continue these discussions with City Staff regarding the designation of 59 Bruce St. Nick Borcescu added that homeowners can reach out to Heritage Staff at any point, or show up to City Hall to have discussions, no appointment necessary.

Mark asked what designation would do to the proposed yard scaping the homeowner is planning, removing a shed, getting rid of concrete,

Edwin responded that routine maintenance that does not require the use of heavy machinery, work that doesn't need permits and replacing materials like for like, would not affect the designation.

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 59 Bruce Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

**CARRIED**

**8. 25-054 (MHAC) 27 Oak St – Recommendation to Designate**

Edwin Chiu (Heritage Planner) provided a history of the property Built circa 1895-1904, property is representative of Gothic Revival Ontario Cottage architectural style.

Reinforces the historic character of Oak Street neighborhood., and summary of information provided. The property satisfies 4 of the 9 criteria for designation.

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Rosemary Minella

No questions to staff or to delegate.

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) supports the recommendation to designate the property municipally known as 27 Oak Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

**CARRIED**

**Information Items:** - NIL

**Other Business**

**Chair's Comments:**

Chair, Susan Brown, said that for the Pattinson House designation that went to Council MHAC was not given the chance to comment on the internal designation. Since interior designations are uncommon, MHAC's opinion on this matter would have been beneficial. feels that it was unclear from the information the Council received that MHAC had solely considered exterior designation options and had not considered internal designation options.

Susan thanked Committee members and Heritage Staff for all of their hard work in 2025.

**Council Report/ Comments:**

Councillor Kimpson said she feels there are always opportunities for process to be refined both at committee level and council level, hoping this is information staff can take back to see what opportunities await in the future. Councillor Kimson also thanked everyone for all of their hard work with these very ambitious agendas.

ECM\Planning Services\Committees\MHAC\MHAC Agendas and Minutes\Minutes\2025 Minutes\ 12\_18 \_2025 MHAC Minutes

**Heritage Staff - comments:**

Nick Borcescu (Supervisor of Heritage Planning and Housing) shared End of Year update on the Heritage Review

**Next Meeting**

Date & Time: **[January 15, 2026]**, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Hybrid – Cambridge City Hall and virtually via Zoom

**Close of Meeting**

Moved by: Mark Melo  
Seconded by: Nelson Cecilia

**THAT** the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee meeting does now adjourn at **8:09**p.m.

**CARRIED**

Susan Brown  
MHAC Chairperson

Missi O'Shaughnesy  
Recording Secretary



Office of the City Clerk, City Hall  
500 George Street North  
Peterborough, Ontario  
K9H 3R9

December 3, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier for the Government of Ontario;  
Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General;  
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);  
Mary ten Doeschate, Peterborough Police Services Board Chair; and  
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

**Subject: Sustainable Funding for Police Services Request**

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on November 3, 2025, is forwarded for your consideration.

Moved by Councillor Crowley  
Seconded by Councillor Vassiliadis

**Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to maintain a police service; and**

**Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to constitute a municipal board to have policing responsibility for the municipality, or enter into a written agreement for an alternate provision of policing services; and**

**Whereas the City of Peterborough has constituted a municipal board; and**

**Whereas municipalities, across Ontario, with a police service board, are required to “ensure adequate and effective policing is provided in the area for which they have policing responsibility in accordance with the needs of the population in the area and having regard for the diversity of the population in the area” and**

**Whereas police service boards within municipalities where court proceedings are conducted are required to ensure the security of judges, other judicial officials, members of the public participating in court proceedings, ensuing the secure**



**custody of persons in custody who are on or about the premises, including persons taken into custody at proceedings; and**

**Whereas the provision of court security is not part of providing adequate and effective policing; and**

**Whereas the cost of providing court security is a cost of the municipality, regardless of whether all matters originate within that municipality; and**

**Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to have and maintain critical infrastructure, including appropriate police facilities and equipment, to ensure adequate and effective policing is provided; and**

**Whereas municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019; and**

**Whereas these cost increases stem from provincially mandated requirements — including training, certification, technology, reporting, and staffing obligations — necessary to bring local police services into compliance with the Act; and**

**Whereas municipalities have no discretion in implementing these measures and limited ability to absorb the resulting financial pressures within existing budgets; and**

**Whereas policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of the costs to implement provincial mandates;**

**Therefore, be it resolved that:**

**Council request that the Province of Ontario provide targeted financial assistance to municipalities to offset any additional costs that are directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, and not general increases to police budgets; and**

**Therefore, be it further resolved that:**

**Council urge the Province of Ontario to review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities so that communities with growing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and**

**Therefore, be it further resolved that:**

**Council request that the Province of Ontario provide stable sustainable funding to offset costs associated with the provision of providing court security services; and**



City of  
Peterborough

**That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Peterborough Police Services Board Chair, and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Kennedy".

John Kennedy  
City Clerk



*Mary ten Doeschate, Chair*

*Drew Merrett, Vice-Chair*

*Mayor Jeff Leal*

*Councillor Gary Baldwin*

*Steve Girardi*

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December 18, 2025

City of Peterborough (Sent via email)  
500 George St. N.  
Peterborough, ON K9H 3R9

**Attention: Members of Council**

**Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer**

**Richard Freymond, Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Support Services**

**John Kennedy, Clerk**

Members of Council, Mr. Raina, Mr. Freymond and Mr. Kennedy:

**Re: Council Resolution – Stable Funding for Police Service Boards**

The Peterborough Police Service Board unanimously passed the following motion at their Board meeting held on December 16, 2025:

**Moved by Drew Merrett**

**Seconded by Jeff Leal**

**That the Board receive for consideration and endorsement the Peterborough City Council resolution made November 3, 2025 regarding stable funding for Police Service Boards.**

Accordingly, the Board sends this letter in support of Council's call for the Province of Ontario to review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities; the Board believes increased and sustainable funding support from the Province is necessary to ensure the Board can meet its legislated mandate of providing adequate and effective policing in the City of Peterborough.

Sincerely,

Mary ten Doeschate,  
Chair

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***Peterborough Police Service Board***  
***500 Water Street, P.O. Box 2050 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7Y4***  
***Telephone: 705-876-1122 ext. 220 Fax: 705-876-6005***  
***www.peterboroughpolice.com***

December 15, 2025

**Re: Drowning Prevention and Swim Safety in Ontario**

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, passed the following resolution:

Item 9.2 of the General Issues Committee Minutes 25-017:

**9.2 Drowning Prevention and Swim Safety in Ontario**

WHEREAS, drowning is one the of the leading causes of preventable deaths among children in Ontario;

WHEREAS, research by the Lifesaving Society of Ontario shows that most children who drown never intended to be in the water;

WHEREAS, evidence demonstrates that even basic swimming and water survival skills significantly reduce the risk of drowning;

WHEREAS, many children in Ontario do not have equitable access to swimming lessons out side of school due to financial, cultural, or geographic barriers;

WHEREAS, several municipalities across Ontario have expressed strong interest in improving water safety education for children; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Education has the authority to incorporate water safety and survival training into the regular elementary school curriculum as universal, life-saving skill comparable to fire safety and road safety instruction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Hamilton City Council respectfully urge the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Education, to incorporate mandatory water safety and Swim-to-Survive training into the elementary school curriculum for all Ontario students;
- (b) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Minister of Education of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and The Federation of Canadian Municipalities with a request for support and/or endorsement; and,

- (c) That staff be directed to assess all Hamilton waterfronts to ensure adequate public water safety measures are in place, any opportunities to expand Swim to Survive Programs at city pools, and report back with recommendations to the Emergency and Community Services Committee.

Regards,

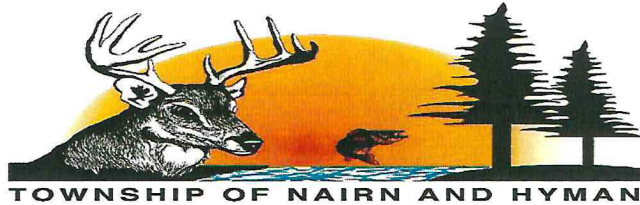


Matthew Trennum  
City Clerk

- cc. Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) [info@fcm.ca](mailto:info@fcm.ca)  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Education of Ontario [paul.calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:paul.calandra@pc.ola.org)  
Hamilton Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)  
Hon. D. Skelly, MPP (Flamborough-Glanbrook) [Donna.Skelly@pc.ola.org](mailto:Donna.Skelly@pc.ola.org)  
M. Ciriello, MPP (Hamilton Mountain) [monica.ciriello@pc.ola.org](mailto:monica.ciriello@pc.ola.org)  
Hon. N. Lumsden, MPP (Hamilton East-Stoney Creek) [Neil.Lumsden@pc.ola.org](mailto:Neil.Lumsden@pc.ola.org)  
S. Shaw, MPP (Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas) [SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca](mailto:SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca)  
R. Lennox, MPP (Hamilton Centre) [rlennox-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:rlennox-qp@ndp.on.ca)

All Ontario Municipalities

[Redacted list of Ontario Municipalities]



64 McIntyre Street • Nairn Centre, Ontario • P0M 2L0 ☎ 705-869-4232 📠 705-869-5248  
Established: March 7, 1896 Office of the Clerk Treasurer, CAO E-mail: [belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca](mailto:belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca)

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December 17, 2025

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

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Support Resolution

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman, I am writing to formally convey Council's support for recent federal measures aimed at stabilizing and strengthening Canada's steel and softwood lumber sectors.

As a small Northern Ontario municipality whose economy is closely tied to the continued operation of Interfor, a local softwood lumber mill, Council is increasingly concerned that ongoing trade pressures and market uncertainty are placing added strain on the long-term viability of this key employer. Any reduction in operations or a potential closure would have significant and lasting consequences for local employment, municipal revenues, and the overall economic and social wellbeing of our community.

In this context, and in response to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities' November 26, 2025 media release, Council adopted the enclosed resolution at their meeting of December 8, 2025:

**SUPPORT FOR STEEL AND LUMBER SECTORS**

**RESOLUTION # 2025-14-247**

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

**WHEREAS** the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has issued a media release dated November 26, 2025, welcoming the Government of Canada's new measures to support the steel and softwood lumber sectors in response to ongoing U.S. tariff pressures; and

**WHEREAS** the federal actions—including strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports, and increased incentives to utilize Canadian steel and lumber in federal infrastructure and housing projects—represent important steps in stabilizing industries that are vital to Northern Ontario's economy; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities across the North continue to experience the economic impacts of industry closures, including the recent shutdown of Domtar a pulp and paper mill in the neighboring Town of Espanola, which has demonstrated the vulnerability of resource-dependent communities and the need for coordinated intergovernmental support; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of Nairn and Hyman recognizes the significant role of Interfor, our local soft-wood lumber mill, as a major employer and economic anchor in our region, and further recognizes that any threat to its continued operation would have devastating consequences for workers, families, and local businesses; and

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has a shared responsibility to ensure the long-term sustainability of the forestry, lumber, and steel sectors, which are foundational to the economic wellbeing of Northern and rural communities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman commends the Government of Canada for its leadership and for implementing substantial measures to support Canada's steel and softwood lumber industries during this period of trade volatility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Council respectfully urges the Government of Ontario to introduce additional financial, regulatory, and policy-based supports to ensure that Ontario's steel, forestry, and lumber sectors remain competitive, resilient, and able to withstand ongoing international trade pressures; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Council specifically calls upon the Province of Ontario to work directly with industry stakeholders, including municipalities and major employers such as Interfor, to create programs and investments that will help protect jobs, maintain production capacity, and support long-term industry growth in Northern Ontario; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, MP Jim Belanger, MPP Bill Rosenberg and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

Sincerely Yours,



Belinda Ketchabaw  
CAO Clerk - Treasurer

BK/mb

cc: Premier of Ontario  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Minister of Northern Development  
FONOM  
MP Hon. Jim Belanger  
MPP Hon. Bill Rosenberg  
All Ontario Municipalities

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 26, 2025

**FONOM Welcomes Federal Support for Steel and Lumber Sectors  
Impacted by U.S. Tariffs**

**Northeastern Ontario** – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) welcomes today’s announcement by Prime Minister Mark Carney outlining new federal measures to support Canada’s steel and softwood lumber industries, which continue to face unprecedented challenges due to aggressive U.S. tariff actions.

The federal plan includes strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports for companies facing liquidity pressures, and new incentives to increase the use of Canadian steel and lumber in national infrastructure and housing projects. These measures aim to stabilize sectors vital to the economies of many Northern Ontario communities.

Prime Minister Carney announced that Canada will significantly tighten tariff-rate quotas on foreign steel imports, opening an estimated **\$850 million in domestic demand** for Canadian producers. In addition, the federal government is allocating **\$500 million in new financing** for softwood lumber firms, paired with a further **\$500 million expansion** of the Business Development Bank of Canada’s softwood guarantee program.

FONOM is encouraged by the federal government’s recognition of the pressures facing Northern resource-based communities, where steel and lumber operations support thousands of jobs and anchor local economies.

**“These measures acknowledge what Northern Ontario has long understood — that our steel and lumber sectors are national economic pillars,”** said FONOM President Dave Plourde **“U.S. tariffs continue to destabilize communities across the North, and today’s announcement provides needed tools to help our workers and industries adapt, compete, and grow.”**

FONOM also welcomes the federal commitment to **reduce interprovincial freight rates by 50 per cent** for steel and lumber shipments beginning next spring. Lower transportation costs will help Northern producers access new domestic markets and move product efficiently while north-south trade remains constrained.

As part of the plan, the federal government will also advance the **Buy Canadian Policy**, ensuring that major defence, construction, and infrastructure projects prioritize Canadian steel, aluminum,

and wood products. This aligns strongly with FONOM's longstanding advocacy for procurement policies that support Canadian jobs and supply chains.

"Keeping Canadian dollars working in Canada is essential," added the President. "These steps will create new demand for made-in-Canada materials while helping stabilize communities affected by unpredictable U.S. trade actions."

FONOM looks forward to continued collaboration with federal officials to ensure the timely rollout of these programs, and to ensure that Northern Ontario municipalities and industries can fully benefit from the measures announced today.

**Media Contact:**

Dave Plourde, President

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

705-335-1615 | [fonom.info@gmail.com](mailto:fonom.info@gmail.com)



64 McIntyre Street • Nairn Centre, Ontario • P0M 2L0 ☎ 705-869-4232 📠 705-869-5248  
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December 17, 2025

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

Re: Elect Respect Pledge

Please be advised our Council adopted the following resolution at their meeting of December 8, 2025:

**SUPPORT RESOLUTION - RE: ELECT RESPECT PLEDGE**

**RESOLUTION # 2025-14-243**

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the correspondence from the Township of Chapple regarding the Elect Respect pledge; be received and supported as outlined below:

**WHEREAS** democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community; and

**WHEREAS** we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario's municipally elected officials and municipal staff are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment; and

**WHEREAS** social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office; and

**WHEREAS** better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office; and

**WHEREAS** in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and called on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct; and

**WHEREAS** H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called Elect Respect to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials and municipal staff that encourages individuals to participate in the political process.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

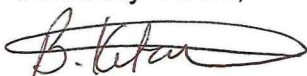
- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats, and
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at [www.electrespect.ca](http://www.electrespect.ca); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, MP Jim Belanger and MPP Hon. Bill Rosenberg, and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

Sincerely Yours,



Belinda Ketchabaw  
CAO Clerk - Treasurer

BK/mb

cc: Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
MP Hon. Jim Belanger  
MPP Hon. Bill Rosenberg  
All Ontario Municipalities

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# The Corporation of the Township of Chapple

P.O. Box 4, Barwick, Ontario P0W 1A0 CANADA

Phone: (807) 487-2354  
www.chapple.on.ca

Fax: (807) 487-2406  
CAO@chapple.on.ca

November 12, 2025

Sent via email: [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca)

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

## RE: Elect Respect Pledge

Please be advised that at its Regular meeting on November 12, 2025, Council of the Township of Chapple passed the following resolution:

**RES-173-2025**

**Moved by: Vaughan Wilson**

**Seconded by: Trish Neilson**

Be it resolved that the correspondence from the Township of Southgate regarding the Elect Respect pledge; be received and supported as outlined below:

Whereas democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community; and

Whereas we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions; and

Whereas Ontario’s municipally elected officials and municipal staff are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment; and

Whereas social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office; and

Whereas better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables; and

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office; and

Whereas in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and called on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct; and

Whereas H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called Elect Respect to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials and municipal staff that encourages individuals to participate in the political process.

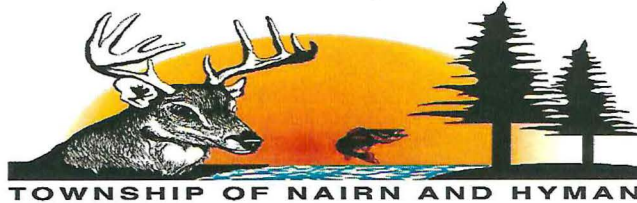
Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Township of Chapple supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats, and
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct; and

Be It Further Resolved That the Township of Chapple Council calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at [www.electrespect.ca](http://www.electrespect.ca); and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, MP Doug Shipley and MPP Hon. Doug Downey, the Ontario Provincial Police, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Cindy Nielson  
CAO Clerk-Treasurer  
Township of Chapple



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December 17, 2025

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

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Support Resolution

Please be advised our Council adopted the following resolution at their meeting of December 8, 2025:

**SUPPORT REQUEST FOR NATION-BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAY  
11/17 (2+1 & FOUR LANE OPTIONS)**

**RESOLUTION # 2025-14-241**

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

**WHEREAS** Canada's east-west trade and national mobility rely on the Trans-Canada Highway system, including Highways 17 and 11 across Northern and Eastern Ontario, which carry significant freight volumes but remain predominantly two-lane corridors; and

**WHEREAS** four-laning the entirety of Highway 17 is the ultimate goal of the communities along the corridor; and

**WHEREAS** the proven "2+1" highway design - alternating passing lanes with a continuous median barrier - delivers safety outcomes comparable to full twinning at substantially lower cost, land, and environmental impact, and can be scaled or converted to four lanes (2+2) as volumes grow; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has announced a 2+1 pilot between North Bay and Temagami and a further extension toward Cochrane, creating a near-term implementation pathway; and

**WHEREAS** modernizing Highways 17 and 11 will improve safety, reduce closures, strengthen supply-chain reliability for mining, forestry, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, and enhance national resilience and emergency response capacity; and

**WHEREAS** a phased 2+1 build - prioritizing Highway 11 (North Bay --+ Cochrane, then Cochrane--+ Nipigon) and key sections of Highway 17 (western border of County of Renfrew--+ Sudbury; Sault Ste. Marie --+ Sudbury; Thunder Bay--+ Kenora) - aligns with nation-building criteria, supports economic reconciliation with Indigenous partners, and enables integrated EV charging and low-carbon construction practices;

**WHEREAS** analysis summarized by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, (FONOM) demonstrates high freight demand on these routes and strong safety/economic rationale for a 2+1 program;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman formally endorses the adoption and phased implementation of a 2+1 highway program on Highways 17 and 11 as a nation-building project; and

**THAT** the Government of Canada be urged to designate this initiative as a project of national interest under the Building Canada Act and to partner with Ontario to co-fund and accelerate planning, design, procurement, and construction; and

**THAT** the Government of Ontario be urged to expand the announced pilot to a corridor-wide program, sequencing works as follows (subject to readiness and safety benefit):

**THAT** the Government of Ontario prioritize these projects into the Ministry of Transportation's Major Projects Division; and

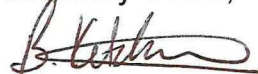
**THAT** both governments ensure early, ongoing, and capacity-supported engagement with affected Indigenous Nations, with opportunities for Indigenous training, contracting, and equity participation; and

**THAT** the program incorporates corridor-wide safety features (barrier-separated 2+1 cross-sections, controlled passing frequency, wildlife considerations}, resilience measures (closure mitigation, climate adaptation}, and clean-growth elements (EV charging readiness, recycled aggregates, lower-carbon materials; and

**THAT** this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transport (Canada}, the Minister of Infrastructure (Canada}, the Ontario Minister of Transportation, local MPs and MPPs, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM}, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA}, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO}, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM}, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA}, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC} for support.

**CARRIED**

Sincerely Yours,



Belinda Ketchabaw  
CAO Clerk - Treasurer

BK/mb

cc: Federal Minister of Infrastructure  
Federal Minister of Transport  
Premier of Ontario  
Ontario Minister of Transportation  
FONOM  
NOMA  
AMO  
FCM  
ROMA  
EOWC  
Local Member of Parliament  
Local Member of Provincial Parliament

## For Immediate Release

# Northern Ontario Hill Days: NOMA and FONOM Bring a Unified Northern Voice to Ottawa

**Thunder Bay, ON / North Bay, ON — December 3, 2025** — The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) have concluded two highly productive days of meetings on Parliament Hill as part of **Northern Ontario Hill Days**, a coordinated advocacy mission that brought municipal leaders directly to federal decision-makers to advance the priorities of Northern communities.

Over the two-day mission, representatives from NOMA and FONOM met with **MPs from all parties, Cabinet Ministers, Opposition Leaders, and senior federal officials**, underscoring a shared message: **supporting the North is essential to strengthening Canada's economy, infrastructure, and communities.**

## High-Impact Meetings Across Parliament Hill

Throughout the mission, the delegation engaged in focused discussions with:

- **Staff from the Leader of the Official Opposition**
- **MP Marcus Powlowski (Thunder Bay–Rainy River)**
- **MP Pauline Rochfort (Nipissing–Timiskaming)**
- **Finance Minister François-Philippe Champagne**
- **Minister Patty Hajdu**
- **Minister Mélanie Joly**
- **Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure and Housing Jennifer McKelvie**
- **Parliamentary Secretary for Immigration Peter Fragiskatos**
- **Housing Critic Scott Aitchison (CPC)**
- **MP Eric Melillo (Kenora / Kiiwetinoong - CPC)**
- **Senior staff in the Prime Minister's Office**

These discussions centred on the urgent needs of Northern communities and the unique role the region plays in national economic growth, resource development, supply chain reliability, and community safety.

## Advancing Key Priorities for Northern Communities

NOMA and FONOM presented a coordinated set of priorities, including:

- **Strengthening the Trans-Canada Highway System**

Northern Ontario is home to the most vulnerable stretch of the Trans-Canada Highway. The delegation called for federal investment in 2+1 highway models, redundancy around critical pinch points, and long-term resilience planning to ensure the continuity of Canada's national supply chain.

▪ **Addressing Labour Shortages Through Tailored Immigration Pathways**

Municipal leaders emphasized that severe labour shortages are slowing growth across essential services, small businesses, and major industrial projects. The delegation pressed for rural- and Northern-specific immigration solutions to attract and retain workers and to support regional post-secondary institutions facing enrolment pressures.

▪ **Community Safety and Meaningful Bail Reform**

Delegates urged the federal government to take decisive action on chronic reoffending, improve accountability within the bail system, and support measures that restore safety and confidence in Northern communities.

▪ **Unlocking Economic Growth and Critical Minerals Development**

NOMA and FONOM highlighted the global significance of Northern Ontario's critical mineral potential and called for accelerated permitting, strategic infrastructure investments, and continued support for Indigenous-led partnerships.

**Quotes:**

“Northern Ontario’s highways are Canada’s highways. The Trans-Canada corridor through our region is the most vulnerable stretch in the entire country, and without real federal investment in redundancy, expansion, and safety upgrades, the national supply chain remains at constant risk. At the same time, our communities are facing historic labour shortages across every sector. We made it clear in Ottawa that Northern Ontario is ready to grow, but we need the workers—and the safe, reliable transportation infrastructure—to support that growth.”

— **Rick Dumas, President, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)**

“Municipalities across Northern Ontario are confronting a community safety crisis driven by chronic and repeat offenders, and we pressed the federal government for meaningful bail reform that protects victims, reinforces accountability, and ensures our communities can feel safe again. At the same time, labour shortages are holding back everything from small businesses to major resource projects. Northern Ontario needs a federal partner committed to real solutions on both fronts if we are going to thrive.”

— **Dave Plourde, President, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)**

**A Strong and Collaborative Presence**

Northern Ontario Hill Days showcased unprecedented collaboration between the two regional associations, presenting a united and solutions-focused voice to federal leaders. Together, NOMA and FONOM affirmed that **a strong, growing Northern Ontario is foundational to building a strong and competitive Canada.**

## Looking Ahead

NOMA and FONOM expressed their commitment to continuing this momentum through **annual federal engagement**, ensuring that the issues facing Northern communities remain front and centre in national discussions.

Both organizations also extended an invitation to federal leaders, stating that they **look forward to welcoming MPs, Ministers, and the Prime Minister** to their upcoming conferences to continue dialogue, strengthen relationships, and advance shared priorities for Northern Ontario.

—30—

### Media Contacts:

Dave Plourde, President, FONOM  
705-335-1615 | [fonom.info@gmail.com](mailto:fonom.info@gmail.com)

Rick Dumas, President, NOMA  
807-683-6662 | [admin@noma.on.ca](mailto:admin@noma.on.ca)



**The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville**

**Resolution No. CC- 179 - 2025**

**Date:** December 18, 2025

Moved by Tory Descamps

Seconded by Nancy Peckford

**WHEREAS** on May 1, 2025, Bill 9, Municipal Accountability Act, 2025, re-introduced legislation originally proposed under Bill 241; and

**WHEREAS** Bill 9, if passed, would enable the creation of a new, standardized municipal code of conduct, an integrity commissioner inquiry process that would be consistent throughout the province and mandatory code of conduct training for members of council and certain local boards; and

**WHEREAS** Bill 9, Municipal Accountability Act, 2025, was ordered for a third reading on October 20, 2025; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville deems it advisable for Bill 9 to be passed promptly.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville calls for Bill 9 to proceed to its third reading forthwith; and

**THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Steve Clark, MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried  Defeated  Deferred

Corinna Smith-Gatcke  
Corinna Smith-Gatcke, Warden



December 19, 2025

Honorable Mark Carney

Sent via email: [mark.carney@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mark.carney@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Honorable Mark Carney:

Please be advised that Brantford City Council, at its meeting held December 16, 2025 adopted the following:

**12.2.7 Call for Reform and Publication of the Ontario Sex Offender Registry - Councillor Samwell**

WHEREAS the community of Welland and the surrounding communities were deeply impacted by a recent heinous crime that highlighted critical gaps in Canada's criminal justice and offender-management systems; and

WHEREAS on September 4, 2025, Mayor Frank Campion of the City of Welland wrote to the Premier of Ontario urging comprehensive reform to strengthen sentencing, parole, and bail provisions for violent sexual offenders, and to enhance public safety protections; and

WHEREAS on September 12, 2025, Mayor Mat Siscoe of the City of St. Catharines wrote to the Prime Minister of Canada expressing strong support for these reforms and calling for immediate federal action to strengthen sentencing, parole, and accountability measures for violent sexual offenders; and

WHEREAS the City of Thorold, at its meeting of September 9, 2025, adopted Resolution 14.2 requesting the Province of Ontario to amend Christopher's Law (Sexual Offenders Registry), 2000 to make Ontario Sex Offender Registry publicly accessible; and

WHEREAS several Niagara municipalities; including Grimsby, Fort Erie, Port Colborne, and St. Catherines have subsequently endorsed this call for greater transparency and reform; and

WHEREAS municipal councils, though not responsible for criminal law or parole, play a vital role in advocating for the safety and well-being of their residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. THAT the Council of the City of Brantford hereby supports the City of Thorold's Resolution calling for the Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry and the City of Welland's correspondence dated September 4, 2025, calling for reform to sentencing, parole, and registry provisions concerning violent sexual offenders; and
- B. THAT the Province of Ontario be urged to amend Christopher's Law (Sexual Offender Registry), 2000 to make the Ontario Sex Offender

Registry publicly accessible, subject to appropriate privacy and safety safeguards; and

C. THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- i. The Right Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada;
- ii. The Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada;
- iii. The Hon. Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Safety;
- iv. The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;
- v. The Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario;
- vi. The Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario;
- vii. Member of Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Larry Brock;
- viii. Member of Provincial Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Will Bouma;
- ix. The Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- x. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM); and
- xi. All Ontario Municipalities for their information and support.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier City Clerk,  
[cgauthier@brantford.ca](mailto:cgauthier@brantford.ca)

CC - The Honorable Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; - [Sean.Fraser@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Sean.Fraser@parl.gc.ca)

The Honorable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Safety  
[Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca)

The Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; - [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Honorable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; -  
[Doug.Downey@ontario.ca](mailto:Doug.Downey@ontario.ca)

The Honorable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario  
[michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org](mailto:michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org)

Member of Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Larry Brock; -  
[larry.brock@parl.gc.ca](mailto:larry.brock@parl.gc.ca)

Member of Provincial Parliament for Brantford-Brant, Will Bouma; -  
[will.bouma@pc.ola.org](mailto:will.bouma@pc.ola.org)

The Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) [FCMInfo@fcm.ca](mailto:FCMInfo@fcm.ca)

All Ontario Municipalities for their information and support



# The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

## Resolution

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City of Brantford  
58 Dalhousie St.,  
Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J2

Town of Cobourg  
55 King Street West,  
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2  
[clerk@cobourg.ca](mailto:clerk@cobourg.ca)

**Sent via email**  
[clerks@brantford.ca](mailto:clerks@brantford.ca)

December 24, 2025

RE: Correspondence from David Miller regarding Elbows Up for Climate Action Letter

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on November 26, 2025, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from C40 Centre for City Climate Policy and Economy regarding Elbows Up for Climate Action; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to send a copy of this resolution to all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik  
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

# Elbows Up For Climate Action

## An open letter from Canada's local leaders

### **Messrs. Blanchet, Carney, Pedneault, Poilievre, Singh, and Ms. May:**

We are mayors and councillors from across Canada, where we represent and serve millions of residents of all political backgrounds. Like so many of you, we are already feeling the effects of U.S. trade attacks in our communities through lost jobs, uncertainty for businesses, and increased costs of daily living.

Increasingly, we are also guiding our communities through another kind of crisis: recurring wildfires, floods, storms and deadly climate events. **We believe this is the moment for Canada to fight back, by investing in national projects that will connect and protect our country from the dual threats of tariffs and climate change.**

**Leading through a climate emergency changes you.** You can't witness elderly neighbours overheating in low-income apartments during a heat wave, and not recognize the critical role of well-insulated, affordable housing. You can't comfort people who have lost everything in floods and fires, and not wonder how we will afford to rebuild. You can't watch your kids and loved ones choke on toxic wildfire smoke without **knowing the time to act boldly on climate change is right now – because later is too late.**

Over the past decade, we've watched wildfires rip through nearly every part of our country. Just like you, we were stunned when Lytton disappeared off the map. Then parts of Halifax went up in flames. Last year, wildfires engulfed the iconic and beloved Jasper. What's next? Who's next?

**We can't keep watching our homes, towns and forests burn to a crisp, and pretend the status quo is working or safe.** We can't adapt our way out of this problem.

**It is time for us to get to work.** We are proposing five bold and achievable ideas the next federal government can implement as soon as it is elected, to tariff-proof our economy and create a jobs boom in every community:

- **create a national East-West-North clean electric grid**, delivering affordable energy to urban, rural and Indigenous communities across the country;
- **build a national high-speed rail network**, and extend it with locally-made electric buses to reach every community in this country;
- **build at least two million non-market, energy-efficient homes**, creating more affordable, transit-linked communities;
- **make our homes and buildings warmer in winter, cooler in summer** with retrofits and heat pump installations across the country, that will cut energy bills and pollution;
- **.... and fund a national resilience, response and recovery strategy** so our communities can prepare for the climate disasters we know are coming, respond when they hit, and rebuild afterwards.

**These projects would create hundreds of thousands of good local jobs in cities, rural and Indigenous communities, using Canadian steel, aluminum and lumber.** They would bolster our economy and make daily life safer and more affordable for all of us. We *can* afford to pay for them now: by redirecting billions of dollars in fossil fuel subsidies, and strengthening the polluter pays principle, for example.

**This is the kind of action that this moment calls for.** That is why it has been so disappointing to hear voices following Donald Trump's lead and using this crisis to revive long-dead and unpopular pipeline projects. Let's be honest: new pipelines require massive public handouts, trample on Indigenous sovereignty, and mean more climate disasters hitting our cities and towns in years to come.

As local leaders, we know that whatever their political backgrounds, our constituents are worried about the same things: good jobs; a safe and affordable place to live; and confidence that their leaders have a plan for the next crisis we face, whether a climate disaster – or an economic sucker punch from our closest ally.

**We are facing a growing climate threat, and an attack on our economic sovereignty. We can and must take them both on at once.** This federal election, let's put our elbows up for climate action, and commit to truly national projects to protect and connect our country.

## Signed

Councillor Neville Abbott, **Lions Bay**  
Councillor Samantha Agtarap, **Port Moody**  
Conseiller Francis Allaire, **Blainville**  
Councillor Phil Allt, **Guelph**  
Conseiller Pierre-Luc Arseneault, **Chandler**  
Councillor Jordan Back, **North Vancouver**  
Councillor Adam Baden-Clay, **Antigonish County**  
Councillor Lori Baldwin-Sands, **St. Thomas**  
Conseillère Anne Barabé, **Boucherville**  
Former Mayor Lisa Barrett, **Bowen Island**  
Councillor Dale Bass, **Kamloops**  
Councillor Haley Bateman, **Niagara**  
Councillor Jeff Bateman, **Sooke**  
Mairesse Évelyne Beaudin, **Sherbrooke**  
Councillor Scott Beaver, **St. Mary's**  
Councillor Donna Bell, **Sechelt**  
Councillor Nancy Bepple, **Kamloops**  
Mayor Andrew Black, **Tantramar**  
Mayor Merlin Blackwell, **Clearwater**  
Conseiller Loïc Blancquaert, **Saint-Lambert**  
Councillor Gabrielle Blatz, **Wetaskiwin**  
Conseiller Jacques Bouchard, **Saint-Jérôme**  
Councillor Phil Brennan, **Severn**  
Conseillère Gabrielle Brisebois, **Montmagny**  
Councillor Riley Brockington, **Ottawa**  
Mayor Alan Brown, **Butternut Valley**  
Councillor Don Brown, **View Royal**  
Councillor Matthew Brown, **Kaslo**  
Mayor Vickey Brown, **Cumberland**  
Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, **Stratford**  
Councillor Guy Burry, **Muskoka Lakes**  
Councillor Sue Cairns, **Kimberley**  
Councillor Ruby Campbell, **New Westminster**  
Councillor Leanne Caron, **Guelph**  
Deputy Mayor Marty Carr, **Ottawa**  
Councillor Erin Caton, **Guelph**  
Deputy Mayor Godwin Chan, **Richmond Hill**  
Councillor Debbie Chapman, **Kitchener**  
Mayor Scott Christian, **Region of Queens**  
Councillor Karen Cilevitz, **Richmond Hill**

Former Mayor Charlie Clark, **Saskatoon**

Mayor Lucas Cleveland, **Cobourg**

Conseiller Jean Cloutier, **Deschambault-Grondines**

Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton, **Courtenay**

Mayor Spencer Coyne, **Princeton**

Conseillère Catherine Craig-St-Louis, **Gatineau**

Councillor David Croal, **Gibsons**

Conseiller Alvaro Cueto, **Longueuil**

Maire Martin Dampousse, **Varenes**

Councillor Tom Davis, **St. John's**

Councillor Tobin Day, **Georgian Bluffs**

Councillor Lisa Deacon, **Russell Township**

Conseiller Etienne Decelles, **Sainte-Angèle-de-Monnoir**

Councillor Matt Dell, **Victoria**

Councillor Kacy DeLong, **District of Lunenburg**

Conseillère Anik Des Marais, **Gatineau**

Conseillère Alicia Despina, **Québec**

Councillor Sean Devine, **Ottawa**

Mayor Corrie DiManno, **Banff**

Councillor Deborah Doherty, **Collingwood**

Mayor Rob Douglas, **North Cowichan**

Councillor Nadia Dubyk, **Grey Highlands**

Conseiller Étienne Dupuis, **Crabtree**

Councillor Hilary Eastmure, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Alison Evans, **Pitt Meadows**

Area Director Andrew Fall, **qathet Regional District**

Councillor Jay Fallis, **Orillia**

Councillor Jon Farmer, **Owen Sound**

Councillor and Islands Trustee Sue Ellen Fast, **Bowen Island**

Councillor Ryan Fequet, **Yellowknife**

Councillor David Ferreira, **London**

Councillor Jane Fogal, **Halton Hills**

Mayor Adrian Foster, **Clarington**

Deputy Mayor Sarah Fowler, **Tahsis**

Councillor Skylar Franke, **London**

Councillor Danielle Fraser, **Westville**

Councillor David Froh, **Regina**

Councillor Pete Fry, **Vancouver**

Area Director Justine Gabias, **Halfmoon Bay**

Councillor Nora Gambioli, **District of West Vancouver**

Councillor Chantal Garneau, **Halton Hills**

Councillor Amit Gaur, **Parksville**

Conseillère Mélodie Georget, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Maire Paul Germain, **Prévost**

Councillor Ben Geselbracht, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Derek Giberson, **Oshawa**

Councillor Cindy Gilroy, **Winnipeg**

Conseillère Christine Gingras, **Plessisville**

Councillor Angela Girard, **North Vancouver**

Councillor Rodrigo Goller, **Guelph**

Councillor Robin Goodfellow-**Baikie, North West River**

Councillor Steve Gray, **Metchosin**

Councillor Lauren Greenlaw, **Squamish**

Councillor Alison Gu, **Burnaby**

Maire Pierre Guénard, **Chelsea**

Maire Marc-André Guertin, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Councillor Wendy Hall, **Jasper**

Councillor Danika Hammond, **New Denver**

Mayor Jennifer Handley, **Nanton**

Councillor Colby Harder, **Langford**

Councillor Jimmy Hassan, **Kingston**

Former Mayor Lisa Helps, **Victoria**

Councillor Erin Hemmens, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Bonnie Henderson, **Stratford**

Former Mayor Brad Henderson, **Saint Andrews**

Councillor Tasha Henderson, **New Westminster**

Deputy Mayor Benjamin Hendriksen, **Yellowknife**

Mayor Greg Henley, **Oxford**

Councillor Linda Heshka, **Melville**

Councillor Doug Hillian, **Courtenay**

Councillor Claire Holloway Wadhvani, **Port Hope**

Councillor Jenn Houghtaling, **Cumberland County**

Conseiller David Huggins-Daines, **Sainte-Adèle**

Mayor Armand Hurford, **Squamish**

Mayor Michael Hurley, **Burnaby**

Mayor Richard Ireland, **Jasper**

Councillor Trina Isakson, **Powell River**

Councillor Chris Istace, **North Cowichan**

Former Mayor Don Iveson, **Edmonton**

Conseillère Rita Jain, **Chelsea**

Councillor Michael Janz, **Edmonton**

Councillor Laine Johnson, **Ottawa**

Mayor Patrick Johnstone, **New Westminster**

Councillor Evan Jolicoeur, **Courtenay**

Councillor Christopher Justice, **North Cowichan**

Mayor Todd Kasenberg, **North Perth**

Councillor Theresa Kavanagh, **Ottawa**

Councillor Jonathan Kerr, **Comox**

Councillor Susan Kim, **Victoria**

Mayor Peter Koetsier, **Township of Georgian Bay**

Mayor Sean Krausert, **Canmore**

Councillor Cameron Kroetsch, **Hamilton**

Mayor Dan Kutcher, **Summerside**

Councillor Johanna Kwakernaak, **Berwick**

Conseiller Dominic Labrie, **Chelsea**

Councillor Joy Lachica, **Peterborough**

Councillor Michel Lalonde, **Champlain**

Maire Guillaume Lamoureux, **La Pêche**

Conseiller Jérémy Laplante, **Paspébiac**

Conseillère Julie Lavoie, **Beloil**

Councillor Casey Law, **New Denver**  
Mayor Andrew LeBlanc, **Riverview**

Conseiller Joey Leckman, **Prévost**  
Conseillère Line Légaré, **Saint-Adolphe-d'Howard**  
Councillor Jeff Leiper, **Ottawa**  
Conseiller Martin Leprohon, **Saint-Basile-le-Grand**  
Conseillère Laure Letarte-Lavoie, **Sherbrooke**  
Councillor Rik Logtenberg, **Nelson**  
Mayor Adam Lordon, **Miramichi**  
Councillor Joel Loughead, **Grey Highlands**  
Councillor Gord Lovegrove, **Kelowna**  
Councillor Amy Lubik, **Port Moody**  
Area Director Patti MacAhonic, **Fraser Valley Regional District**  
Conseillère Cecilia Macedo, **Laval**  
Councillor Kate MacNaughton, **Prince Edward County**  
Councillor Leah Main, **Silverton**  
Councillor Lucy Maloney, **Vancouver**  
Councillor Paul Manly, **Nanaimo**  
Councillor John Manuel, **Golden**  
Mairesse Maude Marquis-Bissonnette, **Gatineau**  
Mairesse Marie-Andrée Mauger, **Verdun, Montréal**  
Area Director Robyn Mawhinney, **Strathcona Regional District**  
Councillor Brian Mayes, **Winnipeg**  
Councillor Reid McAlpine, **Markham**  
Mayor Dorothy McCabe, **Waterloo**  
Councillor Melanie McCollum, **Courtenay**  
Councillor Ian McGrath, **Truro**  
Councillor Cat McGurk, **Yellowknife**  
Councillor Jessica McIlroy, **North Vancouver**  
Councillor Tom McLennan, **Yellowknife**  
Area Director Donna McMahon, **Sunshine Coast Regional District**  
Conseillère Robin McPherson, **St. Catharines**  
Councillor Jennifer Meilleur, **Comox**  
Councillor Shawn Menard, **Ottawa**  
Conseillère Kim Méthot, **Saint-Basile-le-Grand**  
Former Mayor, David Miller, **Toronto**  
Mayor Nicole Minions, **Comox**  
Councillor Cathy Moore-Coburn, **Georgian Bluffs**  
Mayor Andy Morel, **Rossland**  
Conseiller David Morin, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**  
Councillor Wendy Morin, **Courtenay**  
Councillor Lenore Morris, **Whitehorse**  
Trustee Deb Morrison, **Islands Trust**  
Councillor Joy-Anne Murphy, **Camrose**  
Area Director Alison Nicholson, **Cowichan Valley Regional District**  
Councillor Katrina Nightingale, **Pemberton**  
Councillor Troy Nixon, **Fernie**  
Councillor Vincent Noël, **La Prairie**  
Conseiller Jérôme Normand, **Montréal**

Councillor Lukas Oakley, **County of Brant**  
Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, **St. John's**  
Councillor Sean Orr, **Vancouver**  
Councillor Lisa Osanic, **Kingston**  
Conseiller Keith Page, **Nelson**  
Councillor Aaron Paquette, **Edmonton**  
Councillor Jasmin Parker, **Saskatoon**  
Conseillère Valérie Patreau, **Outremont, Montréal**  
Local Trustee Laura Patrick, **Salt Spring Island / Islands Trust**  
Conseillère Véronique Payette, **Crabtree**  
Councillor Leslie Payne, **Nelson**  
Councillor Elizabeth Peloza, **London**  
Councillor Kourtney Penner, **Calgary**  
Councillor Gord Perks, **Toronto**  
Councillor Liz Petrie, **Goderich**  
Councillor Chris Pettingill, **Squamish**  
Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff, **Saanich**  
Councillor Stéphanie Plante, **Ottawa**  
Mairesse Valérie Plante, **Montréal**  
Councillor Catherine Pope, **North Vancouver**  
Maire Jacques Poulin, **Fossambault-sur-le-Lac**  
Councillor Matt Rodrigues, **Waterloo**  
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Councillor Margo Sheppard, **Fredericton**  
Conseillère Julie Simoneau, **La Prairie**  
Councillor Anne Skipsey, **Qualicum Beach**  
Councillor Alison Smith, **Lunenburg**  
Councillor Evan Spencer, **Calgary**  
Councillor Tony St-Pierre, **Sooke**  
Mayor Michelle Staples, **Duncan**  
Councillor Wendy Stephen, **Kingston**  
Councillor Dan Stevens, **Chase**  
Councillor Anne Stevenson, **Edmonton**  
Former Mayor Kennedy Stewart, **Vancouver**  
Councillor Jenna Stoner, **Squamish**  
Councillor Stephanie Stretch, **Kitchener**  
Councillor Jenny Tan, **Maple Ridge**  
Councillor Keren Tang, **Edmonton**  
Councillor Kyle Tapper, **Mackenzie**  
Councillor Alvin Tedjo, **Mississauga**  
Councillor Daniel Tetrault, **Burnaby**  
Conseiller Jonathan Théorêt, **Chertsey**  
Councillor Troy Therrien, **Cumberland**  
Conseillère Natacha Thibault, **Otterburn Park**  
Conseillère Isabelle Thibeault, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Councillor Dave Thompson, **Victoria**  
Councillor Jeremy Thorne, **Riverview**,  
Area Director Roger Tierney, **Regional District of Central Kootenay**  
Councillor Senos Timon, **Saskatoon**  
Deputy Mayor Nathan Townend, **Loyalist Township**  
Councillor Brandon Tozzo, **Kingston**  
Maire Mathieu Traversy, **Terrebonne**  
Councillor Sam Trosow, **London**  
Conseiller Alexandre Turcotte, **Otterburn Park**  
Conseiller Benjamin Turcotte, **Val-d'Or**  
Conseillère Elizabeth Ulin, **Montreal West**  
Councillor Tony Valente, **North Vancouver**  
Conseillère Stephanie Valenzuela, **Montreal**  
Councillor Penny Varney, **Gravenhurst**  
Mairesse Mélanie Villeneuve, **Otterburn Park**  
Conseiller Christopher von Roretz, **Dorval**  
Councillor Mary Wagner, **Langford**  
Councillor Tim Wake, **Bowen Island**  
Councillor Courtney Walcott, **Calgary**  
Councillor Nick Ward, **Cumberland**  
Conseiller Alexandre Warnet, **Laval**  
Councillor Pat Warren, **Kawartha Lakes**  
Mayor Bob Wells, **Courtenay**  
Councillor Courtney Wentzell, **Region of Queens**  
Mayor David West, **Richmond Hill**  
Deputy Mayor Ghislaine Wheaton, **St. Stephens**  
Councillor Laura White, **Halifax**  
Councillor Howard Williams, **Wolfville**  
Councillor Pam Wolf, **Region of Waterloo**  
Councillor Michael Wolfe, **Richmond**  
Councillor Sean Wood, **Parksville**  
Councillor Theresa Wood, **District of Invermere**  
Councillor Jesse Wright, **District of Mackenzie**  
Councillor Julie Wright, **Waterloo**  
Councillor Keith Yacucha, **Langford**  
Councillor Shanon Zachidniak, **Regina**  
Councillor Margaret Zwart, **Clarington**

# Join Us





**TOWNSHIP OF  
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

January 7, 2026

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

**RE: Affordable Rental Housing**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Municipality of Wawa.

**Resolution No: 2026-01-07-06**  
**Moved by: Councillor Kauffeldt**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Quade**

**"Be It resolved** that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Municipality of Wawa's resolution regarding Affordable Rental Housing as attached.

**And further that** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and MP, and all municipalities in Ontario."

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Resolution # RC25177</b>             | <b>Meeting Order: 5</b>                |
| <b>Moved by:</b><br><i>M. Hillfield</i> | <b>Seconded by:</b><br><i>A. Spoto</i> |

**WHEREAS** this council understands that the need for affordable rental housing not only applies to new builds but also to the protection of existing affordable units; and

**WHEREAS** the removal of rent control in 2018 on any new residential rental unit opened the door to excessive year over year rent increases and the resulting anxiety and mental anguish that come with unpredictable rental costs and loss of housing security; and

**WHEREAS** the loss of rent control has caused a high number of people across Ontario to be forced out of their homes due to their inability to afford their rent increases; and

**WHEREAS** without protection from excessive and malicious rent increases, many Wawa renters will also be at risk of being priced out of their own homes; and

**WHEREAS** unlimited rent increases can be used as a tool by landlords acting in bad faith to remove existing tenants in order to replace them with new tenants at increased rates; and

**WHEREAS** providing housing stability, maintaining affordable housing stock, and protecting renters from unfair rent increases is of utmost importance to this council.

**WHEREAS** This council recognizes that landlords are essential to a flourishing and affordable housing system; and

**WHEREAS** maintaining Northern Ontario as a location that is attractive to landlords is of utmost importance.

**Page 2.....**



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa request the Province of Ontario provide adequate protection against excessive and malicious rent increases for all rental units occupied for residential purposes while maintaining the ability for landlords to operate a viable and sustainable business, and that the Clerk for the Municipality of Wawa send a letter to Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MPP Bill Rosenberg, MP Terry Sheehan, and other municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration.

| RESOLUTION RESULT                   |                             | RECORDED VOTE     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED                     | MAYOR AND COUNCIL |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DEFEATED                    | Mitch Hatfield    | YES | NO |
| <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 Opato      |     |    |

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

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

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

| MAYOR - MELANIE PILON | CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                       |                       |

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BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

January 7, 2026

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

**RE: Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Ajax.

**Resolution No: 2026-01-07-05**  
**Moved by: Councillor Quade**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Banks**

**"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Ajax's resolution regarding Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support as attached.**

**And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP, and all municipalities in Ontario."**

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



**TOWN OF AJAX**  
65 Harwood Avenue South  
Ajax ON L1S 3S9  
[www.ajax.ca](http://www.ajax.ca)

---

The Honorable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Sent by E-Mail**

November 19, 2025

**Re: Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support**

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on November 17, 2025:

Whereas, we are approaching the cold winter months and the number of people experiencing homelessness in Ajax and Durham Region continues to rise drastically, with more than 1,000 people on Durham Region's by-name list as of August, including specifically 200 people in Ajax seeking support to change their housing status<sup>1</sup>; and

Whereas, in September 2024, Ajax Council passed a motion to support Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) [SolveTheCrisis.ca](http://SolveTheCrisis.ca)<sup>2</sup> campaign requesting that the provincial and federal governments take immediate action to solve the homelessness and mental health crisis gripping our communities; and

Whereas, while the provincial government has provided support for new programs such as Homeless and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hubs (HART Hubs), it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions; and

Whereas, according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, municipalities are providing [51.5% of the total reported homelessness program funding across all three levels of government](#), making a significant financial impact on municipal budgets<sup>3</sup>; and

**Whereas, OBCM recently passed a motion at their October Meeting re-iterating the need for provincial support in addressing this crisis by allocating more funding to programs that address chronic homelessness; and**

**Therefore, be it resolved:**

- 1. That Ajax Council reconfirms their support of the Solve the Crisis Campaign and calls on Ajax residents to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](http://SolveTheCrisis.ca); and**
- 2. That Ajax Council asks that the provincial government to take action on the requests of the Solve the Crisis Campaign that have not been fully addressed including:**
  - a. Appoint a responsible ministry and Minister with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports.**
  - b. This single Minister must strike a task force with sector representatives including municipalities, health care leaders, first responders, community services, the business community, and the tourism industry to develop an Ontario Action Plan.**
  - c. Provide municipalities with the tools and resources to transition those in encampments to more appropriate supports, when deemed necessary.**
  - d. Commit to funding the services our unhoused population needs, community by community, to fill in gaps in the system.**
  - e. Invest in 24/7 community hubs or crisis centres to relieve pressure on emergency departments and first responders; and**
- 3. That Ajax Council asks that the provincial government prepares a 2025/2026 winter homelessness response plan to help municipalities ensure that we can keep our unsheltered residents who are sleeping outdoors with the services they need to keep them safe in colder weather; and**
- 4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Rob Cerjanec, MPP for Ajax, local MPPs across the Region of Durham, Durham Regional Council, all Ontario Municipalities, Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM).**

**CARRIED**

**If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or [Thomas.street@ajax.ca](mailto:Thomas.street@ajax.ca)**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'TS' or a stylized 'T' and 'S'.

**Thomas Street**  
**Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk**

**Copy: Councillor L. Bower**  
**Councillor R. Tyler Morin**  
**Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MPP**  
**Region of Durham Local MPPs**  
**Durham Regional Council**  
**All Ontario Municipalities**  
**Ontario's Big City Mayors**





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42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40  
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0  
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

January 7, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney P.C., O.C., M.P.  
Office of the Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

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

**RE: Removing HST/GST from New Homes to Support Housing Affordability**

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

**Resolution No: 2026-01-07-07**  
**Moved by: Councillor Banks**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Quade**

**"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury's resolution regarding Removing HST/GST from New Homes to Support Housing Affordability as attached.**

**And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance and the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities; and to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, our local MP and MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario."**

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson  
Deputy Clerk, Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

October 27, 2025

VIA EMAIL

**Re: Removing HST/GST from New Homes to Support Housing Affordability**

At its Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council approved the following resolution:

Resolution 2025-343

**Moved by:** Councillor Scott

**Seconded by:** Councillor Duhaney

*WHEREAS housing affordability is one of the most pressing issues facing Ontario families;*

*WHEREAS the federal government recently announced GST relief for first-time homebuyers on new homes, and the Province of Ontario removed the provincial share of HST on new purpose-built rental housing; and*

*WHEREAS the current HST rate on new homes in Ontario is 13%, which adds tens of thousands of dollars to the cost of a typical home, e.g. about \$117,000 on a \$900,000 home in Bradford before any existing rebates;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury calls on the Government of Canada to remove the GST/HST from all new homes purchased as primary residences, and to work in partnership with the Government of Ontario to ensure full elimination of the provincial portion as well; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance and the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities; and to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, our local MP and MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and to all municipalities in Ontario.*

CARRIED

Please find enclosed a letter from Mayor James Leduc and Ward 2 Councillor Jonathan Scott.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Regards,



**Tara Reynolds**  
Clerk, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury  
(905) 775-5366 Ext 1104  
[treynolds@townofbwg.com](mailto:treynolds@townofbwg.com)

**CC:** Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada  
Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Finance  
Hon. Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities  
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Peter Bethenfalvy, Minister of Finance, Ontario  
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario  
Scot Davidson, MP New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury  
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, MPP York-Simcoe  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All Municipalities In Ontario



United Counties of  
**Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry**

7a)

**RESOLUTION**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Densham

**RESOLUTION NO** 2025- 159

**SECONDED BY** *[Signature]*

**DATE** November 17, 2025

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SDG) established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 and the Raisin Region Conservation Authority (RRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide between 25% and 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 3%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local

representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the United Counties of SDG supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;


AND FURTHER THAT the United Counties of SDG supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WARDEN

Recorded Vote:

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Councillor Bergeron   | _____ |
| Councillor Broad      | _____ |
| Councillor Densham    | _____ |
| Councillor Fraser     | _____ |
| Councillor Guindon    | _____ |
| Councillor Landry     | _____ |
| Councillor MacDonald  | _____ |
| Councillor McDonald   | _____ |
| Councillor McGillis   | _____ |
| Councillor St. Pierre | _____ |
| Councillor Williams   | _____ |
| Warden Lang           | _____ |



# Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street, Box 310  
THORNBURY, ON N0H 2P0  
<https://www.thebluemountains.ca>

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**OFFICE OF:** Mayor Andrea Matrosovs  
Email: [mayor@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:mayor@thebluemountains.ca)  
Phone: 519-599-3131 Ext 406

December 5, 2025

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Email: [minister.meccp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.meccp@ontario.ca)

**RE: Town of The Blue Mountains Opposition to Bill 68 and the Proposed Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities**

Honourable Minister McCarthy,

The Town of The Blue Mountains Council would like to express our concerns regarding Bill 68 and the proposed consolidation of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities into seven regional authorities. As a community with a strong and long-standing partnership with our local conservation authorities, we believe the proposed regional restructuring does not align with the best interests of our residents or the unique environmental needs of our community.

As a Council, we support provincial efforts to enhance efficiency through standardized fee schedules, policies, guidelines and online permitting systems. However, we believe that these improvements can be achieved without compromising the local expertise, responsiveness and accountability that watershed-based authorities currently provide.

The proposed consolidation raises significant concerns for The Blue Mountains Council regarding the loss of local expertise and the reduction of accessible, timely support for residents, builders and developers. Local conservation authorities possess a deep knowledge of watershed conditions, natural hazards and community priorities that cannot be effectively replicated at a broader regional scale. Centralizing the functions of local conservation authorities risks diluting the community-driven programming and tailored services that protect natural resources and support sustainable development in The Blue Mountains, while also diminishing meaningful municipal representation in decision-making. We are further concerned that a top-down

structure may introduce unnecessary transition costs, red tape and additional layers of bureaucracy, which hinder efficiency, rather than improve it.

Given these concerns, we urge you to reconsider the implications of the proposed amalgamation and to directly engage with municipalities and conservation authorities before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments. We respectfully request that the province consider alternative approaches that maintain local, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities while supporting shared objectives of modernization and efficiency improvements. We believe that strengthening and supporting existing structures, rather than replacing them, will help to preserve local expertise, ensure consistent service delivery, and uphold the principles of community-focused governance.

Thank you for considering the perspective of the Town of The Blue Mountains. We look forward to your response and hopeful reconsideration of this proposal.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Matrosovs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

Mayor Andrea Matrosovs  
Town of The Blue Mountains



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Scott Reid, MP  
John Jordan, MPP Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority  
Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority  
All Municipalities in Ontario

**Re: Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities & New Provincial Conservation Agency**

At its Council meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley adopted the following motion:

**Resolution Number 25-122**

**WHEREAS**, the *Conservation Authorities Act* (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy;

**AND WHEREAS**, local municipalities established the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority in 1966 and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority in 1968, and currently provide over 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides less than 5%;

**AND WHEREAS**, municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable services standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

**AND WHEREAS**, Bill 68 (Schedule 3) and ERO posting 025-1257 proposes to consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities and create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown agency that would assume oversight over conservation authorities and have the ability to levy authorities to cover its costs;



# The Corporation of the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley

310 Port Elmsley Road • Perth • Ontario • K7H 3C7

**AND WHEREAS**, the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, standards and policies across all conservation authorities through the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

**AND FURTHER THAT**, while the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

**AND FURTHER THAT**, the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity and program delivery across the province, and requests that the province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

**AND FURTHER THAT**, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, to the local MP(s) and MPP(s), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the local conservation authority(s), and all municipalities in Ontario.

**CARRIED**

Sincerely,

Janie Laidlaw,  
Clerk

December 16, 2025

VIA EMAIL

**RE: Bill 68 and Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities**

At its meeting held December 10, 2025 Oxford County Council passed the following resolution:

Moved By: Brian Petrie  
Seconded By: David Mayberry

Resolved that Correspondence Item 7.4 be received as information; and,

Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses; and,

Whereas the local municipalities of Oxford County established the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) with other consenting municipalities within the watershed. (initially formed in 1947) along with Grand River Conservation Authority (1948), Catfish Creek Conservation Authority (1950) and Long Point Conservation Authority (1948); and,

Whereas local municipalities currently provide approximately 35% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 2% (2026 budget); and,

Whereas municipalities have governed and invested local rate payer funds in their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and,

Whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land. Many of these properties were entrusted to the UTRCA for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and,

Whereas Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined; and,

Whereas the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the County of Oxford calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

And further that while the County of Oxford supports provincial goals towards consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, it does not support it through imposing a new top-down agency structure creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

And further that the County of Oxford supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities;

And further that the Province respect the roles that Municipalities and Conservation Authorities play in conservation and governance; And further that Oxford County advocate that it is not in favour of the proposed changes;

And further that a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks,
- local MPPs,
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
- area Indigenous communities,
- all Ontario municipalities,
- Conservation Authorities, and
- Conservation Ontario

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Should you require anything further or have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Thank you,



Lindsey A. Mansbridge  
County Clerk

December 16, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Via Email [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

**Re: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities - Bill 68**

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, at its regular meeting held on December 15, 2025, supported the following resolution regarding the above noted matter.

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Chatham-Kent (through its original municipalities) established the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and St Clair Region Conservation Authority (both initially formed in 1961);

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide over 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the Municipality of Chatham-Kent supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

**Judy Shantz**  
 Digitally signed by Judy Shantz  
 Date: 2025.12.17 13:56:56 -05'00'  
 Judy Shantz, CMO  
 Director Municipal Governance/Clerk

C  
 Local MP and MPPs  
 Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
 Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
 Ontario Municipalities  
 Conservation Authorities in Ontario



December 16, 2025

The Honorable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Sent by Email

Dear: Honorable Doug Ford,

**RE: Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities.**

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting held on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #C-2025-12-14**

**MOVED BY:** Wayne Baker  
**SECONDED BY:** Angela Pierman

**“WHEREAS**, water resources and water availability is the defining issue of this century due to the impacts of climate change which Tay Valley Township has already experienced (through dry wells and below normal river levels this summer and floods in 2017 and 2019),

**AND WHEREAS**, Ontario's Conservation Authorities play a critical role in watershed management, flood mitigation, drought mitigation, and public safety;

**AND WHEREAS**, Tay Valley Township has already experienced negative consequences of centralized management of water resources from afar (the Ministry of Natural Resources staff in Toronto have previously directed the depth of water at the Pike Lake Dam be lowered during a pickerel spawn event resulting in the death of the pickerel);

**AND WHEREAS**, municipalities must retain a strong, meaningful voice to ensure that local knowledge, local priorities and local risks are fully considered;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy;

**AND WHEREAS**, local municipalities established the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority in 1966 and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority in 1968 and currently provide over 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides less than 5%;

**AND WHEREAS**, municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable services standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

**AND WHEREAS**, Bill 68 (Schedule 3) and ERO posting 025-1257 propose to consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities and create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown agency that would assume oversight over conservation authorities and have the ability to levy authorities to cover its costs;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, standards and policies across all conservation authorities through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, Tay Valley Township strongly urges the Provincial Government of Ontario to withdraw all sections of Bill 68 related to Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, Tay Valley Township calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Province be requested to re-introduce any proposed changes as a standalone bill to proceed through the regular legislative process (First and Second Readings, Committee Review, stakeholder submissions and public consultation) to ensure the impacts on watershed management, environmental protection and public safety are fully and transparently captured;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, while Tay Valley Township supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, Tay Valley Township supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity and program delivery across the province, and requests that the province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, Tay Valley Township calls on the province to consider any potential amalgamation of Conservation Authorities on the basis of their abiotic, biologic and cultural characteristics (i.e. remove the Cataraqui Region and all lands not draining to the Ottawa River);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the province maintains the local knowledge of the unique natural resources, weather and climactic features of the RVCA and MVCA watersheds through local staffing;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the current assets (including financial reserves and land trusts) of the RVCA and MVCA remain with them to recognize their fiscal prudence and are not used to subsidize conservation authorities with fewer assets or developed upon;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the province ensure that any future governance framework for Ontario's Conservation Authorities includes robust and clearly defined municipal representation, recognizing municipalities as essential partners in protecting watershed and mitigating risks;

**AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT**, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ontario Minister of Finance, to the local MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the local conservation authority(s), and all municipalities in Ontario.”

**ADOPTED**

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (613) 267-5353 ext. 130 or [deputyclerk@tayvalleytp.ca](mailto:deputyclerk@tayvalleytp.ca)

Sincerely,



Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Todd J. McCarthy Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks,  
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy Ontario Minister of Finance,  
John Jordan, MPP Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston,  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), RVCA, MVCA and all Ontario Municipalities  
Sally McIntyre, General Manager, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority  
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, General Manager, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

/Enclosure

## The Corporation of the Township of Hamilton

8285 Majestic Hills Drive  
P.O. Box 1060, Cobourg, ON K9A 4W5  
Tel: 905-342-2810 Fax: 905-342-2818  
Email: [info@hamiltontownship.ca](mailto:info@hamiltontownship.ca)  
Web: [www.hamiltontownship.ca](http://www.hamiltontownship.ca)

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December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Premier's Office Room 281  
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A5  
Via email: [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

### **Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities**

Please be advised that the Council for the Township of Hamilton passed the following resolution at their December 16, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

#### **RES:2024-602**

Moved by Councillor Mark Lovshin, Seconded by Councillor John Davison

**The Council for the Corporation of the Township of Hamilton enacts as follows: That Council supports the November 27, 2025 resolution of the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority regarding Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities; and**

**That the supporting resolution and originating documentation be circulated to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics; and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office); and Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit; and Local Member of Provincial Parliament David Piccini, Northumberland - Peterborough South and all local watershed municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario, and Counties within GRCA's watershed.**

**CARRIED.**

I have attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Daphne Livingstone,  
Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

Encl.

cc: Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org); MPP, Hon. Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org); Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit; and- Local Member of Provincial Parliament David Piccini, Northumberland - Peterborough South and- All local watershed municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario, and Counties within GRCA's watershed.



**Ganaraska Region  
Conservation Authority**

2216 County Road 28  
Port Hope, ON L1A 3V8

Phone: 905-885-8173  
Fax: 905-885-9824  
[www.grca.on.ca](http://www.grca.on.ca)

MEMBER OF  
CONSERVATION ONTARIO

November 28, 2025

**Proposed Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities, ERO Notice #025-1257  
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Resolution GRCA 51/25**

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On October 31, 2025, Minister Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), announced that the provincial government will introduce legislation to amend the *Conservation Authorities Act* to create a new provincial agency, the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) under Bill 68. On November 27, 2025, Bill 68, *Plan to Protect Ontario Act* (Budget Measures), 2025 (No. 2) received Royal Assent.

Another key action announced at this time, by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, together with the Chief Conservation Executive, is the proposal to consolidate the province's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional conservation authorities, while maintaining alignment with watershed boundaries. On Friday, November 7th, the MECP posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 ("Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities"), the ERO posting remains open for public comment for a total of 45 days until December 22, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

The proposed consolidation recommends Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) join with Central Lake Ontario, Kawartha Region, Otonabee Region, Lower Trent Region, Crowe Valley and Quinte Region Conservation Authorities forming the Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority (ELORCA). This regional conservation authority would include 48 municipalities across the proposed region. As well, the area covered by the ELORCA is 16 times the current jurisdiction of the GRCA and larger than the area covered by the island of Jamaica. The population included is more than the population of some Canadian Provinces.

At the November 27, 2025, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting, a staff report entitled "Bill 68, Schedule 3 Proposed Changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Proposed Boundaries for Regional Consolidation of Ontario Conservation Authorities" which can be found at the following link, [https://qrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/qrca\\_ca-act-amendments-as-per-bill-68-update.pdf](https://qrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/qrca_ca-act-amendments-as-per-bill-68-update.pdf), was presented and the following resolution was received as written in the report:

**GRCA 50/25**

**MOVED BY:** Joan Stover

**SECONDED BY:** Miriam Mutton

**WHEREAS** the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors acknowledges and supports the Province's goals of improved efficiency of watershed management, through the implementation of digital applications and permitting system, consistent policies, flood standards, fees, and technology; and

**WHEREAS** consistent policies, and resources across the existing conservation authority boundaries could be achieved without structural consolidation through direction and tools such as technical guidelines provided by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; or Conservation Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** conservation authorities are locally-based, grassroots organizations formed by municipal governments in response to the challenges posed by a changing landscape; especially, the increased exposure to flooding and erosion hazards and the resulting risks to lives and property. In the case of the GRCA, supported by its seven municipalities, this vision has proven a successful model for nearly 80 years; and

**WHEREAS** the GRCA, with the guidance and support of our seven member municipalities, demonstrates fiscal prudence in conservation delivery, ensuring stable growth through stable funding. GRCA has successfully leveraged funding to support programs and services that are locally important and are driven by community engagement through *GRCA's Conservation Land Strategy* and the *Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy*; and

**WHEREAS** GRCA consistently meets or exceeds provincial service standards, and participates in staff-sharing initiatives with neighbouring conservation authorities that already deliver many of the efficiencies the Province seeks; and

**WHEREAS** plans to regionalize conservation authorities through consolidation would dilute local accountability and municipal partnership and is contrary to the basic principle that decisions are best made closest to the communities they affect. Effective representation by municipal partners remains core to the success of conservation authorities. The GRCA, while not unique among conservation authorities in this respect, is effective in working with our community to support sustainable development, and keeping communities safe; and

**WHEREAS** being front-line means being responsive and accountable to the community by delivering the services that are essential and valued to the best interest of the community. The front line of provincial priorities on housing, the economy, infrastructure, and climate resilience are in the decisions between municipalities working together to address issues around floodplain (and hazard) protection and resilient upland and landscape management. Further, staff and Board are responsive and accountable to the

needs of the watershed community, while meeting or exceeding provincial service standards. The staff and Board are reachable through publicly available contact information. Local governance and direction combined with local service provision allows the GRCA to continue to be responsive to our community; and

**WHEREAS** consolidation will result in substantial transition costs, not the least of which is time. In all facets, that would divert resources from front-line service delivery and delay desired outcomes. Further, the loss of local watershed knowledge and community relationships will add greater uncertainty, loss of trust, and delay for our watershed residents. This includes the agricultural community, businesses, builders, developers, and our municipal partners that seek timely and effective local advice, which is provided through local pre-consultation; and

**WHEREAS** a proposed regional watershed would create a geographically vast and administratively complex organization when joining the seven conservation authorities as proposed in eastern Lake Ontario. This would be considerably worse if local offices do not remain available and accountable to its membership, partners and the communities they serve.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors does not support the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

**FURTHER THAT** meaningful modernization can occur within the current watershed-based governance framework; and

**FURTHER THAT** the GRCA Board endorses further provincial evaluation of a more focused specific model as a geographically coherent, cost-effective and locally accountable alternative that advances the government's priorities of efficiency, red-tape reduction and timely home construction; and

**FURTHER THAT** the Board asks that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks engage directly with affected municipalities and conservation authorities across Eastern Lake Ontario through a working group; and

**FURTHER THAT** the Board of Directors direct staff to make a submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations asking the Province to pause any consolidation until more consultation can take place; and

**FURTHER THAT** a letter from the Chair containing this resolution, be forwarded to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics; and
- the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office); and
- Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit; and

- Local Member of Provincial Parliament David Piccini, Northumberland – Peterborough South and
- All local watershed municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario, and Counties within GRCA's watershed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The GRCA encourages all partners to review the posting at the following link: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-1257>, and submit comments prior to the closing date of December 22, 2025.

For further information, please contact the undersigned at [info@grca.on.ca](mailto:info@grca.on.ca)

Yours sincerely,



Vicki Mink  
Chair, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority

CC:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics; and
- the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office); and
- Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit; and
- Local Member of Provincial Parliament David Piccini, Northumberland – Peterborough South and
- All local watershed municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario, and Counties within GRCA's watershed.



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

NOM 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

[www.southhuron.ca](http://www.southhuron.ca)

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December 18, 2025

Via email: [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

**Re: Response to Bill 68- Proposed New Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency**

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Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their December 15, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

515-2025

Moved By: Marissa Vaughan

Seconded by: Ted Oke

**That South Huron Council endorses the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority's draft Municipal Resolution regarding response to Bill 68 - Proposed New Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency; and**

**That the draft resolution be updated to name the Municipality of South Huron, and circulated to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Thompson, AMO, ROMA, area indigenous communities, all municipalities in Ontario, Conservation Ontario and all Conservation Authorities in Ontario as follows:**

**Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses. The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) was formed in 1946; and**

**Whereas local municipalities currently provide approximately 30% of the total ABCA funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 1% (2026 budget). For every local dollar generated, the ABCA brings in approximately \$2.50 in additional funding; and**

**Whereas municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and**

**Whereas being a local agency, ABCA is available for pre-consultation, promoting permitting efficiencies, and in many instances ABCA staff are successful encouraging and directing applicants away from hazard areas, avoiding the need for permits altogether. To date, in 2025, the average time to process all types of permits is just 9 days, similar to previous years, this is well inside the provincial standard of 30 days; and**

**Whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land. Many of these properties were entrusted to the ABCA for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and**

**Whereas Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined; and**

**Whereas the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;**

**Now Therefore be it Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of South Huron calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; and**

**Further That while the Municipality of South Huron supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance**



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

NOM 1S6

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Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

[www.southhuron.ca](http://www.southhuron.ca)

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**risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; and**

**Further That the Municipality of South Huron is opposed to the proposed "Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority" boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and**

**Further That the Municipality of South Huron supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives; and**

**Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to:**

- the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks,
- local MPPs,
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
- area Indigenous communities,
- all municipalities,
- Conservation Authorities,
- Conservation Ontario.

Result: Carried

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

[kwebster@southhuron.ca](mailto:kwebster@southhuron.ca)

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: MPP, Hon. Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org); AMO, [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca); ROMA, [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca); area indigenous communities; all municipalities in Ontario; Conservation Ontario, [info@conservationontario.ca](mailto:info@conservationontario.ca); all Conservation Authorities in Ontario



December 18, 2025

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor.  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Email: [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

Honourable Minister McCarthy,

**Re: Municipality of Meaford Response to Proposed Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities**

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Meaford adopted the following resolution at its meeting on December 15, 2025.

Moved by: Councillor Uhrig  
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Keaveney

**Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses; and**

**Whereas the municipalities within Grey and Bruce Counties established the North Grey Region Conservation Authority in 1957 and the Sauble Valley Conservation Authority in 1958 which amalgamated into the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) in 1985; and**

**Whereas local municipalities currently provide approximately 44% of total GSCA funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 7%; and**

**Whereas municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local**

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watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and

Whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated or sold by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and

Whereas Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency whose objects include overseeing conservation authorities and the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for conservation authorities in Ontario with municipal cost contribution yet to be defined; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 (“Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities”), proposing to reduce Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities to 7 regional entities as part of a broader restructuring; and

Whereas under this proposal, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) would be consolidated into a new “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” that is over 23,000 square kilometres in size and consists of 80 municipalities; and

Whereas the Province already has the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to address issues related to permitting, by establishing guidance, online permitting platforms and technical standards through legislation that could help build homes; and

Whereas the GSCA has already undertaken significant modernization work aligned with provincial objectives, including Information Technology / Information Management, and leveraging technology to streamline

**planning and permit review processes processing 100% of major permits within the provincial timelines in 2024;**

**Therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Meaford calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; and**

**Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford does not support the proposed “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 as the proposal lacks sufficient justification, would significantly diminish local governance, and fails to recognize the effectiveness and efficiencies already achieved within existing watershed-based models; and**

**Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford affirms that large-scale regional consolidation is unnecessary, would introduce substantial transition costs, and would divert resources away from frontline watershed programs. The Council further asserts that restructuring at this scale would erode local decision-making, weaken municipal accountability, and disrupt long-standing community partnerships that are central to delivering responsive watershed management; and**

**Be it further resolved that while the Municipality of Meaford supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down approach structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red-tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; and**

**Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford urges the Province to strengthen centralized standards, resources, and tools rather than undertaking broad structural amalgamation and to provide sustainable, predictable provincial funding across conservation authorities to enable local CAs to advance ongoing digitization and systemization work that has**

already resulted in improved efficiency and consistency in recent years;  
and

**Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford believes that the Province's proposed new online permitting portal can be implemented within the existing conservation authority framework without requiring structural amalgamation; and**

**Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford requests that the Ministry engage meaningfully and collaboratively with affected municipalities, conservation authorities, and local Indigenous communities before advancing any consolidation, to ensure that any changes reflect both local needs and the practical realities of implementation; and**

**Be it further resolved that this resolution be included in the Municipality's ERO response and forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all of Ontario's municipalities, MPPs, conservation authorities, AMO, and Conservation Ontario.**

Carried - Resolution #2025-46-09

Yours sincerely,



**Allison Penner**

Deputy Clerk / Manager, Legislative Services

Municipality of Meaford

21 Trowbridge Street West, Meaford

519-538-1060, ext. 1110 | [apenner@meaford.ca](mailto:apenner@meaford.ca)



cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities  
All Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament  
All Ontario Conservation Authorities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Conservation Ontario  
Submission to Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

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December 19, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Hassaan Basit  
Chief Conservation Officer

Sent by email to: [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org), [Hassaan.Basit@ontario.ca](mailto:Hassaan.Basit@ontario.ca)

**Re: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities – Bill 68**

At its special meeting of Council held on December 19, 2025, the Township of Amaranth Council discussed the proposed amalgamation of the Conservation Authorities and passed the following motion.

**Background**

Located in the aptly named Headwaters Region of Southern Ontario, the Township of Amaranth in the County of Dufferin is currently very under the jurisdiction of three Conservation Authorities: Grand River, Nottawasaga Valley and Credit Valley. The Township of Amaranth has been under the jurisdiction of these three Conservation Authorities since they were established. Amaranth is currently well served by all three Conservation Authorities.

Under the proposal put forward by the provincial government as part of Bill 68 referenced above, the Township of Amaranth would remain split between three much larger Regional Conservation Authorities: Lake Erie, Huron-Superior and Central Lake. This proposal severely dilutes local accountability, potentially eliminating the voice of this municipality and the taxpayers who support the work of the Conservation Authorities with levies paid as part of property taxes. Meanwhile the provincial contribution to CAs continues at a level that funds less than 3% of the Conservation Authorities' respective budgets.

The Township of Amaranth values the significant watershed specific infrastructure investment as contributed by its three unique Authorities and the science-based knowledge that guides the decision making in each of the specific geographical areas of each Authority.

Conservation Authorities have been working hard to streamline permitting processes, improve delivery timelines and focus on fiscal prudence and consistency within their mandated roles. Through shared services, the improvement to modernization and

system evolution can continue with less system-wide disruption and without additional transition expense.

**Resolution #: 2**

**Moved by:** G. Little

**Seconded by:** V. Paan

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council of the Township of Amaranth opposes the amalgamation process as defined in Bill 68.

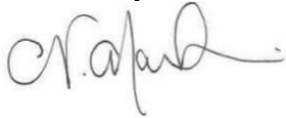
Further, the Township of Amaranth proposes a three-year hiatus of any transition changes while evaluation is completed with proper, appropriate consultation of all partners in Conservation Authorities to review any proposed boundary realignments, additional governance oversight, potential service adjustments and other Conservation Authority model proposals.

For (5): C. Gerrits, G. Little, S. Graham, B. Metzger, and V. Paan

**CARRIED (5 to 0)**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,



Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.  
CAO/Clerk

Cc: Dufferin MP and MPP  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Ontario Municipalities  
Conservation Authorities in Ontario  
Ministry of Natural Resources



December 19, 2025

By E-mail

Hon. Todd McCarthy MPP  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park, 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: Kawartha Conservation Board Submission on the Proposed Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities, ERO Notice #025-1257**

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Dear Minister McCarthy,

On behalf of the Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors, we are writing to share the Board's perspective on Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting #025-1257, informed by discussions at its meetings on November 27 and December 18, 2025. The Board recognizes the Province's objectives under Bill 68, to strengthen oversight, consistency, and modernization across conservation authorities through the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and the proposed transition toward a regional watershed-based framework.

The proposed consolidation model includes the creation of an Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority, which would result in the consolidation of Kawartha Conservation with several neighbouring conservation authorities and would represent a significant change to governance structures, service delivery models, financial frameworks, land management responsibilities, and municipal oversight.

We support the Province's generally stated objectives, including the use of digital permitting systems, consistent policies and standards, and enhanced use of technology. Kawartha Conservation already demonstrates strong performance in these areas, including meeting or exceeding provincial service standards, participating in staff-sharing initiatives, operating within a fully digital permitting environment, and advancing digital transformation—reflecting many of the efficiencies sought through the provincial initiative.

Substantial concerns and risks have been identified with the proposed consolidation or amalgamation, particularly with respect to the loss of local decision-making authority, reduced municipal representation, uncertainty around transition funding, asset ownership considerations, potential service disruption, and impacts on locally delivered programs. The scale of the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario region raises additional challenges related to maintaining effective community relationships and ensuring services remain responsive to local watershed conditions.



The importance of meaningful consultation and engagement with municipalities, conservation authorities, and stakeholders prior to any decisions being finalized cannot be understated. In particular, the Board notes that many of the Province’s desired outcomes—such as improved consistency, efficiency, and modernization—can be advanced through the existing watershed-based governance framework, supported by the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), without the disruption and destabilization inherent in large-scale structural consolidation, and counter to the Province’s goals of advancing the housing priority, streamlining service, and reducing red tape.

Similarly, the importance of effective, ongoing two-way communication between conservation authorities and the OPCA is critical as the Agency initiates and fulfills its evolving mandate. Regular dialogue, shared implementation guidance, and collaborative problem-solving would support consistent interpretation of provincial direction, reduce implementation risks, and ensure that operational experience and local watershed knowledge inform policy development and modernization efforts.

A transparent, comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of alternative approaches should be undertaken as a first step to inform decision-making in any transition model that may be contemplated in the future. Where any transition is determined to be beneficial, it should be supported by a clearly defined and phased transition plan. Full provincial financial support is critical for any mandatory transition efforts to ensure continuity of programs and services and to avoid disruption to municipalities and communities.

Accordingly, we urge the Province to consider the benefits of a measured “pause” of the consolidation proposal put forward to allow the OPCA to complete its initial three-year term, undertake meaningful engagement with conservation authorities, and assess the urgency and necessity of consolidation or amalgamation of conservation authorities through an evidence-based approach. This would include clearly identifying issues, providing effective communication and feedback to conservation authorities to address any issues and if necessary, consider alternative models that would more effectively advance provincial priorities related to efficiency, red-tape reduction, and timely housing delivery.

Attached is a resolution passed by the Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors at their meeting held on December 18, 2025, and our detailed comments regarding ERO Notice #025-1257. For further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Pat Warren  
Chair

Mark Majchrowski  
Chief Administrative Officer

Enclosures: *Kawartha Conservation Board Resolution #157/25, December 18, 2025*  
*Kawartha Conservation ERO #025-1257 Submission Comments*



**KAWARTHA  
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- cc. *The Conservation Authorities Office, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Hassaan Basit, Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive  
Peter Tabuns, MPP, Critic, Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Local Members of Provincial Parliament:  
Laurie Scott, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock  
Dave Smith, Peterborough-Kawartha  
Local Watershed Municipalities  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Conservation Ontario and all Conservation Authorities in Ontario*

**KAWARTHA CONSERVATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING #10/25 (DECEMBER 18, 2025)**

**RESOLUTION #157/25**

**MOVED BY: MARK DOBLE**

**SECONDED BY: TRACY RICHARDSON**

**RECOGNIZING THAT**, the Province of Ontario has posted Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Posting #025-1257 proposing the consolidation of Ontario’s 36 Conservation Authorities into 7 Regional Conservation Authorities; AND,

**RECOGNIZING THAT**, the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority would consolidate Kawartha Conservation with Central Lake Ontario, Otonabee, Ganaraska, Lower Trent, Crowe Valley, and Quinte Region Conservation Authorities, resulting in significant changes to governance, service delivery, financial structures, land management, and municipal oversight; AND,

**RECOGNIZING THAT**, the Kawartha Conservation Board acknowledges and supports the Province’s goals of improved efficiency of watershed management, through the implementation of digital applications and permitting system, consistent policies, flood standards, fees, and technology; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, Kawartha Conservation consistently meets or exceeds provincial service standards, participates in staff-sharing initiatives with neighbouring conservation authorities, regularly reports on performance, are engaged in a fully digital permit application framework, and are engaged in digital transformation activities, mirroring many of the efficiencies the Province seeks; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, the proposed consolidation raises substantial concerns and risks related to local decision-making authority, municipal representation, transition funding, asset ownership, service disruption and the protection of local programs; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, there is a need for meaningful consultation and engagement with stakeholders to address identified concerns and risks of the proposed consolidation or amalgamation; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, there is a need to undertake a full cost-benefit analysis of any consolidation or amalgamation models or alternatives; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, the objects of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) can accomplish the same goals and objectives without consolidation of conservation authorities and without the service disruption and interference that would come with amalgamation; AND,

**CONSIDERING THAT**, meaningful modernization can occur within the current watershed-based governance framework;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Kawartha Conservation Board does not support the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; AND

**THAT**, the Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors requests the Province of Ontario to pause any decision to consolidate or amalgamate conservation authorities to allow:

- the OPCA to complete its first 3-year term and a subsequent assessment of the need for consolidation
- for meaningful engagement needed to address the concerns and risks of the proposed consolidation
- for the review of alternative models and processes that would result in better outcomes that advances the government’s priorities of efficiency, red-tape reduction and timely home construction, AND;

**THAT**, the commentary provided for in the staff report be endorsed and submitted to the Province of Ontario as Kawartha Conservation’s comments regarding Environmental Registry Posting 025-1257, AND;

**THAT**, the resolution be forwarded to:

- Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics
- Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office);
- Ontario’s Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit;
- Local Members of Provincial Parliament
- Conservation Ontario
- all municipalities within Kawartha Conservation’s watershed and conservation authority municipalities.

**Recorded Vote:**

| <b>Municipality</b>                          | <b>Name</b>       | <b>Governance Role</b> | <b>Vote Decision</b> |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Township of Cavan-Monaghan                   | Byrne, Gerry      | Director               | Yes                  |
| City of Kawartha Lakes                       | Doble, Mark       | Director               | Yes                  |
| Municipality of Trent Lakes                  | Franzen, Peter    | Director               | Yes                  |
| Region of Durham, Township of Brock          | Pettingill, Cria  | Director               | Yes                  |
| Region of Durham, Municipality of Clarington | Rang, Lloyd       | Director               | Absent               |
| City of Kawartha Lakes                       | Richardson, Tracy | Director               | Yes                  |
| Region of Durham, Township of Scugog         | Rock, Robert      | Director               | Absent               |
| Region of Durham, Township of Scugog         | Wright, Harold    | Vice-Chair             | Yes                  |
| City of Kawartha Lakes                       | Warren, Pat       | Chair                  | Yes                  |

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED *(of members present)*

## **Kawartha Conservation ERO #025-1257 Submission Comments**

*(December 19, 2025):*

The following submission outlines Kawartha Conservation’s comments in response to Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting #025-1257, which seeks input on the proposed regional consolidation of conservation authorities. These comments are informed by discussions of the Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors and reflect both governance oversight and operational experience delivering conservation authority programs and services at the watershed scale.

Kawartha Conservation recognizes the Province’s objectives of improving consistency, efficiency, and modernization across the conservation authorities. The comments below are intended to be constructive and informed by local accountability and operational experience, to assist the Province in evaluating transition models that achieve these objectives while maintaining effective governance, accountable service delivery, fiscal prudence, and strong municipal partnerships.

The responses that follow are structured to directly address the questions posed in the ERO posting and focus on practical considerations related to the proposed transition of the conservation authority framework.

### **What do you see as key factors to support a successful transition and outcome of regional conservation authority consolidation?**

#### Evidence-based decision-making before implementation

- The Province’s objectives related to consistency, efficiency, and speed of service can be advanced immediately within the existing 36 conservation authority framework through provincially led standards, shared tools, staff collaboration, and digital permitting systems. These measures should be implemented and evaluated first, allowing for work processes to be aligned, performance to be determined and testing of the assumption that efficiencies are to be gained through consolidation.
- Decisions regarding any potential structural change must be informed by a rigorous cost-benefit analysis (transition and steady-state), consistent with standard public-sector business practice. This analysis must meaningfully involve municipalities and conservation authorities, who understand both the operational realities and local service impacts. Structural change should not proceed where substantive, demonstrable gains cannot be clearly established.
- Where challenges or inefficiencies are identified, alternative approaches—such as shared services, regional collaboration agreements, or targeted functional integration—should be explored and exhausted before any consideration of consolidation.

### Stable provincial transition funding and clear “who pays” rules

- Any provincially directed modernization initiatives must be accompanied by stable, multi-year provincial funding to avoid cost pressures being downloaded onto municipalities and ratepayers.
- Clear and transparent rules regarding “who pays” are essential. New provincial initiatives, including those associated with the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), should not introduce additional financial burdens during periods of transition or change.

### Service-continuity

- Protecting uninterrupted delivery of natural hazard management, permitting, planning, and environmental services must be a foundational consideration. Demonstrated service improvements through the implementation of standards and standardization objects of the OPCA should precede any structural change.
- The uncertainty associated with major structural reform presents a significant risk to workforce stability, recruitment, and retention. Disruption to experienced staff undermines the Province’s objectives related to efficiency, timeliness, and service quality.
- Any change initiative must explicitly prioritize continuity of service, institutional knowledge, and organizational capacity.

### A “local by design” operating model

- Municipal support and confidence are critical to success in the conservation authority model. Without strong municipal buy-in, risks include fiscal uncertainty, reduced effectiveness, and erosion of accountability. Maintaining strong local governance relationships is critical to the success of conservation authorities.
- Ontario’s watersheds and conservation authority jurisdictions are geographically large and diverse. Effective service delivery requires local offices, local staff, and locally informed decision-making. Centralized models are not well-suited to regions that require extensive travel and have variable watershed conditions.
- It is imperative to have local offices and local people to facilitate effective programs and services. This is key for the delivery of natural hazard programming, permitting and planning for the community as well as other services provided, where people can physically interact with local staff who know the area and can provide informed answers.
- Preserving place-based knowledge through local watershed teams and advisory structures with real influence is essential to maintaining service quality and public trust.
- Meaningful engagement with communities, municipalities and conservation authorities should occur at the watershed scale to ensure local conditions, risks, and priorities are understood and reflected in any provincial initiatives.



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### Standards first, consolidation second

- If consistency and performance improvement are the primary objectives, the Province should first finalize, fund, and implement provincial service standards, consistent policies, shared digital platforms, and performance metrics.
- The direction-making authorities outlined in Bill 68—covering standards, IT, procurement, training, asset management, and strategic planning—provide ample tools to achieve consistency without requiring consolidation.
- Only after these measures are fully implemented and evaluated should any further structural changes be contemplated, and only where clear, incremental value can be demonstrated.

### **What opportunities or benefits may come from a regional conservation authority framework?**

Potential benefits of partnering and sharing staff between conservation authorities include:

- Improved access to specialized expertise (e.g., hydrogeology, geomorphology, legal and complex planning files) through shared service arrangements and voluntary staff mobilization during peak demand periods such as floods, major development cycles or significant weather events impacting properties.
- Efficiencies through shared corporate services (IT licensing, fleet, insurance, purchasing).
- Enhanced regional-scale scientific collaboration for broader watershed analysis, climate resilience planning, and cumulative effects assessment—while recognizing the importance of strong local-scale science and community-specific knowledge.

It is important to note that many of these benefits already occur today through voluntary inter-authority collaboration. We have shared staff historically with other authorities related to specialized IT, engineering and ecology on a long-term basis, and partner with other conservation authorities on a variety of geographically scalable projects (regional to local community) where it makes demonstrable sense to do so (e.g. planning, engineering, hydrogeological, IT and Risk Management Official expertise). The sharing of staff would be made easier through templated agreements. Any proposed changes must therefore demonstrate clear net new benefits beyond what can already be achieved through shared services and supported standards.

**Do you have suggestions for how governance could be structured at the regional conservation authority level, including suggestions around board size, make-up and the municipal representative appointment process?**

Any governance framework must:

- preserve strong local representation for municipalities and taxpayers,
- remain strategically effective, and
- maintain equitable representation

Models that significantly dilute local voice or create excessively large, symbolic boards risk being cumbersome and ineffective. Governance approaches should prioritize clarity of roles, accountability, and meaningful municipal participation.

Where broader coordination is required, networked governance models—retaining strong local boards with defined roles while enabling strategic coordination—may offer a more balanced and effective approach than full consolidation.

Consideration should be given to Indigenous participation in governance structures.

**Do you have suggestions on how to maintain a transparent and consultative budgeting process across member municipalities within a regional conservation authority?**

Clear, standardized budget reporting

- Annual budget documents should continue to clearly identify program and service costs, capital needs, asset management requirements, and service outcomes in a consistent and comparable format.

Separation of funding streams

- The budget presentation should clearly distinguish:
  - provincially-directed costs (Agency directions)
  - provincial supports for programs and services
  - municipal supports for programs and services
  - locally delivered programs and capital works.

Guardrails to protect local priorities

- Policies must ensure that locally funded priorities and assets cannot be reallocated without municipal agreement, protecting investments made by municipalities in their own communities.

### Predictable and local consultation

- Budget consultation processes must be structured, timely, and aligned with municipal budget cycles, including multi-year forecasts (e.g. 3 or 5 year) to support municipal financial planning and stability.

### **How can regional conservation authorities maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders?**

#### Keep local presence real

- Maintain local offices, local staff, and local contact points for programs and services. These points of contact are essential to effective service delivery and community trust.

#### Protect watershed identity and place-based knowledge

- Through consistency measures, a “one system, many watersheds” model will emerge with the OPCA efforts for standardization. A tangible sense of place must be identifiable to a community or municipality, with actions or plans tied to that same space.
- While standardization allows for greater consistency, flexibility must remain to address local conditions and support positive innovations for specific contexts. It is this creativity and customer service-oriented outlook that conservation authorities are known and appreciated for.

#### Strengthen transparency and accountability locally

- Communications, reporting, and performance measures should be clearly tied to local communities and watersheds, enabling municipalities and residents to understand outcomes that affect them directly

### **Additional Comments:**

#### Support tied to Guidance

At this time, the principal gap in direction relates to the timely identification, interpretation, and resourcing of common provincial standards. Many of the Province’s stated objectives—such as uniformity, improved service delivery, and consistent application of standards—can be meaningfully advanced within the existing conservation authority framework, provided that these standards are finalized, clearly articulated, and adequately supported for administration by the Agency.

While significant legislative changes have been introduced in recent years, provincial guidance and implementation support would assist conservation authorities in achieving consistent interpretation and application across jurisdictions. Strengthened communication, transitional guidance, and shared tools would reduce variability in processes and outcomes, addressing many of the challenges put forward.

Focusing the OPCA's first term on common tools, standards, and guidelines would deliver the greatest gains toward the Province's objectives of consistency and housing delivery. Allowing conservation authorities time to implement these measures and meet defined targets is more effective than undertaking structural change simultaneously. A 3-year focus on these efforts, aligned with the OPCA's first term, would support effective implementation and evidence-based assessment.

#### Development of Guidelines, Policies and other Resource materials

To ensure that provincially developed policies, guidelines, and implementation tools remain scientifically sound and locally relevant, their development would benefit from structured consultation with conservation authorities, municipalities and other stakeholders that possess detailed, place-based knowledge of these systems. Early and ongoing engagement in the determination of such materials would help ensure that provincial direction is practical, evidence-based, and responsive to local hydrologic, geomorphic, and land-use conditions, thereby supporting consistent application while avoiding unintended regional or community-level impacts.

#### Boundary Alignment Considerations

It is recommended that conservation authority boundaries be aligned, to the greatest extent possible, with the best science available for delineating watershed boundaries to avoid duplicative administrative layers. Advancements in technology have enabled more defensible watershed-based frameworks and would help reduce administrative duplication, support coherent watershed management, and enhance consistency in planning, implementation, and oversight.

#### Governmental Transparency

The OPCA should be accountable to the public as well as to stakeholders that are responsible for funding their operation. Transparency measures identified in the Conservation Authorities Act for current conservation authority governance should be mirrored by the OPCA (public meetings, agendas, minutes, membership, etc.). Similarly, financial transparency to conservation authorities as a financial stakeholder in the OPCA is needed, tied to annual reporting on outcomes of the levy support. Representation on the OPCA board, particularly if apportionment provisions are enacted would represent an open, transparent and accountable governance model.



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scugog.ca

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Sent Via Email to: [mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com](mailto:mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com)

December 22, 2025

Mark Majchrowski  
Kawartha Conservation  
277 Kenrei Road  
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4R1

**RE: Township of Scugog Resolution Regarding Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities**

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At the last regular Council meeting, of December 15, 2025, the Council of the Township of endorsed the following Council Resolution:

1. **THAT** the presentation from Mark Majchrowski, CAO of the Kawartha Region Conservation Authority, be received; and
2. **THAT** the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority,” “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority,” and the boundary configurations outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 not be support; and
3. **THAT** further provincial evaluation of a more focused and geographically coherent model be endorsed, one that is cost-effective, locally accountable, and aligned with provincial priorities including efficiency, red-tape reduction, and timely housing delivery; and
4. **THAT** that the Ministry be requested to engage directly with affected municipalities and conservation authorities across Eastern Ontario before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments; and
5. **THAT** any consolidation proposal include a clear, evidence-based plan, developed in consultation with affected municipalities and conservation authorities, to ensure restructuring is cost-effective, financially sustainable, and operationally relevant for local communities; and
6. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition Critics, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario,

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181 Perry Street, PO Box 780  
Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7  
Phone: 905-985-7346  
Fax: 905-985-9917  
scugog.ca

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the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Should you require anything further in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905-985-7346, [clerks@scugog.ca](mailto:clerks@scugog.ca).

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blair Labelle", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Blair Labelle  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

CC: Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations  
Minister of the Environment  
Conservation and Parks and his Opposition Critics  
Local MPs and MPPs  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
All municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario



[townshipofmachar.ca](http://townshipofmachar.ca)

Res End

Dec 23, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

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

Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

Dear Premier Doug Ford,

We're in receipt of correspondence dated Nov 19, 2025 from the Town of Kingsville, regarding the opposition to proposed consolidation of Conservation Authorities. The Council of the Township of Machar passed the following Resolution at their Regular meeting Dec 15, 2025.

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990 (the "Act"), originally enacted in 1946, was established to allow municipalities to form conservation authorities that are equipped to develop and deliver local, watershed-based conservation, restoration and natural resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities;

AND WHEREAS there are thirty-six (36) conservation authorities in Ontario, each of which is distinct and reflects the unique environmental, geographic and community needs of its watershed;

AND WHEREAS on October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government's intention to introduce legislation which would amend the Act to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven (7) regional conservation authorities.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Machar wishes to formally state that it opposes the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities without knowing the full financial and operational impact to municipalities and the conservation authorities.

Sincerely,

Angela Loney  
Clerk Administrator

cc: Town of Kingsville [atoole@kingsville.ca](mailto:atoole@kingsville.ca)



# The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

## Resolution

---

Todd J. McCarthy  
777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Town of Cobourg  
55 King Street West,  
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2  
[clerk@cobourg.ca](mailto:clerk@cobourg.ca)

**Sent via email**

[todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

December 29, 2025

RE: Correspondence from the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority regarding GRCA Board Resolution in response to Bill 68 and ERO 025-1257

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on December 17, 2025, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority regarding GRCA Board Resolution in response to Bill 68 and ERO 025-1257; and

FURTHER THAT Council does not support the proposed "Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority" boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

FURTHER THAT Council emphasize that meaningful modernization can occur within the current watershed-based governance framework; and

FURTHER THAT Council endorses further provincial evaluation of more focused specific model as a geographically coherent, cost-effective and locally accountable which address alternatives that advances the government's priorities of efficiency, red-tape reduction and timely home construction; and

FURTHER THAT Council asks that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks engage directly with affected municipalities and conservation authorities across Eastern Lake Ontario; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to make a submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations asking the Province to pause any consolidation until more consultation can take place; and



# The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

## Resolution

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FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to forward this resolution to:

- the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board
- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics; and
- the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office); and
- Ontario's Chief Conservation Executive, Hassaan Basit; and
- Local Member of Provincial Parliament David Piccini, Northumberland – Peterborough South; and
- all municipalities in Ontario

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik  
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

## 2026 Special Events Schedule/Days of Significance, Observances and Celebrations

### Approved Events

| Date                        | Time | Event Name  | Estimated Attendance | Confirmed Location | Event Type | Event Organizer | Road Closure |
|-----------------------------|------|---|----------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>JANUARY</b>              |      |   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/1/2026 – 1/31/2026</b> |      | Alzheimer's Awareness Month   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/1/2026 – 1/31/2026</b> |      | Tamil Heritage Month  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/1/2026</b>             |      | New Year's Day  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/4/2026</b>             |      | World Braille Day   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/4/2026</b>             |      | National Ribbon Skirt Day   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/7/2026</b>             |      | Orthodox Christmas  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/13/2026</b>            |      | Lohri   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/14/2026</b>            |      | Orthodox New Year   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/21/2026</b>            |      | Lincoln Alexander Day   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/27/2026</b>            |      | International Holocaust Remembrance Day   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>1/29/2026</b>            |      | National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamphobia |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>FEBRUARY</b>             |      |   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/1/2026 – 2/28/2026</b> |      | Black History Month   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/14/2026</b>            |      | Valentine's Day   |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/16/2026</b>            |      | Louis Riel Day  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/16/2026</b>            |      | Family Day  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/17/2026</b>            |      | Lunar New Year  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/17/2026</b>            |      | Ramadan Begins (sundown)  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/22/2026</b>            |      | Girl Guide Day  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |
| <b>2/25/2026</b>            |      | Pink Shirt Day (anti-bullying)  |                      |                    |            |                 |              |

We continually assess our selection of significant dates, observances, and celebrations and welcome your input on others that we might consider adding in the future.

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| <b>MARCH</b>                 |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>3/1/2026 – 3/31/2026</b>  | Bangladeshi Heritage Month                                     |
| <b>3/2/2026 – 3/3/2026</b>   | Purim (at sundown)   |
| <b>3/2/2026 – 3/9/2026</b>   | Black Mental Health Week                                       |
| <b>3/3/2026 – 3/4/2026</b>   | Holi (sundown)   |
| <b>3/8/2026</b>              | International Women’s Day                                      |
| <b>3/17/2026</b>             | St. Patrick’s Day  |
| <b>3/19/2026 – 3/20/2026</b> | Eid al-Fitr  |
| <b>3/20/2026</b>             | Spring Equinox   |
| <b>3/20/2026</b>             | International Francophone Day                                  |
| <b>3/21/2026</b>             | Naw-Rúz (Bahá’í New Year)                                      |
| <b>3/21/2026</b>             | World Down Syndrome Day  |
| <b>3/21/2026</b>             | International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination |
| <b>3/28/2026</b>             | Earth Hour (8:30 pm local time)                                |
| <b>3/29/2026</b>             | Palm Sunday  |
| <b>3/31/2026</b>             | Trans Day of Visibility  |
| <b>APRIL</b>                 |  |
| <b>4/1/2026 – 4/30/2026</b>  | Sikh Heritage Month  |
| <b>4/1/2026 – 4/9/2026</b>   | Pesach (Passover)  |
| <b>4/2/2026</b>              | World Autism Day   |
| <b>4/3/2026</b>              | Good Friday  |
| <b>4/5/2026</b>              | Easter Sunday  |
| <b>4/6/2026</b>              | Easter Monday  |
| <b>4/8/2026</b>              | International Day of Pink                                      |
| <b>4/9/2026</b>              | Vimy Ridge Day   |
| <b>4/13/2026 – 4/14/2026</b> | Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom Ha-Shoah (sundown)                |
| <b>4/14/2026</b>             | Vaisakhi   |
| <b>4/19/2026 – 4/25/2026</b> | National Volunteer Week  |

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|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>4/22/2026</b>             | Earth Day   |
| <b>4/28/2026</b>             | National Day of Mourning for Workers  |
| <b>MAY</b>                   |   |
| <b>5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026</b>  | Asian Heritage Month  |
| <b>5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026</b>  | Canadian Jewish Heritage Month  |
| <b>5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026</b>  | Dutch Heritage Month  |
| <b>5/4/2026</b>              | International Fire Fighters Day   |
| <b>5/5/2026</b>              | National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (Red Dress Day) |
| <b>5/4/2026 – 5/10/2026</b>  | Mental Health Awareness Week  |
| <b>5/10/2026</b>             | Mother's Day  |
| <b>5/14/2026</b>             | Moose Hide Campaign Day   |
| <b>5/17/2026</b>             | International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, Biphobia                                   |
| <b>5/18/2026</b>             | Victoria Day  |
| <b>5/21/2026</b>             | Global Accessibility Awareness Day  |
| <b>5/21/2026 – 5/23/2026</b> | Shavuot (sundown)   |
| <b>5/24/2026 – 5/30/2026</b> | National Accessibility Week   |
| <b>5/25/2026</b>             | International Missing Children's Day  |
| <b>5/27/2026</b>             | Red Shirt Day of Action for Accessibility and Inclusion                                       |
| <b>5/27/2026</b>             | Eid Al-Adha   |
| <b>JUNE</b>                  |   |
| <b>6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026</b>  | National Indigenous History Month   |
| <b>6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026</b>  | Filipino Heritage Month   |
| <b>6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026</b>  | Portuguese Heritage Month   |
| <b>6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026</b>  | Italian Heritage Month  |
| <b>6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026</b>  | Pride Season  |
| <b>6/6/2026</b>              | London (Ontario) Muslim Family Attack   |
| <b>6/21/2026</b>             | Summer Solstice   |
| <b>6/21/2026</b>             | Father's Day  |

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|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>6/21/2026</b>             | National Indigenous Peoples Day                             |
| <b>6/27/2026</b>             | Multiculturalism Day  |
| <b>JULY</b>                  |   |
| <b>7/1/2026 – 7/31/2026</b>  | Disability Pride Month                                      |
| <b>7/1/2026</b>              | Canada Day  |
| <b>AUGUST</b>                |   |
| <b>8/1/2026</b>              | Emancipation Day  |
| <b>8/3/2026</b>              | Civic Holiday   |
| <b>8/9/2026</b>              | International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples         |
| <b>8/31/2026</b>             | International Overdose Awareness Day                        |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b>             |   |
| <b>9/6/2026 – 9/12/2026</b>  | Mennonite Heritage Week                                     |
| <b>9/7/2026</b>              | Labour Day  |
| <b>9/7/2026</b>              | Ukrainian Heritage Day                                      |
| <b>9/8/2026</b>              | International Day of Literacy                               |
| <b>9/10/2026</b>             | World Suicide Prevention Day                                |
| <b>9/11/2026 – 9/13/2026</b> | Rosh Hashanah   |
| <b>9/20/2026</b>             | Terry Fox Run   |
| <b>9/20/2026 – 9/21/2026</b> | Yom Kippur (sundown)  |
| <b>9/21/2026</b>             | International Day of Peace                                  |
| <b>9/21/2026 – 9/27/2026</b> | International Week of Deaf People                           |
| <b>9/23/2026</b>             | International Day of Sign Languages                         |
| <b>9/23/2026</b>             | Autumn Equinox  |
| <b>9/25/2026</b>             | Franco-Ontarian Day   |
| <b>9/30/2026</b>             | Orange Shirt Day (National Day of Truth and Reconciliation) |

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| <b>OCTOBER</b>                 |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | Women’s History Month  |
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | Islamic Heritage Month   |
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | Bullying Prevention Awareness Month  |
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | Disability Employment Awareness Month                                      |
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | German Heritage Month  |
| <b>10/1/2026 – 10/31/2026</b>  | Hispanic and Latino History Month  |
| <b>10/4/2026</b>               | National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls |
| <b>10/4/2026 – 10/10/2026</b>  | Fire Prevention Week   |
| <b>10/5/2026 – 10/10/2026</b>  | Mental Illness Awareness Week  |
| <b>10/10/2026</b>              | World Mental Health Day  |
| <b>10/11/2026 – 10/20/2026</b> | Navaratri  |
| <b>10/12/2026</b>              | Thanksgiving Day   |
| <b>10/28/2026 – 10/24/2026</b> | Invisible Disability Week  |
| <b>10/31/2026</b>              | Halloween  |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b>                |  |
| <b>11/1/2026 – 11/30/2026</b>  | Hindu Heritage Month   |
| <b>11/1/2026 – 11/30/2026</b>  | Mo-Vember Men’s Health   |
| <b>11/1/2026 – 11/30/2026</b>  | Indigenous Disability Month  |
| <b>11/1/2026 – 11/7/2026</b>   | Treaties Recognition Week  |
| <b>11/5/2026 – 11/11/2026</b>  | Veterans Week  |
| <b>11/7/2026</b>               | Inuit Day  |
| <b>11/8/2026</b>               | National Indigenous Veterans Day   |
| <b>11/8/2026</b>               | Diwali   |
| <b>11/11/2026</b>              | Remembrance Day  |
| <b>11/13/2026 – 11/19/2026</b> | Transgender Awareness Week   |
| <b>11/16/2026 – 11/20/2026</b> | Ontario’s Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week                             |
| <b>11/20/2026</b>              | Transgender Day of Remembrance   |

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|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>11/22/2026</b>              | National Housing Day   |
| <b>11/25/2026 – 12/10/2026</b> | 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence                |
| <b>11/29/2026 – 12/24/2026</b> | Advent   |
| <b>DECEMBER</b>                |  |
| <b>12/1/2026</b>               | World AIDS Day   |
| <b>12/3/2026</b>               | International Day of Persons with Disabilities                   |
| <b>12/4/2026 – 12/12/2026</b>  | Hanukkah   |
| <b>12/6/2026</b>               | National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women |
| <b>12/21/2026</b>              | Winter Solstice  |
| <b>12/24/2026</b>              | Christmas Eve  |
| <b>12/25/2026</b>              | Christmas Day  |
| <b>12/26/2026 – 1/1/2027</b>   | Kwanzaa  |
| <b>12/31/2026</b>              | New Year's Eve   |

### Events in Approval Process

| Date                                      | Time  | Event Name                        | Estimated Attendance | Confirmed Location    | Event Type   | Event Organizer | Road Closure |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>FEBRUARY</b>                           |   |                                   |                      |                       |              |                 |              |
| <b>2/28/2026</b>                          | 4pm – 7pm   | Coldest Night of the Year         | 150                  | Cambridge Vineyard    | Public, Free | Community Group |              |
| <b>APRIL</b>                              |   |                                   |                      |                       |              |                 |              |
| <b>4/17/2026</b><br>-<br><b>4/19/2026</b> | Friday<br>4pm – 7pm<br>Saturday<br>10am – 5pm<br>Sunday<br>10am – 4pm | Cambridge Home and Lifestyle Show | 2,000<br>(per day)   | Duncan McIntosh Arena | Public, Free | Community Group |              |

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| <b>MAY</b>                                |   |   |                     |                                |              |                           |  |
|---|---|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>5/2/2026</b>                           | 7am – 4pm   | Cambridge Moves for Mental Health                   | 250                 | Civic Square                   | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>5/2/2026</b><br>-<br><b>5/3/2026</b>   | 9am – 6pm   | Ultimate Canada High School Invitation              | 300                 | Fountain Street Soccer Complex | Public, Cost | Community Group           |  |
| <b>5/16/2026</b>                          | 5:30pm – 11:30pm  | IPW Professional Wrestling                          | 120                 | Duncan McIntosh Arena          | Public, Cost | Community Group           |  |
| <b>5/29/2026</b><br>-<br><b>10/2/2026</b> | Fridays<br>3pm – 7pm  | Hespeler Village Market                             | 400                 | 11 Tannery Street East         | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>5/30/2026</b>                          | 11am – 3:30pm   | IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's           | 75                  | Churchill Park                 | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>JUNE</b>                               |   |   |                     |                                |              |                           |  |
| <b>6/4/2026</b><br>-<br><b>6/7/2026</b>   | Thursday<br>5pm – 10pm<br>Friday<br>5pm – 10pm<br>Saturday<br>11am–10pm<br>Sunday<br>11am – 5pm | 75 <sup>th</sup> Annual Preston Kin Carnival        | 10,000<br>(per day) | Riverside Park                 | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>6/6/2026</b>                           | 11am – 3pm  | Neighbourhood Day – Kinbridge Community Association | 1,000               | Churchill Park                 | Public, Free | Neighbourhood Association |  |
| <b>6/7/2026</b>                           | 9am – 3pm   | Chariot Fest  | 500                 | Soper Park Diamonds            | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |

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|   |   |   |                     |                               |              |                           |  |
|---|---|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>6/13/2026</b>                          | 2:30pm – 8pm                                  | Fiddlesticks Annual Neighbourhood Day Carnival            | 650                 | Fiddlesticks Community Centre | Public, Free | Neighbourhood Association |  |
| <b>6/13/2026</b>                          | 3pm – 6pm                                     | Neighbourhood Day – Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre | 650 – 700           | Soper Park                    | Public, Free | Neighbourhood Association |  |
| <b>6/14/2026</b>                          | 8am – 1pm                                     | Cambridge Mill Race                                       | 300                 | Riverbluffs Park              | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>6/27/2026</b><br>-<br><b>6/28/2026</b> | 9am – 9pm                                     | Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge Fiesta Extravaganza        | 400 – 700 (per day) | Soper Park<br>Diamonds        | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>JULY</b>                               |   |   |                     |                               |              |                           |  |
| <b>7/10/2026</b><br>-<br><b>7/12/2026</b> | 9am – 10pm                                    | The Great Hespeler Reunion 2026                           | 10,000 (per day)    | Village of Hespeler           | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>7/11/2026</b>                          | 11am – 11:30pm                                | <del>Latin Street Festival</del>                          | Event Cancelled     |                               |              |                           |  |
| <b>7/17/2026</b><br>-<br><b>7/18/2026</b> | Friday<br>4pm – 10pm<br>Saturday<br>6am – 8pm | Cambridge Scottish Festival                               | 5,000               | Churchill Park                | Public, Cost | Community Group           |  |
| <b>7/25/2026</b>                          | 12pm – 9:30pm                                 | Emancipation Day Celebration                              | 1,000               | Soper Park                    | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |
| <b>7/25/2026</b>                          | 12pm – 7pm                                    | Cambridge Multicultural Festival                          | 5,000               | Forbes Park                   | Public, Free | Community Group           |  |

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| <b>AUGUST</b>                             |   |  |                     |                                   |              |                              |  |
|---|---|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--|
| <b>8/7/2026</b><br>-<br><b>8/9/2026</b>   | Friday<br>4pm – 10pm<br>Saturday<br>12pm–10pm<br>Sunday<br>12pm – 7pm                           | Cambridge Ribfest<br>and Craft Beer Show | 10,000<br>(per day) | Riverside Park –<br>Mickler Field | Public, Free | Community Group              |  |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b>                          |   |  |                     |                                   |              |                              |  |
| <b>9/10/2026</b><br>-<br><b>9/13/2026</b> | Thursday<br>4pm – 10pm<br>Friday<br>4pm – 10pm<br>Saturday<br>12pm–10pm<br>Sunday<br>12pm – 5pm | Cambridge Fall Fair                      | 2,000<br>(per day)  | Dickson Park                      | Public, Cost | Community Group              |  |
| <b>9/12/2026</b>                          | 11am – 3pm  | Newcomers<br>Connection Picnic           | 500                 | Churchill Park                    | Public, Free | Neighbourhood<br>Association |  |
| <b>9/19/2026</b>                          | 11am – 8pm  | Time For Trades<br>Cross-Canada Tour     | 1,500               | Forbes Park                       | Public, Free | Community Group              |  |
| <b>9/20/2025</b>                          | 11am –<br>2:30pm  | Cambridge Terry Fox<br>Run               | 180                 | Riverside Park –<br>SSG 1 Field   | Fundraiser   | Community Group              |  |
| <b>9/25/2026</b><br>-<br><b>9/26/2026</b> | Friday<br>5pm – 10pm<br>Saturday<br>3pm – 10pm  | Fest2Fall                                | 5,000               | Dickson Park                      | Public, Cost | Community Group              |  |

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| <b>OCTOBER</b>                              |                  |  |           |                                |              |                 |  |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>10/10/2026</b>                           | 1:55pm – 11:55pm | GHS Navrati 2026                           | 500 – 700 | Duncan McIntosh Arena          | Public, Cost | Community Group |  |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b>                             |                  |  |           |                                |              |                 |  |
| <b>11/10/2026</b><br>–<br><b>11/14/2026</b> | 8am – 8pm        | CCAA Women's Soccer National Championships | 150 – 200 | Fountain Street Soccer Complex | Public, Cost | Community Group |  |

*All events are subject to change*

We continually assess our selection of significant dates, observances, and celebrations and welcome your input on others that we might consider adding in the future.

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