



Correspondence Items Presented for Information March 10, 2025

- 1) Correspondence from the Co-Chair, Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular Re: Request regarding trailer fees at the Georgian Shores Marina.
- 2) Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Re:
 - a) AMO Policy Update - Weekly Provincial Election Tracking Update.
 - b) AMO Policy Update - Weekly Provincial Election Tracking Update.
- 3) Correspondence from Councillor Dowd, Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Re: Cell towers and their associated maintenance.
- 4) Correspondence from the Legislative Coordinator, City of Brampton Re: Driver training and examinations Auditor General report.
- 5) Correspondence from the Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk, Town of Fort Erie Re: Provincial election health care advocacy.
- 6) Correspondence from the following municipalities Re: Response to tariff threats.
 - a) Township of The Archipelago
 - b) Town of Parry Sound
 - c) City of Toronto
- 7) Correspondence from the Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Durham Re: Protecting Canadian values.
- 8) Correspondence from the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Township of Coleman Re: Urgent need for improvement to highways 11 and 17.



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

264, STN MAIN
Owen Sound, ON
N4K 5P3



March 4, 2025

Dear Mayor & Council:

Thank you for allowing me to write this letter regarding the Community Service Committee proposal before you today on the plan for the Harbour wall camping.

As you are aware, the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular is one of the major events that has taken place over the last 36 years in the City of Owen Sound. We continue to promote Owen Sound at over 30 outdoor and cottage shows stretching as far north to Timmins, east to Ottawa and south to Toronto.

I was asked to participate in developing a strategy with the Community Service Committee to rectify some of the issues that have taken place on the Harbour wall during our Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular. As a result, I participated in two Community Service Committee meetings giving my support with the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fully backing the proposal before you today regarding the plan for the Harbour wall camping.

The Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular's only issue with this proposal is the extra fees of \$50 per trailer that will be applied to the Georgian Shores Marina property. For the record, not once did we ever discuss or mention an extra charge for Georgian Shores Marina trailers camping. We as an organization the (Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular) are respectfully opposed to this additional fee for the Georgian Shores Marina and request that it be removed from this proposal.

The Georgian Shores Marina each year applies for the permit to allow the trailers on site currently at a very minimal cost. Mayor and Council, this added fee to the trailers at the Georgian Shores Marina ultimately affect our bottom line for the Fish Hatchery, Kids and Conservation.

We the (Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular) support the Community Service Committee proposal for the Harbour wall camping, however we strongly oppose the extra fees being applied to the Georgian Shores Marina and the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular.

I wish to thank the Mayor and Council for their continued support, and I appreciate your time in this matter.

Again, thank you from the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association and Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular.

Yours in Conservation,

Chris Geberdt
Co-Chair
Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular
(519) 873-0711
cgeberdt@hay.net



AMO Policy Update – Weekly Provincial Election Tracking Update

AMO is currently tracking provincial election commitments made public that relate to [AMO's election advocacy](#) on their [website](#). Please consult each party's website and local candidate communications for full party commitments.

Updates from this week include:

- On Monday, party leaders participated in the final [debate](#) of the election campaign.
- The NDP and Liberal parties released their platforms and costing which included key commitments in each of AMO's priority areas.
- New commitments on infrastructure have also been announced by the PC Party.

Our [election tracking webpage](#) has been updated with new commitments.

This policy update is also available on [AMO's Website](#)



AMO Policy Update – Weekly Provincial Election Tracking Update

AMO is currently tracking provincial election commitments made public that relate to AMO's election advocacy on their website. Please consult each party's website and local candidate communications for full party commitments.

Updates from this week include:

- The Progressive Conservative Party released their platform and costing which included key commitments in each of AMO's priority areas.

Our [election tracking webpage](#) has been updated with new commitments. Election Day in Ontario is this Thursday, February 27, 2025.

This policy update is also available on [AMO's Website](#).



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

56 Lindsay Road 5, R.R. #2, Lion's Head, ON N0H 1W0

Telephone: 1-833-793-3537 | Fax: (519)-793-3823

www.northbrucepeninsula.ca

Notice of Motion

RE: Cell Towers and their Associated Maintenance

#06-05-2025

Moved by Aman Sohrab

Seconded by Laurie (Smokey) Golden

Whereas the Municipality of Northern Peninsula experienced several power outages in the fall of 2024;

Whereas this resulted in loss of cellular services that was caused by a faulty generator on the cell tower site and, the entire Northern Bruce Peninsula had no cellular and/or communication services; and

Whereas intermittent or complete lack of cellular services and maintenance of current cellular infrastructure in rural communities creates a significant barrier to access to emergency services, negatively affects emergency response time, and increase public safety risk;

Therefore, it is resolved that Canada and the Province of Ontario set targets to close gaps in cellular service in rural communities and mandate service providers in partnership with all levels of government to develop a 48-hour maximum maintenance period for repairing of cellular infrastructure;

Further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Federal Department of innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), Municipalities throughout Ontario, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Alex Ruff and MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Signed


Councillor Todd Dowd

February 20, 2025

Sent by email**See Distribution List on page 5****Re: Driver Training and Examinations Auditor General Report**

The following recommendation of the Committee of Council Meeting of January 15, 2025 was approved by Council on January 22, 2025, pursuant to Council Resolution C027-2025:

CW009-2025**Whereas:**

- It is a relief that Premier Ford was unharmed in the accident on the 401 in Pickering involving a reckless driver (age 18) from Oshawa on January 8, 2025 (Source: <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-premier-doug-ford-uninjured-in-highway-401-collision-says-his-office-1.7168982>)
- In addition to tragic loss of life and injury, vehicle collisions cause higher auto-insurance rates, unwanted congestion, lost productivity, and significant costs associated with emergency response (police, fire, paramedics, hospital emergency rooms and healthcare);
- According to the OPP, there were more car collision-related deaths (**568**) on Ontario highways in 2023 than in any year since 2007, making it **the deadliest year in over 15 years** and "...it's so critically important that we understand the rules of the road and we share the road safely, responsibly and understand the consequences for making a bad decision can be deadly." (Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/opp-number-fatalities-last-year-deadly-year-1.7204528>);
- That same year 26,425 were injured in vehicle collisions according to the MTO Preliminary 2023 Ontario Road Safety Annual Report (Source: <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-07/mto-orsar-preliminary2023-en.pdf>)
- As of Thanksgiving 2024, the OPP notes that **296** drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists died in car collisions, and the vast majority of those road incidents were preventable and attributed to poor and careless actions and behaviours (Source: <https://barrie.ctvnews.ca/nearly-300-people-missing-from-thanksgiving-tables-opp-1.7070787>), one-fifth involving a transport truck (as at July 2024 Source: <https://www.baytoday.ca/local-news/one-fifth-of-fatal-collisions-in-2024-involve-transport-trucks-9177343>)

- 2024 is the most dangerous year for pedestrians and cyclists who have been particularly at risk this year, with fatalities in these two road user classes up 100 per cent and 82 per cent respectively over this time last year (Source: <https://www.mondaq.com/canada/rail-road-cycling/1565790/how-2024-has-quickly-become-the-deadliest-year-for-cyclists-and-pedestrians>);
- By far, the most common type of conviction of the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) and cause for fatalities was speeding, representing 60.4% of all HTA convictions (Source: <https://www.g1.ca/driving-statistics/>);
- Peel Region had 25 fatalities due to car collisions - 13 in Brampton and 12 in Mississauga;
- The most dangerous places to drive in Ontario are Brantford (0.7/5), Kingston (0.7/5), Burlington (0.8/5) and Brampton (1.1/5), which impacts road safety and insurance affordability for everyone in these communities (Source: <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/top-10-safest-and-most-dangerous-cities-to-drive-in-ontario-in-2024-889054846.html>);
- From January to September 2024 the following traffic violation charges have been made by Peel Police:
- 632 careless driving charges (345 in Brampton, a 25% increase compared to Jan-Sep 2023)
- 559 cellphone use while driving charges (125 in Brampton, a 29% increase compared to Jan-Sep 2023)
- 6,367 speeding charges (830 in Brampton, a 117% increase compared to Jan-Sep 2023)
- 1,992 “Fail to Stop” at a stop sign charges (874 in Brampton, a 74% increase compared to Jan-Sep 2023);
- To mitigate speeding drivers, The City of Brampton has made historic investments in ASE cameras, an ASE processing centre, speed bumps, road diets, lower speed limits, police enforcement and other traffic calming measures, however like all municipalities, lacks jurisdiction over driver training and examinations, an area requiring urgent reform under the Provincial Government;
- Under the HTA, the Ministry of Transportation (Ministry) is responsible for protecting the public by restricting the privilege of driving to those who demonstrate that they have the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to drive safely;

- Ensuring that drivers receive appropriate and effective training and testing before they get a driver's licence is a crucial step in keeping Ontario's roads safe;
- The Auditor General (AG) conducted a value for money audit (AG Report) which includes 18 recommendations (***summary attached to this motion***) for the Provincial Government Ministry, published in December 2023 and concludes by highlighting:

“Our audit concluded that the Ministry of Transportation did not have effective evidence-based driver examination programs to evaluate and test novice drivers thoroughly and consistently. The Ministry did not provide effective oversight of novice driver training and driver examination service providers to ensure desired service outcomes with due regard to economy. Ministry oversight of driving schools and instructors was limited. It does not regulate driver training services outside of the optional Beginner Driver Education program, curbing its ability to identify and/or deter substandard training practices within the industry. In addition, the Ministry's monitoring programs were not designed to proactively identify drivers with repeat suspensions or high-risk medical conditions, impeding the effectiveness of these programs to maximize road safety in Ontario. (Source Page 4:

https://www.auditor.on.ca/en/content/annualreports/arreports/en23/AR_drivertraining_en23.pdf);

- In March 2024, CBC Marketplace broke an investigative story “Driving schools selling shortcuts to insurance discounts and faster road tests” where schools submit false information to government saying drivers completed 40 hours of training, consistent with concerning findings in the AG Report (Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/marketplace-driving-schools-education-fee-1.7134557>); and
- The provincial government has not provided a substantial update on any action taken regarding the recommendations in the AG Report to improve driver training and examination for safer drivers and improve safety on our roads.

Therefore be it resolved that:

1. The City of Brampton endorse the Auditor General Value-for-Money Audit Driver Training and Examination Report (AG Report) - its findings and 18 recommendations to ensure that we have safe and qualified drivers on our roads; and
2. The City of Brampton share this motion and endorsement with the Premier, Minister of Transportation, all local MPPs, and the leaders of the official opposition and third party; and

3. The City of Brampton request a formal update from the provincial government and meeting with the Minister of Transportation regarding any action taken to date based on the recommendations described in the AG Report, particularly those that prioritize improved driver training and examination for safer drivers on our roads; and
4. The City of Brampton forward this motion and attachment to any cities or towns listed in the AG Report and the top dangerous cities in Ontario, encouraging them to pass a similar motion; and CC them in the follow-up correspondence to the province; and
5. The City of Brampton forward this motion, attachment, and follow-up correspondence to the Region of Peel, Peel Police, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Driving Instructors Association, and Young Drivers of Canada.
6. Staff report back with data to identify road safety hotspots with the intention to use the data strategically with Peel Police to improve Brampton's status as a safe city to drive.
7. Staff report back on bylaw enforcement tactics regarding driving instructors as referenced on page 22 of the AG Report: "In some municipalities, such as Brampton, municipal bylaw officers patrolled test routes and issued fines to driving instructors who lingered around exam routes".

A summary of recommendations in the Auditor General Value-for-Money Audit Driver Training and Examination Report is attached.

By copy of this correspondence to Robert Higgs, Director, Enforcement and By-law Services, Legislative Services, and Shane Loftus, Director, Road Maintenance and Operations, Public Works and Engineering, they are requested to carry out the directions outlined in clauses 6 and 7. Item **RM 5/2025** has been added to the Referred Matters List for the report requested.

Yours truly,

Sonya Pacheco

Sonya Pacheco
Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office
Tel: 905-874-2178
sonya.pacheco@brampton.ca

(CW – 7.2)

Distribution List

City of Brampton:

Mayor and Members of Council
Marlon Kallideen, CAO
Laura Johnston, Commissioner, Legislative Services
Peter Pilateris, Commissioner, Public Works and Engineering
Robert Higgs, Director, Enforcement and By-law Services, Legislative Services
Shane Loftus, Director, Road Maintenance, Operations and Fleet, Public Works and Engineering
Christopher Ethier, Director, Municipal Transition and Integration, Office of the CAO
Melissa Qi, Director, Strategic Services and Initiatives, Office of the CAO
Andrzej Hoffmann, Manager, Government Relations and Public Liaison, Office of the CAO
Rupinder Birk, Advisor, Municipal Transition and Integration, Office of the CAO
Genevieve Scharback, City Clerk, Legislative Services

Provincial Government:

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

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, MPP - Brampton South
Minister of Transportation
minister.mto@ontario.ca / Prabmeet.Sarkaria@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Charmaine Williams, MPP – Brampton Centre
Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity
Charmaine.Williams@pc.ola.org

Graham McGregor, MPP – Brampton North
Graham.McGregor@pc.ola.org

Hardeep Grewal, MPP – Brampton East
Hardeep.Grewal@pc.ola.org

Amarjot Sandhu, MPP – Brampton West
Amarjot.Sandhu@pc.ola.org

Marit Stiles, MPP
Leader, Official Opposition
New Democratic Party of Ontario
MStiles-QP@ndp.on.ca

Bonnie Crombie
Leader, Ontario Liberal Party
bonnie@ontarioliberal.ca

Mike Schreiner
Leader, Green Party of Ontario
leader@gpo.ca

Aretha Adams, Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of Peel
regional.clerk@peelregion.ca

Chief Nishan Duraiappah
Peel Regional Police
c/o Janet Burke (janet.burke@peelpolice.ca)

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
amo@amo.on.ca

Association of Professional Driving Instructors of Ontario (APDIO)
apdioassociation@gmail.com

Young Drivers of Canada
Brampton@yd.com / info@yd.com

Municipalities referenced in Clause 4 of Recommendation CW009-2025 above:

Michael Schulthess, City Clerk
City of London
cityclerk@london.ca

Amanda Fusco, Director, Legislated Services/City Clerk
City of Kitchener
amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca

John D. Elvidge
City of Toronto
clerk@toronto.ca

Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk
City of Mississauga
diana.rusnov@mississauga.ca

Kevin Klingenberg, Director, Corporate Services, and Town Clerk
Town of Caledon
Kevin.Klingenberg@caledon.ca

Todd Coles, City Clerk
City of Vaughan (Woodbridge)
clerks@vaughan.ca

John Kennedy
City of Peterborough
clerk@peterborough.ca

Dylan McMahon, Acting General Manager/City Clerk
City of Guelph
clerks@guelph.ca

Matthew Trennum, City Clerk
City of Hamilton
clerk@hamilton.ca

Chris Gauthier, Clerk/Director, Clerk's Services
City of Brantford
clerks@brantford.ca

Steve Vlachodimos, City Clerk
City of Windsor
clerks@citywindsor.ca

Caitlin Salter MacDonald, City Clerk
City of Ottawa
caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca

Janet Jaynes, City Clerk
City of Kingston
cityclerk@cityofkingston.ca

Samantha Yew, City Clerk
City of Burlington
clerks@burlington.ca

Amber Wannamaker, Clerk
Town of Bancroft
clerk@bancroft.ca

Doug Irwin, City Clerk
City of Belleville
communications@belleville.ca

Sheena Earl, City Clerk
City of Brockville
clerk@brockville.com

Manon Levesque
City of Cornwall
clerk@cornwall.ca

Tara Lajevardi, Director, Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Town of East Gwillimbury
Clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca

Sonia Girard, Town Clerk
Town of Hawkesbury
sgirard@hawkesbury.ca

Cathie Ritchie, City Clerk
City of Kawartha Lakes (Lindsay)
clerks@kawarthalakes.ca

Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk and Director, Legislative Services
City of Markham
clerks@markham.ca

Lisa Lyons, Director, Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
clerks@newmarket.ca

Raylene Martell, Town Clerk
Town of Orangeville
clerksdept@orangeville.ca

Mary Medeiros, Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk
City of Oshawa
clerks@oshawa.ca

Victoria Charbonneau, Municipal Clerk
City of Pembroke
Victoria.charbonneau@pembroke.ca

Carolynn Errett, Town Clerk
Town of Renfrew
cerrett@renfrew.ca

Kerry Costello, Clerk
Town of Smith Falls
kcostello@smithsfalls.ca

Nancy Johnston, Director, Corporate Services/Clerk
Township of North Dundas (Winchester)
njohnston@northdundas.com

Wendy Cooke, City Clerk/Director, Legislative and Court Services
City of Barrie
CityClerks@barrie.ca

Rachel Anstett, Clerk
Municipality of Central Huron (Clinton)
clerk@centralhuron.com

Allyson Euler, Clerk
City of Dryden
aeuler@dryden.ca

Joseph Burke, CAO/Clerk
Town of Espanola
town@espanola.ca

Chelsea Greig, Municipal Clerk
Town of Fort Frances
cgreig@fortfrances.ca

Tanya Calleja, Clerk
Town of Huntsville
clerk@huntsville.ca

Chantal Guillemette, Clerk
Town of Kapuskasing
chantal.guillemette@kapuskasing.ca

Heather Pihulak, Director, Corporate Services/City Clerk
City of Kenora
hpihulak@kenora.ca

Jennifer Montreuil, Municipal Clerk
Town of Kirkland Lake
clerk@tkl.ca

Logan Belanger, Municipal Clerk
City of Temiskaming Shores (New Liskeard)
clerk@temiskamingshores.ca

Karen McIsaac, City Clerk
City of North Bay
karen.mcisaac@northbay.ca

Dan Kirby, Director, Council Services/City Clerk/Assistant City Solicitor
City of Orillia
clerks@orillia.ca

Briana Bloomfield, City Clerk
Owen Sound
bbloomfield@owensound.ca

Rachel Tyczinski, City Clerk
City of Sault Ste. Marie
cityclerk@cityssm.on.ca

Tatiana Dafoe, City Clerk
City of Stratford
clerks@stratford.ca

Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk
City of Greater Sudbury
clerks@greatersudbury.ca

Krista Power, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk
City of Thunder Bay
cityclerk@thunderbay.ca

Steph Palmateer, City Clerk
City of Timmins
clerks@timmins.ca

Judy Smith, Clerk
Municipality of Chatham-Kent
ckclerk@chatham-kent.ca

Bill Matson, City Clerk
City of Niagara Falls
clerk@niagarafalls.ca

Vicki Tytaneck, Town Clerk
Town of Oakville
townclerk@oakville.ca

Amy Burkhart, City Clerk
City of Sarnia
clerks@sarnia.ca

Jonathan Magill, County Clerk
County of Simcoe
clerks@simcoe.ca

Kristen Sullivan, City Clerk
City of St. Catharines
clerks@stcatharines.ca

Tanya Daniels, Director, Corporate Services/Clerk
Town of Tilsonburg
clerks@tillsonburg.ca

Fiona Hamilton, Director, Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)
Municipality of Brockton (Walkerton)
fhamilton@brockton.ca

Amelia Humphries, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/City Clerk
City of Woodstock
ahumphries@cityofwoodstock.ca

Chris Harris, Director, Legislative Services and Town Clerk
Town of Whitby
clerk@whitby.ca

Stephen Huycke, Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk
City of Richmond Hill
clerks@richmondhill.ca

Danielle Manton, City Clerk
City of Cambridge
clerks@cambridge.ca

Jaclyn Grossi, Municipal Clerk
Town of Ajax
clerks@ajax.ca

Susan Cassel, City Clerk
City of Pickering
clerks@pickering.ca

MOTION: SAFER DRIVERS = SAFER ROADS, a call for the Provincial Government to act

Moved by: Santos

ATTACHMENT: Summary of recommendations published by the Auditor General Value – “Value-for-Money Audit: Driver Training and Examination” December 2023

NOTE: The following list of recommendations have been copied directly from the report.

Issue and Recommendations (Pg16-38)

https://www.auditor.on.ca/en/content/annualreports/arreports/en23/AR_drivertraining_en23.pdf:

4.1 Driver Examinations

4.1.1 Novice Drivers from Urban Areas Who Took Road Tests at Rural or Suburban Drive Test Centres Were Involved in More Collisions

1. So that driver examinations effectively assess whether novice drivers are sufficiently prepared to drive safely on Ontario’s roads, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
 - assess the impact on road safety of novice drivers from urban areas taking their road tests at rural and suburban DriveTest Centres; and
 - based on that assessment, identify and put in place reasonable restrictions that prohibit urban novice drivers from taking their road test at a DriveTest Centre outside of where they live, work or study.

4.1.2 Ministry Reduced the Requirements for the G (Highway) Road Test Without a Full Review and Formal Evaluation of Road Safety Impacts

2. To understand the full impact of the reduced G (highway) road test and make evidence-based decisions about the reduced test, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
 - conduct a thorough policy analysis of the impact of the reduced G (highway) road test, including the impact related to drivers from countries with no reciprocal driver’s licence exchange agreement with Ontario;
 - track and compare the collision rates of drivers who pass the reduced G (highway) road test to those who passed the full G (highway) road test over a sufficient period of time to determine if it increases road safety risk; and
 - based on these analyses, determine whether it is appropriate to continue to use the reduced G (highway) road test.

4.1.3 Novice Drivers Can Repeat the Knowledge Test as Many Times as Necessary in One Sitting to Pass

3. To encourage novice drivers to study the rules of the road more effectively prior to attempting the G1 knowledge test, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation review best practices in other jurisdictions, such as Quebec and British Columbia, and determine whether it should introduce a wait period before an individual can retake the test or limit the number of tests that can be taken in a single day.

4.2 Driver Training

4.2.1 Drivers Allowed to Shorten Their G1 Supervised Driving Period Were Involved in More Collisions

4. So that novice drivers are better prepared to drive safely on Ontario’s roads, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
 - review and identify opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of the Beginner Driver Education program (program) for novice drivers, including the sufficiency of the existing minimum number of driving practice hours;
 - based on leading practices in other jurisdictions, reassess the time discount provision that allows novice drivers to shorten the supervised driving period after the completion of the program;

Continued 4 of 7

MOTION: SAFER DRIVERS = SAFER ROADS, a call for the Provincial Government to act

Moved by: Santos

- based on its review of these areas, implement necessary changes to improve the program; and subsequent to making changes to the program, determine whether all novice drivers should be required to complete the program.

4.2.2 Ministry Provided Limited Guidance Regarding Necessary Driving Practices for New Drivers Compared to Other Jurisdictions

5. So that novice drivers are well prepared to drive safely on Ontario roads, and to protect the integrity of the Ministry's driver examination process, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- review the types of driver training services available in the marketplace (including the practice of route training) and assess their impact on novice drivers and on the integrity of the driver examination process;
 - based on that assessment, propose regulatory changes to prohibit driver training services that compromise the Ministry's ability to assess the driving skills of novice drivers through the Ministry examination process; and
 - implement monitoring and enforcement tools to deter prohibited driver training services.

4.2.3 Unregulated Driver Training Services May Undermine the Integrity of Driver Examinations

4.2.4 Weak Oversight of Beginner Driver Education Driving Schools

6. To strengthen the oversight of driving schools, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- develop and implement a formal policy to require timely on-site follow-ups at driving schools where audits identified either serious or a high number of compliance violations to assess if the violations have been resolved;
 - develop and implement a strategy for routinely conducting cost-effective mystery shops on driving schools that it identifies as high-risk; and
 - regularly document and assess progress reported through follow-ups with driving schools to direct the Ministry's future oversight and enforcement actions.

4.3 Graduated Licensing System May Not Adequately Prepare Less-Experienced Drivers from Other Countries to Drive in Ontario

7. To better prepare novice drivers from other countries for driving in Ontario, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- research whether drivers from other countries have unique challenges that may contribute to their involvement in a higher proportion of collisions;
 - reassess the impact of waiving the 12-month wait period between the G1 (knowledge) and G2 (city) road test; and
 - based on the results of Ministry research and reassessment, make necessary changes to the training and examination programs.

4.4 Monitoring High-Risk Licensed Drivers

4.4.1 Ministry Rarely Requires Drivers with Repeat Driving Suspensions to Take Retraining Courses

8. To encourage road safety and provide early remedial measures for drivers with a history of repeat driving offences and suspensions, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- routinely identify drivers with a record of repeat driving offences and suspensions who Ministry data indicates are at increased likelihood to cause a collision; and
 - expand the criteria for requiring drivers to complete remediation and retraining to include these drivers.

MOTION: SAFER DRIVERS = SAFER ROADS, a call for the Provincial Government to act

Moved by: Santos

4.4.2 Elderly Drivers' Ability to Drive Safely Not Effectively Assessed

9. To enhance road safety for the growing number of elderly drivers, we recommend the Ministry of Transportation review and adopt best practices from other jurisdictions, such as:
- re-examining elderly drivers' driving skills; and
 - requiring regular medical assessments for all Drivers 80 and older.

4.4.3 Reporting of Drivers Who May Be Medically Unfit to Drive Could Be Improved

10. For more complete and timely identification, assessment and suspension of drivers with high medical risks, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation periodically conduct educational and outreach initiatives to increase awareness among doctors, nurses and optometrists to report patients for medical assessment.

4.4.4 Supporting Evidence for Ministry's Medical Suspension Decisions Not Always Complete

11. To help ensure that decisions to suspend driver's licences are based on all medically relevant information, and that the suspension decisions are consistent and adequately supported, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- redesign the forms doctors use to provide condition-specific medical information to the Ministry to include all necessary information, such as test or treatment results;
 - require medical assessors to consistently document their rationale for decisions related to complex driving suspensions and reinstatements; and
 - implement a quality-assurance process to routinely review the completeness and appropriateness of medical assessments.

4.5 Driver Examination Services Contract Management and Oversight

4.5.1 Ministry's Contract Administration Was Ineffective, and Failed to Improve Driver Examination Services for Ontarians

12. To better motivate the service provider to improve service rather than incur penalties, and to hold the service provider accountable for contract deliverables, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- design and implement performance measures that incorporate effective penalties for performance failures, including delays in contract deliverables;
 - collect an upfront contingency deposit for performance penalties based on historical records; and
 - design and implement incentives (in addition to penalties) to promote compliance and appropriate responses from the service provider.
13. To promote effective contract management and relations between the Ministry of Transportation and its service provider, and to avoid undermining the contractual position of the Ministry, we recommend that the Ministry ensure that communications with contractors use appropriate contract channels.

4.5.2 Ministry's Compliance Audits of Driver Examination Services Were Inconsistent and Incomplete

14. To better monitor and report on the driver examination service provider's compliance and performance, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation strengthen its audit function by implementing a program of risk-based audits to examine all key operational processes of driver examination services, including road tests.

MOTION: SAFER DRIVERS = SAFER ROADS, a call for the Provincial Government to act

Moved by: Santos

4.5.3 Ministry Paid Additional Funds to Maintain Service Levels That Were the Responsibility of the Service Provider

15. To provide for better accountability of funds provided to third parties for driver examination services to Ontarians, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- administer contracts such that risks and costs are allocated between the parties in accordance with contractual terms; and
 - conduct thorough reviews on all relief, subsidization or reimbursement requests from service providers and render decisions that are consistent with the Ministry's contractual obligations.

4.5.4 Ministry Awarded New Contract to the Service Provider Despite Poor Performance and Issues of Concern

16. To provide for more effective oversight of driver examination service providers, and to provide Ontarians with better quality of service, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- ensure adequate lead time to comply with government policies on procurement when contracting with a service provider;
 - consider past performance in negotiating future contracts;
 - compare its experience relative to other Canadian provinces to identify best practices in structuring driver examination services; and
 - use independent research to immediately evaluate the costs and benefits of various options for an examination service delivery partnership.

4.6 Ministry Overrode Its Own Proof of Identification Requirements When Issuing Driver's Licences

17. To better prevent fraud and identify theft, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- develop internal guidelines and formal procedures to evaluate and document the extenuating circumstances for ID escalations;
 - educate Serco and ServiceOntario staff on these guidelines and procedures; and
 - put in place a process to monitor that these guidelines and procedures are followed.

4.7 Ministry Did Not Incorporate Key Safety Data When Determining the Effectiveness of Its Road Safety Programs

18. To measure the effectiveness of its driver training and examination programs on a timely basis, we recommend that the Ministry of Transportation:
- expand the use of business intelligence tools to conduct additional analytics that leverage data from related information systems, linking driver information to the driver examination, collisions and driver medical databases;
 - establish a comprehensive set of road safety indicators, including those related to collision rates, based on the objectives of its driver training and examination programs; and
 - monitor its driver training and examination programs using these indicators, and report on the results annually.



Legal and Legislative Services

February 12, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Sir and Madam:

Re: Provincial Election Health Care Advocacy

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Special Council meeting of February 11, 2025 passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie submitted a letter to the Minister of Health dated August 7, 2024, advocating for the continuation of the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre as a primary care safety net in the community, which has not received a response, and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has appointed Dr. Philpott as the Chair of the New Primary Care Action Team to develop a strategy to address the shortage of primary care physicians with a mandate to attach all Ontarians to primary care in the next five years (2030), and

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie has a population of 36,000 residents, with over 8,000 who are unattached to a primary care physician, demonstrating a need for a primary care safety net locally, and

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre provides a first point of contact with our health care system for Niagara residents without a primary care physician, which will continue beyond the opening of the South Niagara Hospital in 2028, and

Whereas the Council for the Town of Fort Erie passed a resolution on October 21, 2024 requesting a continuation of funding for Douglas Memorial operations, without reduction of any funding to Niagara Health for construction and operation of the new South Niagara Hospital, and that the Premier support that resolution, and

../2

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Now, therefore, be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie Mayor and Council requests a response from the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health regarding submissions by the Town of Fort Erie, including letter dated August 7, 2024, the Town of Fort Erie Rural Ontario Municipalities Association presentation to the Ministry of Health, Parliamentary Assistant, Anthony Leardi, the resolution passed by the Town Council on October 21, 2024, and the Niagara Health resolution that the Town of Fort Erie presented to the Niagara Health Board on January 28, 2025, and

That: The Town of Fort Erie Mayor and Council requests that the Province of Ontario put a moratorium on the closure of urgent care centres and the implicit removal of primary care health services from the Town of Fort Erie and all small and rural communities in Ontario until Dr. Philpott's mandate is complete to ensure that all Ontarians are attached to a primary care physician, and;

That: This resolution and the information it references be forwarded to Niagara's local MPPs and all candidates seeking election in Niagara and circulated to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and all Ontario municipalities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Ashlea Carter,
Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk
acarter@forterie.ca

AC:dlk

c.c: Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca ; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca ; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca ;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Candidates Seeking an Election in Niagara info@niagaratinting.com; dumelie.gary@gmail.com;
shafolikapur@ontarioliberal.ca; wayne.gates@ontariondp.ca; contact@ruth-ann.ca; greenteam@gpo.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities

Attachments:

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health Letter – August 7, 2024
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier and The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health Letter – October 22, 2024
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association presentation to the Ministry of Health, Parliamentary Assistant, Anthony Leardi –
January 21, 2024
NH Board Resolution – January 28, 2024



Office of the Mayor

WAYNE H. REDEKOP

August 7, 2024

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Madam:

Re: Urgent Care Centre, Fort Erie

I appreciate the challenges that you and your Ministry face as you endeavour to ensure that every resident of Ontario has timely, effective and meaningful access to primary health care. I also appreciate the interest that you have taken in the specific issues that challenge us in Fort Erie as we attempt to establish a model that will address the need of our residents to access primary care.

The Town of Fort Erie Council recently passed a resolution calling on you and Niagara Health for a commitment to continue the operation of the Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial, in Fort Erie, following the opening of the South Niagara Hospital as our primary care safety net until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place in the community. I attach a copy of that resolution. This resolution has also been supported by the City of Niagara Falls, the City of Port Colborne and the Niagara Region.

The Town administration has been working with local family physicians, other health care providers, Bridges (the local Community Health Centre), the Indigenous community, Niagara Health, the Niagara Ontario Health Team and Ontario Health West to identify the specific service needs of our residents, the resources that we can rely on to meet our residents' needs and establish the model that will ensure that the primary health care, diagnostic and associated services are in place for the long term. As the community continues to grow, the Town is taking necessary steps to ensure that all residents will be rostered with a family physician, including continued support for a local Physician Recruitment Incentive program. As you can imagine, this is a significant investment and a moving target that is elusive for municipalities across Ontario. Fort Erie estimates that over 7,000 residents are unattached to a primary care physician and all of our 34,000 residents rely on the Urgent Care for primary care health issues. Hence the absolute importance of the Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial continue its operation as our primary care safety net.

..../2

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

In July 2023, Niagara Health reduced the hours of operation of the UCC in Fort Erie (and Port Colborne) from 24 hours to essentially 10 hours (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.). This has jeopardized the access to primary care not only of unrostered patients, but for all residents of our community after available family physician working hours. The implications seem predictable: greater pressure on the Emergency Departments in Niagara Falls and Welland, lower acuity health issues using Emergency and EMS as a first point of contact, greater demand on Emergency Medical Services and offload delay pressures, delayed medical attention by those with transportation or other logistical challenges which make it difficult to seek medical service at a distance. All of these have financial impacts that erode the ability of the hospital system to provide the services required by residents. I believe that it is unlikely that the new South Niagara hospital will eliminate these concerns.

Insofar as Niagara Health is responsible for the operation of our UCC at Douglas Memorial, we understand the need to maintain a fruitful working relationship with it. Accordingly, NH has participated in our Community Health Care Services Committee and in meetings with other health care providers as we search for the model for primary care that will meet our community's needs. Regretfully, NH has recently decided that it will no longer participate in the committee or any meetings in which the Town of Fort Erie is represented for reasons best known to it. Furthermore, it removed the invitation to Fort Erie's Chief Administrative Officer and Health Services Coordinator to attend a recent meeting (Aug 2nd) with Ministry representatives, Ontario Health West, Niagara Health, the Niagara OHT and other health service partners, without an explanation to the attendees. This was very embarrassing and concerning to us and brings into question NH's ability to gain public trust and confidence as our publicly funded hospital, but more significantly, it raises community concern about its ability to understand the dynamic between operation of the UCC and our quest to find a long-term primary care solution for our residents.

We look forward to your consideration to commit to the continuation of the Urgent Care Centre beyond 2028, as our primary care safety net or until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place.

Yours very truly,



Wayne H. Redekop
Mayor

WHR:dlk

Attach

c.c C. McQueen, Chief Administrative Officer

**Town of Fort Erie - Resolutions
Regular Council**

Agenda Number: 16.2.
Resolution No. 14
Title: Councillor McDermott
Date: Monday, May 27, 2024

Moved by: Councillor McDermott
Seconded by: Councillor Christensen

Whereas Niagara Health has received approval from the Provincial Government to build a new South Niagara Hospital in Niagara Falls that will provide a range of emergency and acute care services, and

Whereas the shortage of primary care physicians in Fort Erie results in over 7,000 residents being unattached (unrostered) to a family physician, and

Whereas the Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre at Niagara Health's Douglas Memorial site provides a primary care "safety net" for the community and serves as a first point of health care contact for both attached and unattached residents who cannot receive time-sensitive primary health care, and

Whereas the Provincial Government is attempting to reduce EMS offload delays and eliminate hallway medicine arising from low acuity patients who would be better served by primary care physicians or an Urgent Care Centre providing access to the primary care "safety net", and

Whereas the viability of the health care and hospital systems in Niagara are dependent on all residents having time-sensitive access to primary health care;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie advocate to the Minister of Health and Niagara Health for a commitment to continue the operation of Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial in Fort Erie following the opening of the South Niagara Hospital as the primary care safety net until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place in the community, and further

That: This resolution be sent to the Niagara Region and Niagara's local area municipalities for their support and endorsement.

Carried

Legal and Legislative Services

October 22, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Sir and Madam:

Re: Request Provincial Funding Remain Available to Support Fort Erie's Primary Care Initiative

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Council meeting of October 21, 2024 unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Hospital was built primarily with funds left by the estate of William Douglas on his death in 1929; and

Whereas the Douglas Memorial Hospital ("the Hospital") opened for operation in 1931; and

Whereas the Hospital operated in the black during all of its years of operation (1931- 1998) as a full-service hospital under the management and guidance of its own Board of Trustees; and

Whereas the Health Services Restructuring Commission ("HSRC") recommended in 1998 that Douglas Memorial continue operation as a hospital within the new Niagara Health System ("NHS"), with acute and chronic care beds, emergency and ambulatory services and a range of diagnostics; and

Whereas despite the creation of a standing committee of the NHS Board for Fort Erie, pursuant to recommendation of the HSRC, to assure local input into Board decision making and that no decision to eliminate any inpatient or emergency services would be made unless approved by such standing committee, the NHS embarked on a systematic reduction or elimination of various services at the Hospital until the adoption by the NHS of its "Hospital Improvement Plan" ("HIP") in 2008; and

Whereas pursuant to the HIP the NHS eliminated emergency and all other health care services at the Hospital in 2009, with the exception of a 24-hour Urgent Care Centre ("UCC"), chronic care beds, palliative care beds and some diagnostics, without the approval of the Hospital standing committee; and

../2

Whereas in July 2023 Niagara Health (“NH”), as it is now designated, reduced the hours of operation of the Hospital UCC to 12 hours, although the public only has access to the UCC from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily; and

Whereas NH has recently adopted a 3 hospital model for the future of hospital services in Niagara that intends to completely close the Hospital, resulting in no urgent, chronic or palliative or diagnostic services in Fort Erie once the new South Niagara Hospital is opened in or about 2028; and

Whereas the most recent population data available indicates that Fort Erie’s current population is 36,200, far greater than projected during deliberations with respect to Niagara Region’s new Official Plan, adopted in July 2022; and

Whereas the Niagara Region’s population is growing at a rate far greater than anticipated by the Province or NH, particularly when projections were being made for the hospital needs of South Niagara when planning for the new South Niagara Hospital; and

Whereas there are over 7,000 Fort Erie residents unattached to a primary care physician, necessitating a primary care “safety net”, such as a UCC or alternative to avoid first point of health care contact at local emergency departments; and

Whereas the UCC at Douglas Memorial forms that primary health care “safety net” in the absence of sufficient primary care physicians or service providers in Fort Erie; and
Whereas the removal of UCC services, chronic care beds, palliative care beds and diagnostics from the Hospital will result in an unreasonable and unnecessary hardship for current and future residents of Fort Erie and will foreclose the use of the Hospital as a safety valve for NH patients anywhere in Niagara in the event the new South Niagara Hospital is unable to meet the demands that the increasing population of Niagara will place on it; and
Whereas a prudent approach to managing the hospital and health care needs of Niagara, particularly South Niagara and Fort Erie, would recognize the value of retaining a fully-operational UCC, with diagnostics and clinics, as well as chronic care and palliative care beds at the Hospital; and

Whereas there is no indication that NH has any intention of changing course on its 3 hospital model for Niagara despite requests by the Town of Fort Erie to continue the services available at the Hospital; and

Whereas the residents of Fort Erie need and deserve equitable primary health care services, including 24-hour Urgent Care and associated services;

Now therefore be it resolved,

1. **That** the Council for the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Minister of Health commit to funding all necessary services at the new South Niagara hospital without the removal or reallocation of operational funding from the Douglas Memorial for the UCC and other current health services, and further

2. **That** the Council for the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Minister of Health direct any and all funding from the Province of Ontario for the operation of the UCC (primary care), chronic care beds and palliative care beds, and all diagnostic and associated services at Douglas Memorial remain in Fort Erie for use by Niagara Health as part of a revised hospital model for Niagara or an alternative model operated by a qualified designated health care services entity working in collaboration with the Town of Fort Erie should NH close Douglas Memorial as a hospital site, either before or following the completion and opening of the new South Niagara Hospital, and further
3. **That:** the Mayor and Town of Fort Erie staff enter into discussions with the Minister of Health and Niagara Health and such other health care providers as deemed appropriate to ensure the continued operation of primary care and other current services at Douglas Memorial, with or without the involvement of NH, and further
4. **That:** the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford, be requested to support this initiative, and further
5. **That:** a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Ontario Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; the Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Justin Trudeau; the federal Minister of Health, Mark Holland; the four MPPs and MPs who represent Niagara; the Niagara Region and the other 11 local area municipalities in Niagara for support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

PT:dlk

cc: The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Premier of Ontario Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Mark Holland, Federal Minister of Health mark.holland@parl.gc.ca
Lynn Guerriero, President and CEO, Niagara Health, Lynn.Guerriero@niagarahealth.on.ca
Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Niagara Region MP's Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca; tony.baldinelli@parl.gc.ca; Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca;
dean.allison@parl.gc.ca
Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities

2025 ROMA PRESENTATION
TOWN OF FORT ERIE



Presentation to:
Anthony Leardi, Parliamentary Assistant
to the Minister of Health
January 21, 2025



Overview

- A leader in community Health Care
- Investing in our community
- Community profile
- Our Issue
- Our Challenges
- Current Impacts on access
- How the Province can help
- Progress with Niagara Health
- Indigenous Health Services



■ A Leader in Community Health Care

Community Collaboration

- Creation of a Community Health Care Services Committee with representation from Regional Public Health, Niagara Health System, Primary Care Physicians, Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (initially established in 2003, first of its kind in Ontario)
- Conversion of former fire hall into medical clinic (underway)

Physician Recruitment

- Promoted establishment of family group practice in clinics
- Secured 4 new physicians in past 5 years – 2 new physicians in 2022/23
- 1 new physician recruitment pending
- Recent policy changes allowing streamlining and credentialing for certified physicians is removing barriers to repatriate or relocate practices to Canada.
- Attended UK/Ireland repatriation recruitment with Niagara Region

Physician Retention

- Facilitating a local family physicians network (Community of Practice)
- For over 20 years have provided physician retention incentives to address planned retirements

Education

- Partnership funding – Rural Medicine Week, Student Assistance Programs, Clerkships

Programs

- Nurse Practitioner, Mental Health, Memory Clinic
- Mobile clinics – Cancer Screening, Dental Services, REACH Mobile Bus



■ Investing in our Community

- Community Health and Wellness has been a Council priority since 1999/2000 and took on critical importance in 2008 when Douglas Memorial Hospital was converted to an Urgent Care Centre.
- Council's 2023 – 2026 Corporate Strategic Plan was unanimously supported with an enhanced focus to secure and enhance essential health care services in Fort Erie when new South Niagara Hospital opens (2028).
- Since 2012, the Town has invested over **\$2.7 million** in health- related services, as well as contributions to the Community Health & Wellness Reserve (**since 2019 - \$885,000**).
- Council committed **\$3 million** to the South Niagara Hospital and **\$150,000** toward Hospice Niagara's 10 bed hospice residence to be built in Fort Erie.



■ A Growing, Diverse Community



- Fort Erie has a population of approximately 36,000 persons. It has the perfect mix of rural and urban settings – a lot of green space but within close proximity to international airports and larger city centres.
- Approximately 5% of our population identifies as Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, Inuit).
- Over 156 new businesses have opened since the start of the pandemic (March 2020)
- Strategically situated on the Canada/USA border, from a trade standpoint, Fort Erie is important as one of North America's busiest gateways. Presently about 14% of all Canada-US trade crosses at Fort Erie with access to a U.S. population of over 44 million within a daily trucking distance, including 9 marine ports of entry/exit.
- From an immigration standpoint, Fort Erie plays an important role in welcoming newcomers, working with many service providers and the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre in providing settlement programs and services.
- Thousands of visitors are attracted to the beautiful sandy beaches in Fort Erie. Our Bay Beach Master Plan improvements make the experience at our most popular beaches even better and accessible. More than 86,000 annual visitors come to the beach and tens of thousands of others come for the boating, fishing, bird-watching and cycling opportunities.
- Fort Erie continues to be identified as a strategic location for investment by Invest Ontario and Niagara Economic Development.



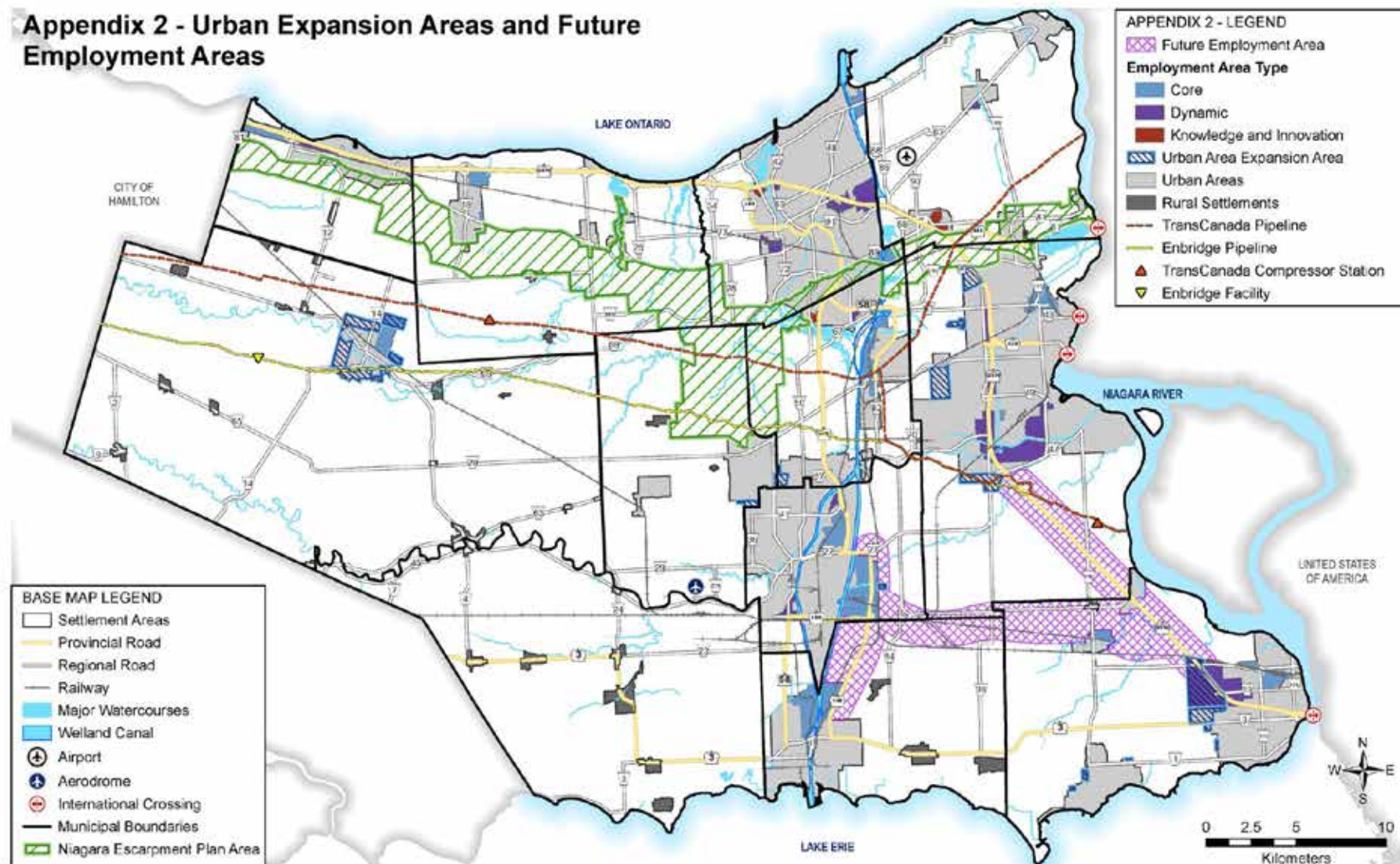
Our Issue:

- Currently, 8,000 Fort Erie residents are not rostered to a family physician in Fort Erie or not receiving care at all. *
- First point of care for unattached and many attached residents is Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre; however, service hours were reduced from 24 hour care to 10 hour care (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.), effective July 5, 2023.
- Fort Erie Urgent Care has served the community as appropriate first point of contact for lower acuity health issues (for both attached and unattached residents - 36,000) and it is considered a primary health care “**safety net**”.
- Niagara Health plans to close the Fort Erie Urgent Care in 2028, with the opening of the new South Niagara Hospital. Without a first point of contact “safety net” for low acuity health conditions, residents will go to the emergency department or call EMS.
- Primary Care was identified as a priority by the province, leading to the appointment of Dr.Philpott to address this issue.

* Ministry of Health Statistics, 2024



Appendix 2 - Urban Expansion Areas and Future Employment Areas



© 2011 Niagara Region and its suppliers. Projection: NAD83, UTM Zone 18N, CRS: NAD83. This map was compiled from various data sources. The Niagara Region makes no representation or warranty, either expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability, currency or otherwise of the information shown on this map.

■ Our Challenge:

- **Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre (UCC) needs to be available 24/7 post 2028 (when South Niagara Hospital opens) OR until an alternate plan to secure primary care services is in place for our growing community.**
- Town is working with local health service partners, Niagara Ontario Health Team, local family physicians and Community Health Centre (CHC) to collaborate on an EOI Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT) submission as an interim measure to address primary care physician shortages. Fort Erie UCC remains as a critical primary care “safety net” to avoid emergency room crowding.
- Fort Erie is prepared to support Niagara Health as a credible and sustainable health care provider to oversee a local health service solution after 2028. Such a solution breaks down health care silos, facilitates continuity of care, and reduces pressures on hospitals (e.g. ED overcrowding; EMC offload delays) by addressing primary care access in the community.



■ Current Impacts on Access



■ Statement by the Minister

- The release of the “Your Health: a Plan for Connected and Convenient Care” includes a statement by the Minister of Health, as follows:



“Our goal is to make health care more convenient for Ontarians by connecting you to care closer to home ... we will continue to prioritize making it easier for you and your family to connect to the care you need... we are focused on connecting you to the care you need, when and where you need it.”

With the recent appointment of Dr. Philpott, the Minister also added

“There’s no one I trust more than Dr. Philpott with her considerable experience to keep moving us forward and get us across the finish line of connecting everyone in the province to more convenient primary health care within the next five years. Doing so will have enormous benefits for people’s health and wellbeing, as well as the province’s health care system by reducing pressures on emergency departments.”

■ Progress with Niagara Health:

- Niagara Health publicly stated that they are not in the primary care business.
- They confirmed plans to cease operations of the Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre upon the opening of the South Niagara Hospital.
- They plan to allocate primary care spending dollars from Fort Erie Urgent Care Centre to operations at South Niagara Hospital.
- Niagara Health has excluded town staff from local health services discussions and has withdrawn their participation on the Fort Erie Health Services Committee.



■ How the Province can help:

- Request that Niagara Health restore and continue Urgent Care hours/operations in order to provide continued services to our residents and with consideration to meet the primary and incidental health care needs for the growth that our community continues to experience.
- Provide Niagara Health with the required operational funding for the new South Niagara Hospital so that current primary care funding for the UCC remains in our community to address primary care needs.
- Work with Town, Niagara Health, the Indigenous community and local physicians to develop a funded Fort Erie Health Services Model that will provide essential, sustainable and reliable first point of contact primary care health services to all residents (attached and unattached) beyond 2028.



■ How the Province can help:

- Continue to review/update the new practice agreement for family physicians to remove barriers that would discourage a collaborative primary care facility model (e.g. distance between members/clinics, funding caps) and increase incentives or create attractive conditions for family physicians to work after hours at UCCs.
- Address health care as “one envelope” of funding vs. fractured health funding envelopes (primary care, hospitals, EMS, public health, home and community care, etc.)
- Continue to advocate for additional seats on health and medical professional training programs - opportunities for post-secondary training in Fort Erie (FEIA/ Sheridan/Niagara College).



Indigenous Health Services

Challenges:

- Indigenous community and clients already experience access to care issues. The potential closure of the Douglas Memorial Hospital and access to urgent care present more barriers to access.
- Mainstream and conventional models of health services offered through Niagara Health System (NHS) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) do not meet specific needs of Indigenous community and clients.
- Lack of physicians especially those familiar with holistic medicines.
- Lack of addiction services/harm reduction services that align to Indigenous healing journey.
- Child care pressures.
- Housing pressures.
- Transportation accessing programs out of Town is a barrier for many.



Indigenous Health Services

Success with Indigenous-led Services:

- Wellbriety -12 week program based on Medicine Wheel Teachings that connects addiction and recovery services offered at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre facilitation in circles that begin the healing journey using a holistic approach with a mental health component (Niagara Health System does not provide support for this model). While main stream addiction services is well-intentioned, it can be more dangerous for Indigenous people to participate in these programs and lead to additional health crises.
- Under the Rainbow Childcare Centre is open to all Fort Erie residents and currently has a large wait list due to its popular programming.
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre has undertaken training their own ECE workers to compliment the Childcare Centre and Head Start program.
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre is represented on the Town's Community Health Care Services Committee and other municipal committees, and brings thoughts and ideas that help plan for the future of the community and Indigenous Health Services.



What the Province can do to help



- Support the Town's request to continue operation of the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) beyond 2028 as a local primary care access for the Indigenous community as part of Fort Erie's primary health care "safety net". The Town's request has also been supported by the Niagara Region, City of Niagara Falls, and City of Port Colborne.
- Encourage the inclusion of the Ministry of Health and Niagara Health System in facilitating health services specific to Indigenous Health.
- Encourage the acceptance of addiction services/harm reduction with more of an Indigenous lens that will assist with the healing journey.
- Consider support for the expansion of child care services at Under the Rainbow, provided through the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre.



Thank you for providing us with this opportunity to share with you the commitment that the Town continues to make in addressing community health care needs and discuss with you the importance of all Fort Erie residents having equitable access to comprehensive, community-based, innovative health care.

Mayor Wayne H. Redekop

Councillor Joan Christensen

Councillor George McDermott

Chris McQueen, Chief Administrative Officer





Proposed Resolution for the Niagara Health Board of Directors

Whereas, the Town of Fort Erie has clearly stated its position that the community requires a primary health care “safety net”, currently provided at the Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre, that should responsibly continue operation in Fort Erie until a viable alternative is in place.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that,

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors instruct Niagara Health representatives to re-engage with the Town of Fort Erie Health Services Committee to assist with local health and community service discussions; and

That Niagara Health commit to include the Town of Fort Erie Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, Community Health Services Coordinator and/or Director of Community Services in all discussions regarding local health services that impact the Town of Fort Erie; and

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors advocate to the Minister of Health to commit to the operational funding for all necessary services at the new South Niagara hospital without the removal or reallocation of operational funding from Douglas Memorial Urgent Care Centre (primary care services) to allow the continuation of the UCC and other current health services beyond 2028 or until a sustainable alternative is established; and

That the Niagara Health Board of Directors advocate to the Ministry of Health to direct all existing provincial funding for the operation of the Douglas Memorial UCC (primary care), chronic care beds and palliative care beds, and all diagnostic and associated services to remain in Fort Erie for use by Niagara Health as part of a revised hospital model for Niagara or an alternative model operated by a qualified designated health care services entity working in collaboration with the Town of Fort Erie should Niagara Health close Douglas Memorial as a hospital site, either before or following the completion and opening of the new South Niagara Hospital; and

That the Niagara Health Board notify the Town of Fort Erie of its decisions with respect to the above resolutions.



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 16.5.
Resolution Number 25-029
Title: Response to Tariff Threats - Support Canadian Business and Consumers
Date: Friday, February 21, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Manners
Seconded by: Councillor Barton

WHEREAS the Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago (The Archipelago) is a Canadian government entity; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago is committed to fiscal responsibility and prudent management of financial and organizational resources, information databases, and the protection of taxpayer information; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago developed 'guiding principles' for its broadband connectivity project that included 'Canadian solutions first, North American second' in the acquisition of technology and services; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago's projected capital program for 2025 is \$1.5 million; and

WHEREAS all Canadian municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs; and

WHEREAS United States President, Donald Trump, issued executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada effective March 12, 2025; and

WHEREAS predatory tariffs by the US government affect all our residents, businesses, and institutions within The Archipelago, the Province of Ontario, and Canada; and

WHEREAS federal, provincial, and municipal leaders are encouraging Canadians to 'buy Canadian'; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago supports Team Canada efforts to stop US tariffs on Canadian goods and services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Archipelago adopts the following actions:

1. That staff ensure that all municipal data resides within Canada for security and sovereignty interests; and
2. That The Archipelago supports the federal and provincial call to action “Canadian business first” policy in its procurement of capital and infrastructure programs; and
3. That The Archipelago promotes the policy of “Buy Canadian” to encourage the purchase of Canadian goods and services and to support local business in The Archipelago and Parry Sound District; and
4. That all travel to the US for municipal advocacy requires the adoption of a formal position on US tariffs by The Archipelago; and
5. That Staff prepare a Council tariff position and policy for Council approval.
6. That The Archipelago participate in the Parry Sound Chamber of Commerce survey of businesses on the impact of tariffs and support, where possible, actions that follow.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, MP Scott Aitchison – Parry Sound Muskoka, MPP Graydon Smith – Parry Sound Muskoka, Mayors of Parry Sound District Municipalities, Chief Adam Pawis - Shawanaga First Nation, Chief Warren Tabobondung - Wasauksing First Nation, Chief M. Wayne McQuabbie - Henvey Inlet First Nation, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all Ontario municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and community associations in The Archipelago.

Carried



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2025 – 018

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: February 18, 2025

Councillor **G. ASHFORD**
Councillor **J. BELESKEY**
Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**
Councillor **B. KEITH**
Councillor **D. McCANN**
Councillor **C. McDONALD**
Mayor **J. McGARVEY**

MOVED BY:

G.A.

SECONDED BY:

J. McGarvey

CARRIED: ✓ DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

Whereas United States President Donald Trump, issued executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada effective March 12, 2025; and

Whereas these tariffs will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries; and

Whereas federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian; and

Whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs; and

Whereas according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario municipalities are expected to spend \$250 to \$290 billion on infrastructure in the next 10 years; and

Whereas municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services; and

Whereas municipalities can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in the procurement for capital and infrastructure programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Parry Sound endorse the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian where and when possible; and

That the federal and provincial governments work with municipalities on measures to protect Canadian consumers and businesses; and

That Council call on the federal and provincial government to remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for capital projects and supplies when appropriate and feasible; and

That this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey



John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przewdziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail:
Sylvia.Przewdziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca

**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 25-MM26.7**

(Sent by Email)

February 28, 2025

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:

**Subject: Member Motion Item 26.7
Creation of a City of Toronto "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" Campaign - by
Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie (Ward All)**

City Council on February 5, 2025, adopted [Item MM26.7](#) as amended and, in so doing, has forwarded the Item to all Ontario municipalities and encouraged them to join Toronto in a "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Przewdziecki".

for City Clerk

S. Przewdziecki/mp

Attachment

c. City Manager

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 26

MM26.7	ACTION	Amended		Ward: All
--------	--------	---------	--	-----------

Creation of a City of Toronto “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” Campaign - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

City Council Decision

City Council on February 5, 2025, adopted the following:

1. City Council request the City Manager, and relevant Divisions to develop a comprehensive, multifaceted “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” campaign in response to the potential 25-percent tariffs announced by the Trump Administration, such campaign to encourage Toronto residents and businesses to join the City of Toronto's divisions and its agencies and corporations in purchasing locally made Canadian goods and services in order to protect local jobs in Toronto and Ontario where the proposed punitive tariffs would result in hundreds of thousands of job losses if imposed on Canada.
2. City Council direct the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and the City Manager, in consultation with the Chief Procurement Officer and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to accelerate the development of local procurement approaches as set out in Sidewalks to Skylines: A Ten-Year Action Plan for Toronto’s Economy to strengthen local businesses and protect local jobs.
3. City Council request the Federal Government to develop a standard recognizable label to be placed on all Canadian goods in clear, readable fonts that clearly shows percentages of Canadian content and any and all foreign content.
4. City Council forward the Item to all Ontario municipalities and encourage them to join Toronto in a “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” campaign.

City Council Decision Advice and Other Information

City Council considered the following Items together:

MM26.7 headed “Creation of a City of Toronto “Buy Local, Buy Canadian” Campaign - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie”; and

MM26.13 headed “Affirming Our Canadian Independence - by Councillor Stephen Holyday, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti”.

Summary

With recent threats from President Donald Trump to impose a 25 percent tariff on Canadian products and services, it is important that municipalities, businesses, and residents across Canada stand up for our country, our economy, and our businesses.

The City of Toronto, Canada's largest municipality, has an opportunity to encourage residents, businesses, and cities across Canada to create and participate in a "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign to ensure that we support local products, local businesses, and local growth.

This motion requests that the City Manager and relevant City Divisions develop a comprehensive "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" campaign that will encourage spending to further develop our own local economies through the purchasing of local goods and services when available.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM26.7

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-252857.pdf>)

Communications (City Council)

(February 2, 2025) E-mail from George Bell (MM.Supp)

Sent Via Email



February 28, 2025

The Honourable Arif Virani
Minister of Justice
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Virani:

**RE: Motion regarding Protecting Canadian Values: Ban the
Nazi Swastika in Canada, Our File: C00**

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
Department –
Legislative Services
Division

605 Rossland Rd. E.
Level 1
PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
Canada

905-668-7711
1-800-372-1102

durham.ca

**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on February 26, 2025, adopted the following recommendations of the Committee of the Whole, as amended:

“Whereas in recent years, Nazi iconography has surfaced with alarming frequency in the public sphere, used by an increasing number of groups and individuals to promote hate and instill fear within Canadian society; and

Whereas since the atrocities of WWII, the Nazi swastika, also known as the hakenkreuze, has become universally synonymous with systematic violence, terror and hate. Its growing presence in our country poses a threat to every single Canadian citizen, undermining the core values of equality, diversity, and inclusion that define our nation, and

Whereas eighteen countries have already taken action to ban these symbols, it is imperative that Canada follow suit;

Therefore be it resolved, that Durham Region Council supports B’Nai Brith’s call to the Government of Canada to pass legislation banning, with exceptions for certain educational and artistic purposes, the public display of Nazi symbols and iconography, including the Nazi swastika (hakenkreuze). Specifically, demanding that the Government of Canada immediately:

1. Ban the Nazi swastika (hakenkreuze)

2. Ban all Nazi symbols and iconography

Durham Region Council agrees that the people of Canada are counting on the federal government to ensure a future free from hate, where every Canadian is protected, valued, and respected; and

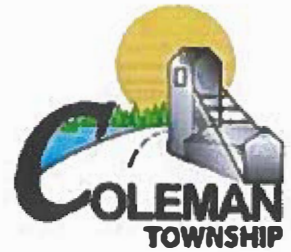
That a copy of this motion is sent to all Canadian Municipalities.”

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras, M.P.A.
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk
AH/tf

c: B'nai Brith Canada
All Canadian Municipalities

**Resolution
Regular Council Meeting**



Agenda Number: 15.2.
Resolution Number 25-054
Title: 25-R-22 Northern Highway Safety Plan
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025

Moved by: M. Lubbock
Seconded by: S. Cote

WHEREAS THE TransCanada Highway is the road system meant to move goods and people across the country, but it is no longer equipped to do that safely in Northern Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Coleman hereby support the Northern Highway Safety Plan proposed by MPP Guy Bourgouin, MPP Lise Vaugeois and MPP John Vanthof which includes the following;

Immediate Actions:

- Require all new drivers to be tested by MTO-certified inspectors instead of third-party companies.
- Return highway maintenance operations to the MTO while working with northern contractors.
- Increase staff at inspection sites, weigh scales, and OPP traffic enforcement.
- Expedite the 2+1 highway pilot project and use excavated material to build additional rest stops and parking areas.

Short-Term Improvements:

- Mandate snow tires for all passenger vehicles in Northern Ontario.
- Ensure driving schools comply with the MELT training system and improve MELT to include winter driving training.
- Address the abuse of "self-insurance provisions" and ensure fair payment for tow truck operators and service providers.
- Require all commercial vehicles to have dash cams.
- Increase the use of traffic cameras and photo radar to reduce speeding.
- Promote rail transport to reduce commercial truck traffic on northern highways.
- Upload connecting links back to the provincial highway system for consistent maintenance.
- Upgrade and expand rest stops with heated washrooms to meet traveler needs.
- Provide compensation to municipalities for damage to local roads caused by highway detours.

Long-Term Solutions:

- Widen and pave all shoulders on Highways 11 and 17.
- Convert Highways 11 and 17 into divided four-lane highways where possible or implement a continuous three-lane system if the 2+1 project proves successful.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation; the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing; all Provincial Leaders; the Temiskaming Municipal Association; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); and all municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

Certified True Copy



Christopher W. Oslund
CAO/Clerk - Treasurer



January 24, 2025

MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugeols *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

NORTHERN HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

Introduction

Safety on the TransCanada Highways 11 and 17 continues to be the number one concern for most residents of Northern Ontario because they are our main streets. We use these highways to get to work, school, hockey, and medical appointments, but we share them with thousands of cross-country commercial trucks. As a result, Northern MPPs have had a lot to say over the years about the state of highways in the North and for good reason.

Years ago, the problem was proper and consistent winter maintenance. The Liberal government in power at the time claimed everything was fine, so MPP Vanthof's office created the Northern Road Report to show that it wasn't. The Minister of Transportation (MTO) demanded that the report be taken down, but in the end the Northern Road Report helped prove that even when contract requirements were being met, people were still being put at risk. As a result, the government of the day was forced to make changes to the system.

MPP Bourgouin introduced legislation to make maintenance standards the same across the TransCanada system, so that 11 north of North Bay would be maintained to the same standard as south. The legislation was defeated, but the government did create a separate standard for the northern portion of the TransCanada highway. MPP Bourgouin has also introduced other pieces of legislation regarding driver training and not being able to pass on double solid lines. This was defeated, but he remains committed to finding ways to solve safety issues the same as his fellow Northern MPPs. Similarly, MPP Vaugeols introduced a motion that driver testing be taken back by the MTO which would have been an effective way for the government to control the standard of drivers on the roads. All three members have been vocal in the legislature regarding highway safety throughout their careers.

We are once again facing a highway safety crisis, one that we believe requires a plan designed by Northerners for Northerners. It contains clear goals that we can push government of whatever stripe to implement for all our families.

Current Situation

Currently some poorly trained commercial vehicle drivers and the companies they work for are putting all other drivers at undue risk. Incidents have been easy to track on social media. Investigative reports on the problems in commercial truck training and licensing, and from the Auditor General of Ontario identified this problem as far back as 2018. We, Northern MPPs have mentioned this issue many times in the legislature. The response from the government has been that these are the safest roads in North America, and that they are looking into the matter.



January 25, 2025

MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugeois *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

Regardless of political stance, we hope that we can all agree that one of the basic jobs of any government is to ensure that people who are issued a driver's license are capable of safely driving the vehicle for which they are licensed. There are over a hundred companies in Ontario who recruit, train, and license their own drivers and they can issue Ontario licenses to them. These are among the worst offenders. Of course there are still good driving schools, and companies that provide excellent training programs to their new drivers, but not all of them. Change needs to happen in the immediate and long term, and we are proposing a plan to address these needs. First, there needs to be immediate action by the Ministry to ensure that only properly-trained drivers are graduating by appointing employees of the MTO to conduct driving tests for all new commercial vehicle drivers before they can receive a license.

Immediate Ask

- Have all new drivers tested by MTO certified inspectors, not third-party private companies. If their student drivers can't pass a legitimate road test, then these driving schools will be forced to change how they conduct business.

Short-Term

- Return the management of highway maintenance operations to the MTO, while working with contractors and providers throughout the North.
- Increase staffing at scales and inspection sites, as well as OPP Traffic enforcement to ensure the laws currently in place are being followed.
- Expedite the 2+1 pilot project and the construction of rest stops. Use the fill that is dug out to rebuild sections of the highway to create parking pull offs.

Medium-Term

- Make snow tires mandatory for all passenger vehicles registered in Northern Ontario.
- Ensure that driving schools comply with the current MELT training system.
- Reform issues within MELT itself and expand requirements to include winter driving training.
- Address the current abuse of "self insurance provisions" and ensure tow truck operators and other service providers can get paid for services from these schemes.
- Require that all commercial motor vehicles have dash cams.
- Increase the number of cameras and photo radar to slow down traffic.
- Emphasize rail to move goods so not as many loads must travel on the highway.
- Return connecting links to the provincial highway system so that maintenance is uniform.
- Better equip and increase the availability of rest stops with heated, maintained washrooms.
- Direct the cost of repairing damage to municipal roads caused by detour traffic from highway closures to the MTO.

Long-Term

- Widen and pave all shoulders on Highways 11 and 17.
- Make Highway 11 and 17 a divided four-lane highway wherever possible.
 - If the 2+1 pilot proves successful, a continuous three lane would be a good intermediate step. The TransCanada Highway is the road system meant to move goods and people

January 25, 2025



MPP Guy Bourgouin *Mushkegowuk-James Bay*
MPP Lise Vaugois *Thunder Bay-Superior North*
MPP John Vanthof *Timiskaming Cochrane*

This plan is designed to be a living document. The goals here have been suggested by industry stakeholders, drivers, municipalities and others. We are open to suggestions, ideas, and constructive criticism. Please send us your comments. By working together, we are hoping to make the highway safer for all our families.

MPP Guy Bourgouin
MPP Lise Vaugois
MPP John Vanthof



SEND A LETTER TO THE MINISTER

<https://win.newmode.net/mppguybourgouin/sendlettertotheministeroftransportation>



CONTACT US

gbourgouin-qp@ndp.on.ca
lvaugois-co@ndp.on.ca
jvanthof-qp@npd.on.ca



MPP Bourgouin: 705-335-7351
MPP Vauegois: 807-345-3647
MPP Vanthof: 1-888-701-1105