

CIP – October 15, 2026

Archipelago - Notice of Hearing - Minor Variance Application No. A12-26 (G.B. Capital Corporation)	3
Archipelago - Support Resolution - Making Permanent the Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund OCIF	5
Aurora - Letter to York Regional Police Services Board et al. - Cannabis Retail Review Task Force-Findings and Recommendations	6
Blue Mountains - Support Resolution - Property Tax Assessment Cycle.....	18
Blue Mountains - Support Resolution - Permanent Doubling of Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund.....	22
Brock - Letter to MECP et al. - Combating Tick Borne Diseases.....	27
Brudenell Lyndock and Raglan - Letter to Premier - Finlay's Law on Emergency Room Reform	29
Cobourg - Letter to Premier - Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions.....	31
Deep River - Support Resolution - Request the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026.....	36
Essex - Letter to Premier - OPP 2027 Policing Costs	37
Grey Highlands - Support Resolution - Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services	45
Lanark Highlands - Support Resolution - OCIF Funding Increase.....	46
Ramara - Letter to MECP et al. - Support for Enhanced Municipal and Watershed Representation in the Proposed Regional Conservation Authority Governance Framework.....	47
Ramara - Letter to Transport Canada et al. - Review and Amendment of Water Aerodrome Public Consultation Requirements	50
South Algonquin - Letter to Canada Employment Insurance Commission - Urgent Request for Temporary Employment Insurance Relief for Seasonal Workers	53

South Huron - Letter to Premier - 2027 OPP Policing Costs	58
Wainfleet - Support Resolution - Funding for Public Libraries.....	64
Wawa - Support Resolution - 2027 OPP Policing Costs.....	65
Wellesley - Support Resolution - Support for Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)	67

THE TOWNSHIP OF THE ARCHIPELAGO
COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

[Back to Top](#)



9 JAMES STREET, PARRY SOUND, ONTARIO P2A 1T4
TELEPHONE (705) 746-4243 • FAX (705) 746-7301

NOTICE OF A HEARING

THE ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY IS ILLUSTRATED BELOW

This is to advise that on **October 16, 2026**, at **11:00 a.m.**, a public hearing will be held in the Township of The Archipelago's Council Chamber, 9 James Street, Parry Sound, Ontario pursuant to Section 45(6) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13 as amended. At that time the following application for a minor variance shall be heard by the Committee of Adjustment for the Township of The Archipelago.

OWNER: G.B. CAPITAL CORPORATION

APPLICATION: A12-26

PROPERTY: 1 GB427 Island, Township of The Archipelago

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE APPLICATION:

The owner is seeking relief from the following sections of the Township's Comprehensive Zoning By-law: Section 5.5 (e), which requires that a boathouse not project more than 15 m across the adjacent waterway; section 5.5 (i), which stipulates the maximum height of any boathouse is 4.5 m; and section 5.5 (l), which stipulates that no boathouse can occupy an area exceeding 120 m². The property is zoned Coastal Island Residential (CR) Zone, under Comprehensive Zoning By-law A2000-07, as amended.

The purpose of the application is to:

- a) permit a variance of 4.6 m (15.1 ft) over the maximum permitted projection of 15 m (49.2 ft);
- b) permit a variance of 0.2 m (0.7 ft) over the maximum permitted height of 4.5 m (17.8 ft); and
- c) permit a variance of 6.8 m² (73.2 ft²) over the maximum permitted area of 120 m² (1291.7 ft²).

The effect of the application is to permit the construction of a boathouse with a projection of 19.6 m across the adjacent waterway, having a height of 4.7 m and an area of 126.8 m².

A key map showing the location of the subject lands, and a sketch of the proposal are located on the reverse side of this Notice.

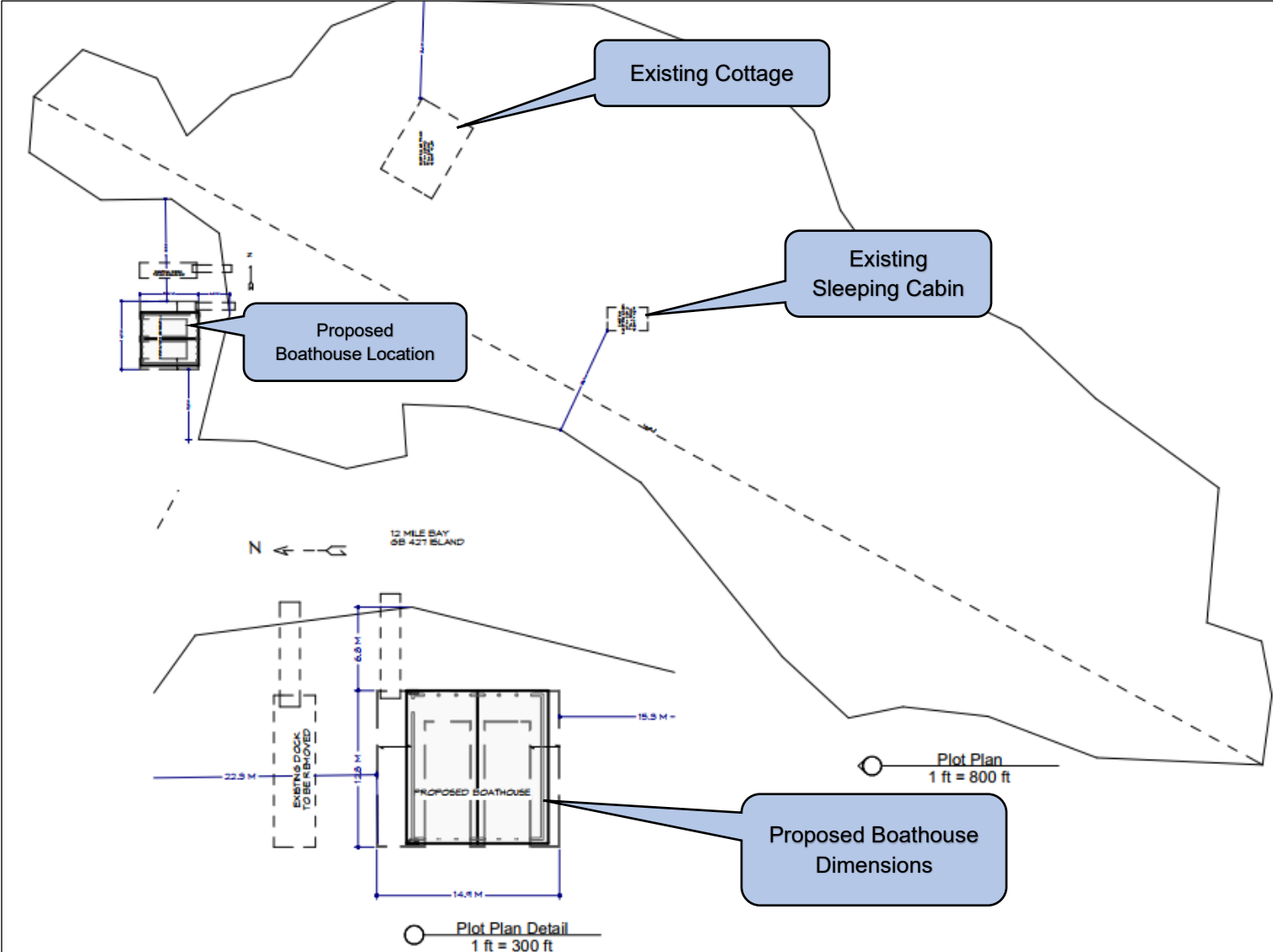
Additional information relating to this application is available upon request by email to the Planning Coordinator, Tera Macfie (tmacfie@thearchipelago.ca). Please direct inquiries or submit comments to the Committee of Adjustment through Tera Macfie by email, fax or by telephone at 705-746-4243 ext. 304, during normal office hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.). The Committee of Adjustment agenda, containing a copy of the Planner's report and other relevant information, will be posted on the Township's website (www.thearchipelago.on.ca) prior to the Hearing.

This letter is for your information only. Persons receiving this notice are under no obligation to participate in the Hearing, unless they so desire. Submissions will be accepted by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment prior to the Hearing. Such written submissions will be available for inspection by any interested person. Persons not participating will not be entitled to further notice in this matter, except as otherwise provided in the Planning Act.

If you wish to speak to the Committee of Adjustment during the hearing by teleconference/video conference, please contact the Planning Department (planning@thearchipelago.ca or ext. 304) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Committee of Adjustment in respect of this application, you must submit a written request to the Committee of Adjustment. This will also entitle you to be advised of a possible Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) Hearing, if required.

Dated this 2nd day of October, 2026

Cale Henderson, Secretary-Treasurer





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

Agenda Number: 15.2.

Resolution Number 26-140

Title: Township of Central Frontenac - Support for MFOA: Making Permanent the Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Date: Friday, September 18, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Frost

Seconded by: Councillor Emery

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) provides important funding to rural and small municipalities for critical infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS increased OCIF funding helps municipalities address infrastructure needs and reduce the financial burden on local taxpayers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of The Archipelago supports the Township of Central Frontenac's resolution requesting that the Province of Ontario make the doubling of OCIF funding permanent; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, the Honourable Rob Flack, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Infrastructure, Graydon Smith MPP Parry Sound - Muskoka, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

Carried

September 30, 2026

Executive Director
York Regional Police Services Board

Delivered by email
psb@yrp.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

minister.mah@ontario.ca

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO)

municipal@agco.ca

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 22, 2026
Report No. CS26-022 - Cannabis Retail Review Task Force - Findings and
Recommendations**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 22, 2026, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

1. That **Report No. CS26-022** be received; and
2. That the Local Actions set out in the Recommendations section of the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be implemented; and
3. That the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be circulated to York Regional Police, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario for consideration and support.

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

Sincerely,



Anne Kantharajah
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

AK/lb

Attachments (Council meeting extract and final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force)

Copy: Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
(dawn.gallaghermurphy@pc.ola.org)
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
(michael.parsaco@pc.ola.org)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) (resolutions@amo.on.ca)
All Ontario Municipalities



Council Meeting Extract

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 8, 2026, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.9.1, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

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

Carried (7 to 0)

8.4 Corporate Services Committee Agenda

8.4.4 CS26-022 - Cannabis Retail Review Task Force - Findings and Recommendations

1. That Report No. CS26-022 be received; and
2. That the Local Actions set out in the Recommendations section of the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be implemented; and
3. That the final report of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be circulated to York Regional Police, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario for consideration and support.

Carried

Cannabis Retail Review Task Force

Final Findings and Recommendations

August 27, 2026

1. Purpose

The Cannabis Retail Review Task Force was established by Council to review the Town of Aurora's experience since opting in to Ontario's retail cannabis framework and to report back to Council with findings and recommendations.

The Task Force reviewed the provincial regulatory framework, previous Council decisions and reports, information from Town staff and York Regional Police, enforcement and complaint information, community concerns, the experience of neighbouring residents and businesses, and feedback received through the 2026 Cannabis Retail Review Survey.

The Task Force recognizes that legal cannabis retailers are legitimate businesses operating within a provincially regulated framework. The purpose of this review is not to reconsider the legalization of cannabis or Aurora's decision to opt in, but to determine what has been learned from Aurora's experience and identify opportunities to better address community impacts.

2. Background

Aurora Council opted in to permit private cannabis retail stores on January 21, 2019.

At the same time, Council recognized potential concerns regarding the location and concentration of cannabis retail stores and requested that the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario consider additional location restrictions.

Specifically, Council requested:

- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores and specified sensitive uses, including daycares, nurseries, parks, group homes, addiction and

counselling facilities, recreation facilities, the Aurora Public Library, Town Hall and similar public gathering uses.

Despite Council's request, these additional criteria were not adopted by the AGCO.

The Province currently requires a 150-metre separation from schools and private schools. Municipalities do not have authority to license private cannabis retailers or regulate cannabis retail as a separate land use. Cannabis stores are otherwise subject to the same applicable municipal zoning requirements as other permitted retail uses.

The Town's 2023 Retail Cannabis Update subsequently confirmed that the number or proximity of cannabis stores is not an objectionable criterion under the provincial framework and that municipalities have no control over their locations beyond the zoning requirements applicable to retail uses generally.

3. Community Survey

Council authorized a Cannabis Retail Review Survey to provide the Task Force with current community feedback.

The survey was conducted from July 14 to August 9, 2026 and was promoted through Town communication channels.

The survey received:

- 479 visits; and
- 154 completed responses.

The survey should be considered an important source of community feedback rather than a statistically representative referendum of all Aurora residents.

Overall, the survey indicates that the principal concern among respondents is not simply the existence of legal cannabis retail stores. Concerns are more strongly associated with:

- The number of cannabis retail stores;
- Concentration and clustering;
- Store locations;
- Proximity to sensitive uses;

- Youth exposure; and
- Neighbourhood impacts.

The Task Force also recognizes that a segment of respondents supports cannabis retail and considers these businesses legitimate and appropriately regulated retail operations.

These results generally reinforce the location and concentration concerns identified by Aurora Council when it opted in to cannabis retail in 2019.

4. Task Force Findings

Finding 1: Cannabis retail has not created a significant town-wide enforcement problem

The available information does not demonstrate widespread public safety, crime or municipal enforcement problems associated with cannabis retail stores across Aurora.

Town staff have historically reported relatively few complaints associated with legal cannabis retailers, and proactive By-law inspections conducted in March 2026 did not identify violations.

The Task Force therefore does not find evidence supporting a conclusion that cannabis retail stores, as a class of business, represent a significant town-wide enforcement problem.

Finding 2: Town-wide statistics do not necessarily reflect localized impacts

While aggregate complaint and enforcement numbers are relatively low, the Task Force heard concerns regarding impacts experienced by residents and businesses neighbouring certain cannabis retail locations.

Issues identified during the Task Force's work included:

- Litter and discarded cannabis packaging;

- Parking;
- Signage;
- Patron behaviour;
- Loitering or prolonged gathering;
- Neighbourhood compatibility; and
- Other nuisance and quality-of-life concerns.

The Task Force finds that a relatively small number of locations can generate significant impacts for immediate neighbours without producing large town-wide complaint statistics.

Accordingly, aggregate complaint data should not be the sole measure used to determine whether a localized problem exists.

Finding 3: Location and concentration are central concerns

The Task Force finds that one of the most consistent concerns is the location and concentration of cannabis retail stores rather than the existence of legal cannabis retail itself.

This finding is reinforced by the 2026 community survey, which identified the perceived number, concentration and location of stores as primary concerns.

The existing provincial framework provides Aurora with little ability to address these concerns.

Finding 4: Aurora anticipated these concerns in 2019

The Task Force finds it significant that Aurora Council identified location and concentration as potential concerns before cannabis retail stores began operating in the Town.

Council's 2019 request for:

- 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- 150-metre separation from specified sensitive uses

was intended to provide reasonable safeguards while allowing legal cannabis retail businesses to operate in Aurora.

Seven years of experience and the results of the 2026 review demonstrate that many of the concerns identified by Council in 2019 remain relevant.

Finding 5: The provincial framework significantly limits municipal control

The Task Force finds that there is a significant gap between municipal responsibility for responding to community concerns and municipal authority to prevent or address the underlying location issues.

Aurora can enforce generally applicable municipal bylaws, including parking, signage and property-related regulations.

However, Aurora cannot:

- License cannabis retail stores;
- Regulate cannabis retail as a separate land use;
- Establish cannabis-specific zoning;
- Establish mandatory separation distances between cannabis stores; or
- Establish additional cannabis-specific setbacks from sensitive uses.

The ultimate authority respecting retail cannabis authorizations rests with the Province through the AGCO.

Finding 6: Localized problems require targeted responses

Given the relatively low level of town-wide complaints but more significant concerns associated with particular locations, the Task Force finds that targeted intervention is preferable to blanket enforcement.

Where persistent problems are identified, the Town should coordinate available resources and work with retailers, property owners, neighbouring businesses, residents, By-law Services, YRP and the AGCO, as appropriate, to address the specific circumstances.

Finding 7: Residents need clearer information about where and how to report concerns

Responsibility for cannabis-related concerns is divided among several organizations.

Depending upon the issue, residents may need to contact:

- Town of Aurora By-law Services;
- York Regional Police;
- The AGCO;
- York Region; or
- A property owner or business operator.

The Task Force finds that clearer public information would improve reporting, allow concerns to be directed to the appropriate authority and improve the quality of information available for future monitoring.

5. Recommendations

The Cannabis Retail Review Task Force recommends that Council endorse the following actions.

A. Local Actions

1. Improve public information and reporting

That the Town develop clear public information identifying where residents and businesses should report cannabis retail concerns, including the respective responsibilities of the Town, AGCO, York Regional Police and other appropriate agencies.

2. Establish a targeted response approach

That where recurring concerns are identified around a cannabis retail location, appropriate Town departments coordinate a targeted response using existing municipal

enforcement authorities and engage the retailer, property owner, neighbouring residents and businesses, YRP and AGCO where appropriate.

3. Encourage retailer and property-owner engagement

That the Town encourage cannabis retailers and property owners to proactively address legitimate neighbourhood concerns, including litter, parking, property maintenance and patron behaviour occurring on their properties.

4. Continue monitoring

That the Town periodically monitor cannabis retail-related complaints and enforcement activity to identify emerging trends or recurring locations of concern and report significant developments to Council as appropriate.

B. Provincial Advocacy

5. Reaffirm Aurora's 2019 position

That Council reaffirm its January 21, 2019 position respecting cannabis retail store locations and advocate to the Province of Ontario and the AGCO for implementation of those principles.

Specifically, Aurora should continue to advocate for authority to establish:

- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores; and
- A minimum 150-metre separation between cannabis retail stores and appropriate sensitive uses, including daycares, nurseries, parks, group homes, addiction and counselling facilities, recreation facilities, libraries and other appropriate public gathering places.

6. Provide municipalities greater authority over location and clustering

That Council request that the Province amend the cannabis retail regulatory framework to provide municipalities with meaningful authority to address the location, density and clustering of cannabis retail stores within their communities.

Any expanded municipal authority should allow municipalities to develop locally appropriate standards while maintaining reasonable opportunities for legal cannabis retailers to operate.

7. Strengthen municipal input into AGCO decisions

That Council request that the Province strengthen the municipal role in the AGCO retail store authorization process, including requiring meaningful consideration of municipal concerns regarding location, concentration, sensitive uses and documented community impacts.

8. Review operating conditions where neighbourhood impacts exist

That the Province and AGCO be requested to examine whether additional regulatory tools are appropriate where a cannabis retail operation generates repeated, documented impacts on neighbouring residential or commercial properties, including whether operating conditions or hours may be considered where warranted.

9. Coordinate advocacy with other Ontario municipalities

That Aurora's final Task Force report and Council resolution be forwarded to:

- The Premier of Ontario;
- The appropriate Provincial Ministers;
- The AGCO;
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- York Region;
- All Ontario municipalities,

with a request for support for greater municipal authority over cannabis retail location and clustering.

6. Conclusion

Aurora's experience with legal cannabis retail is nuanced.

The Task Force did not find evidence that cannabis retailers generally represent a significant town-wide public safety or enforcement problem. Legal cannabis retailers

are regulated businesses that contribute to Aurora's economy and should be treated fairly.

At the same time, the review demonstrates that legitimate localized impacts can occur and that the current provincial framework leaves municipalities with limited tools to address one of the community's principal concerns: where cannabis stores locate and how closely they may be concentrated.

Importantly, Aurora anticipated these issues in 2019.

When Council opted in to cannabis retail, it supported reasonable separation distances between stores and from sensitive uses. Those recommendations were not incorporated into the provincial framework. The concerns identified through the Task Force's work and the 2026 community survey demonstrate that those principles remain relevant today.

The Task Force therefore recommends a balanced approach.

Locally, Aurora should improve reporting, monitoring, communication and targeted responses where problems occur.

Provincially, Aurora should renew and strengthen its advocacy for the principles Council established in 2019 and request meaningful municipal authority over cannabis retail location, concentration and neighbourhood compatibility.

This approach recognizes cannabis retailers as legitimate businesses while also recognizing the responsibility of municipal government to protect the quality of life of residents and neighbouring businesses.

Councillor John Gallo
Town of Aurora
Cannabis Retail Review Task Force Chair



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

[Back to Top](#)

Title: Municipality of South Huron
Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Time: 2:54 PM

Moved by: Councillor Hope
Seconded by: Councillor Ardiel

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the July 31, 2026, Resolution from the Municipality of South Huron regarding Return to Property Tax Assessment Cycle;

AND THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains supports the June 23, 2026 resolution of the Township of North Stormont requesting a return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle;

AND THAT Council directs staff to circulate the resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, Western Ontario Warden's Caucus, and all municipalities in Ontario

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Mayor Matrosovs
Councillor McKinlay

Councillor Ardiel
Councillor Porter

Councillor Hope

Councillor Maxwell

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Deputy Mayor Bordignon

**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

July 31, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

300-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Aaron Neeb

That South Huron Council supports the June 23, 2026 correspondence of the Township of North Stormount regarding the Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, AMO, ROMA, MPAC, WOWC, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Premier Ford, doug.fordco@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; AMO resolutions@amo.on.ca; ROMA, roma@roma.on.ca; Joyce Gravelle, joyce.gravelle@mpac.ca; info@wowc.org; MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org and all municipalities in Ontario.



The Corporation of the Township of
NORTH STORMONT
RESOLUTION

Date: June 23, 2026 [Back to Top](#)

Resolution No. 163-2026

MOVED BY:

Mayor F. Landry
Deputy Mayor S. Densham
Councillor A. Bugelli
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor C. Shane

es

SECONDED BY:

Mayor F. Landry
Deputy Mayor S. Densham
Councillor A. Bugelli
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor C. Shane

AD

BE it resolved that the Council of the Township of North Stormont support the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolution 2026-03: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle, as presented.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; EOWC Members of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation; the Ontario Big City Mayors; the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus; the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and all EOWC municipalities."

☒ **CARRIED** ☐ **DEFEATED** ☐ **DEFERRED**

Landry
Chair

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: _____

☐ Disclosed His/Her/Their Interest

☐ Vacated His/Her/Their Seat

RECORDED VOTE

Councillor C. Shane	_____
Councillor A. McDonald	_____
Councillor A. Bugelli	_____
Deputy Mayor S. Densham	_____
Mayor F. Landry	_____



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

[Back to Top](#)

Title: Municipality of South Huron
Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Time: 2:57 PM

Moved by: Councillor Hope
Seconded by: Councillor Porter

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information and supports the July 31, 2026, Resolution of the Municipality of South Huron regarding Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF);

AND THAT Council directs staff to circulate the resolution to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, MPP Saunderson, and all municipalities in Ontario

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Mayor Matrosovs
Councillor McKinlay

Councillor Ardiel
Councillor Porter

Councillor Hope

Councillor Maxwell

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Deputy Mayor Bordignon

**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

July 31, 2026

Via email: rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Rob Flack,

Re: Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their July 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

299-2026

Moved By: Ted Oke

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the June 25, 2026 correspondence and proposed resolution of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario regarding making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, rob.flack@pc.ola.org;
Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org;
MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org and all municipalities in
Ontario.

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of Infrastructure
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

June 25, 2026

Dear Minister McCarthy,

RE: Making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request that the Government of Ontario make permanent the five-year doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200 million/year to \$400 million/year in advance of the 2027 OCIF allocation calculations.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long-term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, governments at all levels have reoriented their priorities to address the ongoing housing crisis, with heightened attention on growth-related infrastructure and increasing housing production. Application-based or incentive-based funding programs for municipalities have placed greater emphasis on growth-related or housing-enabling capital projects (e.g., Development Charge Reduction Program, Building Communities Strong Fund – Community Stream, Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, Building Faster Fund). OCIF remains one of the few federal or provincial funding programs where the focus remains primarily on the preservation and renewal of existing infrastructure to maintain or improve municipal service levels.

With support from the Government of Ontario and MFOA, municipalities have made significant improvements to their municipal asset management plans and programs. The Government of Ontario introduced O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) in late 2017, which provided a standard framework for infrastructure planning. To support the transition to O. Reg. 588/17, MFOA has partnered with the Government of Ontario on many asset management initiatives, including guides, workshops, direct consulting support and other resources. As a result of these and significant municipal efforts, most municipalities in Ontario have an asset management inventory that identifies their infrastructure assets, including conditions, replacement costs and renewal schedules of those assets.

By leveraging municipal asset management plans in 2020, the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario estimated the state-of-good-repair backlog to be \$52.1 billion for core municipal infrastructure. That is an estimated cost of restoring such infrastructure to a 'good' condition. The report notably focused primarily on core assets and thus likely understated the full extent of the backlog. Addressing this should not be a priority that falls by the wayside due to an increased focus on growth-related capital projects by other funding programs. OCIF's flexible design provides municipalities with the opportunity to fund asset management staff, which can improve data and analysis quality, and it provides a critical means by which municipalities address the infrastructure funding challenges identified in their asset management plans.

In 2021, the Government of Ontario doubled OCIF for a five-year period. Minister Surma, in announcing that initiative, commented that the Government of Ontario was "providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities as they repair, upgrade and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier and more reliable for all." And Minister Bethlenfalvy said that "by nearly doubling our investment in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, our government is supporting public safety, job creation and economic growth." In the current climate of geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and the resulting economic shocks and instability, the need to provide municipalities predictability and to preserve and enhance the economic activity and benefits provided by well-supported and well-maintained municipal infrastructure is as imperative as it was in 2021.

We have also heard from our members on this matter. Municipalities outside of high-growth regions have expressed concern about the diminishing level of grant funding opportunities for municipalities trying to preserve the economic value of their existing infrastructure. Additionally, while growing municipalities have made significant efforts to emplace new, housing-enabling infrastructure, which has been rewarded through the Building Faster Fund, many of their state-of-good-repair capital plans remain underfunded. To maximize the economic potential of federal and provincial investment in infrastructure, all orders of government must work together to preserve service levels and the public value of existing infrastructure, and permanently doubling OCIF to \$400 million/year will especially help small and rural municipalities preserve that economic foundation throughout Ontario.

By adopting a Team Ontario approach during recent and ongoing economic challenges, we have seen how significant progress can be made when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge (donna@mfoa.on.ca).

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Found, Ph.D., PLE
President and Chair

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
cc. Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance



Back to Top of
The Township of Brock
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0
705-432-2355

September 29, 2026

Honourable Todd McCarthy
Minister of Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of
Health Ontario

Sent via email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

Re: Combating Tick Borne Diseases

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Brock, at their meeting held on September 28, 2026 adopted the following resolution:

C-2026-225

Moved by: Regional Councillor Pettingill
Seconded by: Councillor Canavan
Motion Carried.

“Whereas the prevalence of ticks, including those known to carry Lyme disease, and other Vector borne diseases have increased across Ontario; and

Whereas Lyme disease diagnoses have increased by 27% in 2024 to 2369 (Public Health Agency of Canada, PHAC); and

Whereas residents across the Township of Brock have registered growing concerns about public health risks associated with tick exposure in parks, trails and residential areas; and

Whereas municipalities have limited jurisdiction and resources to effectively manage tick populations on a broad ecological scale; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario is responsible for public health policy, environmental management and vector-borne disease prevention and detection;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Township of Brock formally requests the Government of Ontario investigate and implement measures to reduce burgeoning tick populations and to mitigate their associated health risks; and

If this information is required in an accessible format,
please contact the Township at 705-432-2355.

TownshipOfBrock.ca

That such measures may include safe and effective tick control methods, public education campaigns and coordinated regional strategies; and

That the Province consider increased funding and support for local public health units to address tick-borne disease prevention; and

That a copy of this motion be sent to Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Kieran Moore, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, Durham Region Public Health, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Kawartha Conservation Authority, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all 444 municipalities across Ontario.”

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Clerks@Brock.ca.

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK



Fernando Lamanna, C.M.O. Dipl. M.M., B.A.
Acting CAO & Clerk

FL:ss

cc. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Durham Region Public Health
Mark Critch, Acting CAO/ General Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Mark Majchrowski , CAO Kawartha Conservation Authority
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Bcc. All Ontario Municipalities



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

October 7, 2026

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

RE: Finlay's Law on Emergency Room Reform

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on October 7th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Wasaga Beach.

Resolution No: 2026-10-07-08

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 Wasaga Beach's resolution regarding Finlay's Law on Emergency Room Reform as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health, the Federal Minister of Health, the local MPP and MP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA), the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus (WOWC), and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

**Resolution in Support of Reducing Emergency Room Wait Times and
Strengthening Pediatric Emergency Care**

WHEREAS Ontario hospitals continue to experience emergency room overcrowding, staffing shortages, and prolonged wait times that impact timely access to emergency care and place additional strain on patients, healthcare providers, and municipal paramedic services; and

WHEREAS the tragic death of sixteen-year-old Finlay van der Werken, who died in February 2024 after waiting in the emergency department at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, has highlighted the need for stronger provincial standards to improve pediatric emergency care across Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach supports the resolutions of the Township of Ramara, Municipality of Wawa and the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus calling on the Province of Ontario to reduce emergency room wait times through increased hospital capacity, enhanced triage protocols, additional healthcare staffing, and improved emergency care resources.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Wasaga Beach supports the introduction of Finlay's Law to strengthen pediatric emergency care through provincial standards for timely access to care, safe staffing levels, independent oversight, and enhanced funding for pediatric emergency services.

AND FURTHER THAT the Council supports requests for the Government of Canada to work with the Province of Ontario to strengthen accountability under the Canada Health Act and support the implementation of consistent national emergency care standards.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health, the Federal Minister of Health, the local MPP and MP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA), the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus (WOWC), and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

[Back to Top](#)

Resolution

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca

Sent via email
premier@ontario.ca

October 13, 2026

RE: Correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding the review of the Ontario
Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on August 26, 2026, passed the following resolution:

**Correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding the review of the Ontario
Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions**

THAT Council support the correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding the review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and enhancing deference to municipal planning decisions.

Sincerely,

Laryssa McGlashon
Council and Committee Coordinator

CC: clerk@whitby.ca; minister.mah@ontario.ca; peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org;
lorne.coe@pc.ola.org; jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org;
rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; laurie.scott@pc.ola.org; amopresident@amo.on.ca;
all Ontario municipalities



[Back to Top](#)

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

The Honourable Rob Flack,
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing -
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

July 29, 2026

RE: Town of Whitby's resolution regarding the Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on July 15, 2026 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2026-223:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.13 be received for information; and

Whereas Council supports Town of Whitby's resolution regarding the Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca



[Back to Top](#)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing -
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org

Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca

Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org

Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario -

amopresident@amo.on.ca

All Ontario Municipalities

Laryssa McGlashon

June 25, 2026

Via Email

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

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



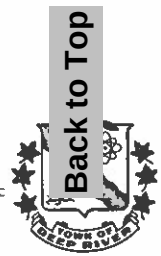
Kathryn Douglas
Supervisor, Legislative Services
clerk@whitby.ca

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - minister.mah@ontario.ca
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario - amopresident@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

P.O. BOX 400 • 100 DEEP RIVER ROAD • DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO K0J 1P0
Tel: (613) 584-2000 • www.deepriver.ca • Fax: (613) 584-3237



October 9, 2026

Via Email

The following Resolution of Council was passed at the September 23, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council in support of the County of Renfrew and the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario's request for the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond 2026.

Re: Resolution in Support of the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026.

6.1.5 Request for the Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Beyond 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026 250

MOVED BY: Councillor Myers
SECONDED BY: Councillor Fitton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the correspondence to Council from Glenn Doncaster, Reeve of the Town of Deep River / Council Member of the County of Renfrew, regarding a Resolution of the County of Renfrew Council in support of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario to request the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond 2026, be received,

THAT the Council of the Town of Deep River supports the initiative of The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario's position for the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund beyond 2026, and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Infrastructure, MPP Billy Deneault, and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

Regards,

Jackie Mellon, Clerk
Town of Deep River



October 9, 2026

BY EMAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

At its Regular Council Meeting held on October 5, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R26-10-471

Moved By Councillor Verbeek
Seconded By Councillor McGuire-Blais

That the correspondence from the Municipality of South Huron regarding OPP 2027 Policing Costs, be received and supported; and

That a letter from the Town of Essex be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Minister of the Solicitor General, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, AMO, ROMA, Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi, Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie, Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky, Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones and all Ontario municipalities noting concerns with the proposed increase of 11% as it may be challenging and have a significant budget impact for small municipalities.

Carried



I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Malandruccolo".

Joseph Malandruccolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandruccolo@essex.ca

- cc. Minister of the Solicitor General minister.solgen@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) resolutions@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org
Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org
Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky lgretzky-q@ndp.on.ca
Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones trevor.jones@pc.ola.org
Municipality of South Huron sjohnson@southhuron.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

[Back to Top](#)

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier Doug Ford
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026
Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt
Seconded: T. Oke

**Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and
Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and**

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

**Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:**

- 1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**
- 2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**
- 3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**
 - includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
 - that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
 - that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
 - that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**
- 4. that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

[Back to Top](#)

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org
resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ;
manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ;
glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com ;
jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca ; jwalker@bmross.net ; jennettewalker@hay.net ;
john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities
policed by OPP.



Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council
From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO
Date: September 21, 2026
Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:

For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

“That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.”

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - [Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs](#)

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
 - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
 - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
 - considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;
4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.

September 16, 2026

Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara St.
Wyoming, ON
N0N 1T0

Sent via email

To whom it may concern:

Re: Resolution 2026-625

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the September 16, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2026-625

That Council receive the Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services for information; and

That Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands Support Resolution No. 15 passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding the sustainable Provincial grant funding for fire services in Ontario; and

That this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Paul Vickers MPP, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Premier Doug Ford, Minister Michael Kerzner, Minister Rob Flack, MPP Vickers and all Ontario Municipalities

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
519-986-2811 Toll-Free 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca



Resolution Number 189
Title: Communications
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Moved by Deputy Reeve King
Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, Council support the August 25, 2026, correspondence from the Town of Greater Napanee regarding the permanent doubling of Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) funding from \$200 million to \$400 million annually beginning in 2027; and

THAT, this supporting resolution and the originating resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Member of Provincial Parliament for Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, and Ontario municipalities.

ADOPTED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter McLaren", written over a horizontal line.

Reeve, Peter McLaren

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Jill Dunlop, MPP Simcoe North

**Re: Support for Enhanced Municipal and Watershed Representation in the
Proposed Regional Conservation Authority Governance Framework**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.238.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju

Seconded by Joe Gough

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed the consolidation of Ontario's existing conservation authorities into nine Regional Conservation Authorities (RCA), with a proposed transition date of February 1, 2027, or such later date as may be prescribed;

AND WHEREAS Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting No. 026-0740 proposed regulations respecting the method for determining the number of members appointed by participating municipalities to RCAs and additional eligibility criteria for appointments to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA);

AND WHEREAS under the proposed governance framework, upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will be responsible for appointing members to RCAs, resulting in lower-tier municipalities no longer having the ability to directly appoint representatives to the governing board;

AND WHEREAS lower-tier municipalities continue to have a direct and significant interest in the programs, services, land use planning matters, natural hazard management, environmental protection and other responsibilities undertaken by conservation authorities within their communities;

AND WHEREAS meaningful local and watershed-based representation will be essential to ensuring that local municipal priorities, knowledge and watershed-specific considerations continue to inform decision-making within the new RCA structure;

AND WHEREAS the geographic size of the proposed RCAs further emphasizes the importance of ensuring that appointed Board members have a meaningful connection to the watershed they are responsible for governing;

AND WHEREAS there remains a need for additional information and guidance respecting several significant aspects of the proposed transition and future operation of the RCAs, including the governance framework, member recruitment and eligibility, travel and time commitments, budgeting, financial responsibility and the future apportionment and payment of conservation authority levies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara supports continued consultation with municipalities and existing local Conservations Authorities on the development and implementation of the new RCA governance framework;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that any individual appointed to a RCA Board of Directors reside within the applicable watershed of the RCA to which they are appointed, in order to ensure that Board members have a direct and meaningful connection to the communities, municipalities and watershed they are responsible for governing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the future regulations establishing the composition, role, and operation of Watershed Advisory Committees provide meaningful opportunities for lower-tier municipal representation and participation, recognizing that lower-tier municipalities will no longer directly appoint members to RCA Boards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to reconsider the proposed eligibility restrictions for the OPCA Board in order to establish a meaningful connection between the RCAs and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, including consideration of providing for at least one representative from each RCA on the OPCA Board, or another formal mechanism to ensure direct communication and coordination between the two levels of governance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide clear guidance to upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities respecting the recruitment and appointment of RCA Board members, including eligibility criteria, desired qualifications and expertise, expected roles and responsibilities, anticipated meeting frequency, travel requirements, and the time commitment associated with serving on the larger regional authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide municipalities with additional information regarding the financial and operational implications of the consolidation, including how RCA budgets will be developed and approved, how municipal levies and apportionment will be determined and collected, whether upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will assume responsibility for levy payments on behalf of lower-tier municipalities, and how costs and financial obligations will be allocated throughout the transition and ongoing operation of the new RCAs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be encouraged to provide this information as soon as possible to allow municipalities sufficient time to understand the governance, operational and financial implications of the new model and to prepare for implementation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; Conservation Ontario; Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop; the County of Simcoe; all Ontario municipalities; the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA); and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA).

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration of the enclosed resolution and encourages support for the continued involvement of municipalities and conservation authorities in the development and implementation of the proposed Regional Conservation Authority governance framework. The Township further believes that meaningful watershed-based representation, opportunities for lower-tier municipal participation, and greater clarity regarding governance and financial implications will be essential to the successful transition to the new model.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
Conservation Ontario
County of Simcoe
Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA)
Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA)

Bcc. All Ontario municipalities

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Transport Canada
Hon. Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport
Adam Chambers, MP Simcoe North

**Re: Request for Transport Canada Review and Amendment of Water Aerodrome
Public Consultation Requirements**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.234.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju
Seconded by Sherri Bell

WHEREAS the Aeronautics Act defines an aerodrome as any area of land water (including frozen surfaces thereof), or other supporting surface used, designed, prepared, equipped, or set apart for use either in whole or in part for the arrival, departure, movement, or servicing of aircraft and includes any buildings, installations, and equipment situated thereon or associated therewith;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada's public consultation framework for the establishment and operation of aerodromes, as reflected in Canadian Aviation Regulation 307, recognizes the importance of public interest considerations, including compatibility with surrounding land uses, community impacts, and aviation safety;

AND WHEREAS the current regulatory framework expressly excludes water aerodromes from certain public consultation requirements that apply to land aerodromes;

AND WHEREAS the impacts associated with aerodrome operations, including aviation safety, noise, environmental considerations, compatibility with existing land and water uses, and community well-being, are equally relevant to water aerodromes and may, in some circumstances, be more significant due to the shared use of waterways by residents, recreational users, commercial operators, and emergency services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities possess critical local knowledge regarding land use planning, navigation patterns, environmental constraints, recreation, tourism, community safety, and potential conflicts with existing transportation infrastructure that may not otherwise be available during federal decision-making processes;

AND WHEREAS a regulatory framework that requires public consultation for land aerodromes but not water aerodromes creates an inconsistency that may limit opportunities for affected municipalities, Indigenous communities, interest-holders, and residents to provide meaningful input regarding proposed aviation operations within their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have a formal opportunity to identify potential safety concerns, including conflicts between proposed water aerodrome operations and established aircraft flight paths, existing airport traffic circuits, heavily used waterways, and other local operational considerations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Ramara respectfully requests that Transport Canada undertake a review of the consultation requirements contained within Canadian Aviation Regulation 307 and related policies and guidance documents respecting the exclusion of water aerodromes from public consultation requirements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to amend the applicable regulations and policies to require an appropriate public consultation process for the establishment or significant expansion of water aerodromes, particularly where commercial operations are proposed or where there may be impacts on surrounding communities, public safety, navigation, or existing aviation infrastructure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to ensure that municipalities, Indigenous communities, airport authorities, conservation authorities where appropriate, and affected interest-holders receive meaningful notice and opportunity to comment on proposed water aerodrome developments before operational approvals or registrations are finalized;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ramara requests that the federal government recognize the importance of municipal input in assessing the suitability of water aerodrome locations and the potential cumulative impacts of aviation activity on local communities and waterways;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- Transport Canada;
- The Honourable Minister of Transport;
- The local Member of Parliament;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA);
- All Ontario municipalities; and
- The Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration and support of the enclosed resolution, which calls upon Transport Canada to review the current regulatory framework governing water aerodromes and establish appropriate public consultation requirements to ensure meaningful municipal, Indigenous, stakeholder, and public input.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA)
The Chippewas of Rama First Nation

Bcc. All Ontario Municipalities

October 9, 2026

Re: Resolution pertaining to the Employment Insurance Program

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting held on April 1, 2026, Council passed the following resolution:

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res # 26-644

WHEREAS the Township of South Algonquin is a rural municipality within the Nipissing District that serves as an important gateway to Algonquin Provincial Park; and

WHEREAS tourism is a foundational component of the local economy in South Algonquin and across surrounding Northern Ontario communities, supporting accommodations, restaurants, outfitters, guiding services, and seasonal park operations that rely on a stable seasonal workforce; and

WHEREAS according to the 2021 Census, approximately 105 residents of South Algonquin are employed in the accommodation and food services sector, with an estimated additional 50 residents working seasonally within Algonquin Provincial Park; and

WHEREAS many of these positions are inherently seasonal due to the nature of tourism activity associated with Algonquin Provincial Park and the seasonal operations of tourism-related businesses across Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS under the current framework of the Employment Insurance Program, many seasonal tourism workers experience a gap between the end of their Employment Insurance benefits—often in February or March—and the resumption of seasonal tourism employment in late May or June when visitor activity returns to the region; and

WHEREAS this gap creates financial hardship for workers who reliably return to seasonal employment each year and creates workforce instability for tourism operators and small businesses across the region; and

WHEREAS recognition of tourism-dependent rural communities within the framework of the Employment Insurance Program would help stabilize the regional workforce, support tourism businesses, and contribute to the economic sustainability of rural municipalities that depend on seasonal tourism; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Northern Ontario experience similar workforce challenges associated with seasonal tourism economies and would benefit from federal policies that better reflect the realities of seasonal employment in rural regions; and

WHEREAS regional municipal organizations such as the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities play a key role in advocating for policy solutions that address the unique economic conditions of Northern Ontario communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Algonquin formally request that the Government of Canada review and consider adjustments to the Employment Insurance Program to better recognize the realities of seasonal tourism

employment in Northern Ontario and communities within the Nipissing District. Council further requests the support and advocacy of the local Member of Parliament, Cheryl Gallant, in bringing this matter forward to the Government of Canada. Additionally, Council requests that the Government of Canada, including the Honourable Steven MacKinnon and Honourable Patty Hajdu, review potential policy measures or pilot programs that address the seasonal Employment Insurance gap affecting tourism-dependent rural communities. Council also calls upon the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and municipalities across Northern Ontario to support advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring federal Employment Insurance policies reflect the economic realities of tourism-dependent communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be circulated to M.P. Cheryl Gallant, M.P. Pauline Rochefort, the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities within the Nipissing District and Northern Ontario for endorsement and support.

-Carried-

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me,

Sincerely,

Tracy Cannon

Tracy Cannon

Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner

Email: tcannon@southalgonquin.ca

Phone: 613-637-2650 ext. 202

October 9, 2026

Via Email: nancy.healey@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Nancy Healey
Commissioner for Employers
Canada Employment Insurance Commission
Employment and Social Development Canada
Place du Portage, Phase IV
Gatineau, QC K1A 0J9

Re: Urgent Request for Temporary Employment Insurance Relief for Seasonal Workers – 2026–2027 Off-Season

Dear Commissioner Healey:

On behalf of the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin, we are writing to urge the Federal Government to take immediate action to provide temporary Employment Insurance (EI) relief for seasonal workers as the 2026–2027 off-season approaches.

At its Regular Council Meeting held on April 1, 2026, Council passed Resolution No. 26-644, formally requesting that the Government of Canada review and consider adjustments to the Employment Insurance Program to better recognize the realities of seasonal tourism employment in Northern Ontario.

The Township of South Algonquin serves as an important gateway to Algonquin Provincial Park, one of Ontario's most significant tourism destinations. The Park is a major economic driver for our municipality and surrounding communities, providing seasonal employment opportunities both directly within the Park and through the many tourism-related businesses that depend on its visitors. These include accommodations, restaurants, outfitters, guiding services, and other local businesses that rely heavily on a stable seasonal workforce.

According to the 2021 Census, approximately 105 residents of South Algonquin are employed in the accommodation and food services sector, with an estimated additional 50 residents working seasonally within Algonquin Provincial Park. Many of these positions are inherently seasonal, with employment opportunities closely tied to the Park's operating seasons and tourism activity.

One of the most pressing concerns is the gap between the exhaustion of EI benefits, often in February or March, and the resumption of seasonal employment in late May or June. This gap

places considerable financial hardship on workers and their families and creates challenges for local employers, including those operating within and around Algonquin Provincial Park, who rely on retaining an experienced and dependable seasonal workforce.

With the 2026–2027 off-season fast approaching, the Township strongly urges the Federal Government to immediately implement temporary relief measures, including a reduction in the number of insurable hours required to qualify for Employment Insurance benefits and an extension of benefit periods for seasonal workers.

While we recognize that permanent changes to the Employment Insurance Program may require further review and consultation, we believe that temporary measures are urgently needed to address the immediate needs of seasonal workers who may otherwise be left without adequate financial support during the coming winter and spring months.

The timing of this request is critical. Seasonal employment within Algonquin Provincial Park and the surrounding tourism industry is beginning to wind down, and any relief measures must be implemented promptly to provide meaningful assistance to affected workers.

The seasonal workforce associated with Algonquin Provincial Park is essential not only to the economic stability of South Algonquin but also to the continued success of tourism throughout the region. Without adequate support during the off-season, there is a risk of losing experienced workers who may be forced to relocate outside the community in search of year-round employment. This would make it increasingly difficult for local businesses and Park operations to retain a reliable workforce when the tourism season resumes.

Given the significant number of South Algonquin residents employed seasonally within Algonquin Provincial Park, we are also bringing this matter to the attention of the Province of Ontario, including the ministries responsible for Ontario Parks and employment services. We recognize that some provincial park employees, depending on the terms and duration of their employment contracts, may also be affected.

We hope that a coordinated approach between the federal and provincial governments will help address the unique circumstances faced by seasonal workers and employers in tourism-dependent rural communities such as South Algonquin.

The Township continues to advocate for longer-term changes to the Employment Insurance Program that recognize the unique circumstances of these communities. However, we respectfully request that immediate consideration be given to implementing temporary relief for the upcoming off-season, rather than delaying assistance while broader program reforms are being reviewed.

We ask that you bring these concerns forward to the appropriate federal decision-makers and advocate for timely action on behalf of seasonal workers, particularly those employed within Algonquin Provincial Park and the surrounding tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter. We look forward to your response and to meaningful action that will support seasonal workers, their families, and the economic sustainability of South Algonquin and other tourism-dependent communities across Northern Ontario.

Sincerely,

Bryan Martin

Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin

cc:

- Cheryl Gallant, MP – Algonquin—Renfrew—Pembroke
- The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Jobs and Families
- Pauline Rochefort, MP – Nipissing—Timiskaming
- Chris Roberts, Acting Commissioner for Workers, Canada Employment Insurance Commission
- Billy Denault, MPP – Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke
- Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Ontario Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming
- Ontario Parks – Algonquin Provincial Park Superintendent
- Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO)
- Northern Municipalities and Surrounding Municipalities

Enclosed: Resolution No. 26-644, April 1, 2026



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

[Back to Top](#)

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier Doug Ford
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026
Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt
Seconded: T. Oke

**Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and
Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and**

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

**Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:**

- 1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**
- 2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**
- 3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**
 - includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
 - that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
 - that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
 - that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**
- 4. that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

[Back to Top](#)

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org
resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ;
manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ;
glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com ;
jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca ; jwalker@bmross.net ; jennettewalker@hay.net ;
john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities
policed by OPP.



Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council
From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO
Date: September 21, 2026
Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:

For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

“That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.”

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - [Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs](#)

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
 - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
 - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
 - considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;
4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.

From: Amber Chrastina <AChrastina@wainfleet.ca>
Sent: October 7, 2026 10:26 AM
To:
Subject: RE: Resolution 2026-256- Funding for Public Libraries

Good morning,

Please be advised that at its regular meeting held October 6, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wainfleet passed the following motion:

“THAT Correspondence Item C228 from the Village of Burk’s Falls respecting sustainable provincial funding for Ontario public libraries be received and supported.”

Thank you.



Amber Chrastina

Municipal Clerk

905-899-3463 Ext. 224

31940 Highway 3, P.O. Box 40 Wainfleet, ON L0S
1V0

www.wainfleet.ca

The Township values and respects flexible work arrangements. Although I have sent this at a time convenient for me, I do not expect you to read, respond to, or follow up on this email outside your work hours.

The Township of Wainfleet Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in this communication including any attachments may be confidential, is intended only for the use of the recipient(s) named above, and may be legally privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, disclosure, or copying of this communication, or any of its contents, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please resend this communication to the sender and permanently delete the original and any copy of it from your computer system. Thank you

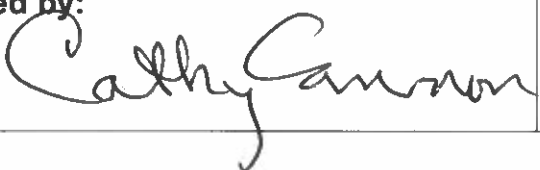


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Resolution # RC26178	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) through the Superior East OPP Detachment; and

WHEREAS OPP policing costs represent a significant expenditure within the Municipality of Wawa's annual operating budget, and the Municipality has experienced increasing policing costs, including an 11% increase identified as a financial pressure in the Municipality's 2026 budget; and

WHEREAS the Municipality has been advised by the Province of Ontario that, for the 2027 calendar year, no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

WHEREAS an increase of up to 11% in municipal policing costs represents a significant financial pressure for small and rural municipalities such as Wawa and ultimately places additional pressure on the municipal property tax levy; and

WHEREAS municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small, rural and northern municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Back to Top

- o includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost-of-living pressures;
- o provides municipalities with a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations;
- o recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural, northern and OPP-policed municipalities and ensures that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise municipalities' ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and
- o recognizes that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulation, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions, and provides appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Member of Provincial Parliament for Algoma-Manitoulin; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); all Ontario municipalities policed by the Ontario Provincial Police; and the Superior East OPP Detachment Board.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	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

Title: A.F. & P. 36/2026 - Support for Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) - Motion Required

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Moved by: Lori Sebben

Seconded by: Shelley Wagner

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

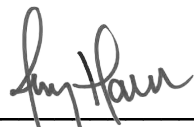
AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) request to the Ministry of Infrastructure that the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) be maintained beyond 2026; and further THAT Council request the Province of Ontario expand OCIF funding beyond the current doubled funding level and consider enhancements to the funding formula that recognize the unique infrastructure challenges faced by small, rural municipalities with large geographic areas, small population bases, and agricultural land comprising a significant majority of the municipal land area; and further

THAT a copy of the resolution and the supporting letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario be circulated to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Ministry of Infrastructure, MPP Mike Harris, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Harron", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Municipal Clerk, Amy Harron



STAFF REPORT
Corporate Services

Subject: Support for Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Report No.: A. F. & P. 36/2026

To: Council

Meeting Date: September 22, 2026

Prepared by: Jeff Dyck, Director of Corporate Services

Recommendation

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) request to the Ministry of Infrastructure that the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) be maintained beyond 2026; and further

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario expand OCIF funding beyond the current doubled funding level and consider enhancements to the funding formula that recognize the unique infrastructure challenges faced by small, rural municipalities with large geographic areas, small population bases, and agricultural land comprising a significant majority of the municipal land area; and further

THAT a copy of the resolution and the supporting letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario be circulated to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Ministry of Infrastructure, MPP Mike Harris, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support for a resolution requesting the Province of Ontario to permanently maintain the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) at its current doubled funding level beyond 2026. The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is advocating on behalf of municipalities across Ontario to secure continued investment in municipal infrastructure renewal. Municipal asset management plans continue to identify significant infrastructure replacement and rehabilitation needs, while recent provincial and federal infrastructure funding programs have largely focused on growth-related and housing-enabling projects. Maintaining the enhanced OCIF funding level would assist municipalities in addressing state-of-good-repair infrastructure needs, preserving service levels, supporting economic prosperity, and continuing to deliver housing-enabling infrastructure investments.

Report

1. Background

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) provides predictable and formula-based funding to municipalities for critical infrastructure projects. In response to growing municipal infrastructure needs, the Province of Ontario increased annual OCIF funding from \$200 million to \$400 million for the period 2021 through 2026.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has requested municipal support for advocacy efforts directed to the Ministry of Infrastructure seeking a permanent commitment to maintaining the doubled OCIF funding level beyond 2026.

Municipalities across Ontario are subject to asset management requirements established under Ontario Regulation 588/17, Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, enacted under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act,

2015. These regulations require municipalities to identify infrastructure assets, assess asset condition, and develop long-term plans for maintaining service levels.

Asset management plans throughout Ontario, as well as reports from the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario, have identified significant infrastructure renewal requirements and state-of-good-repair backlogs.

2. Analysis

Municipal infrastructure networks including roads, bridges, water systems, wastewater systems, and stormwater infrastructure represent significant public investments that require ongoing rehabilitation and replacement. Municipal asset management plans consistently demonstrate that available funding sources are insufficient to fully address long-term infrastructure renewal needs.

Small, rural municipalities face additional infrastructure funding challenges that are not fully reflected in population-based funding formulas. Municipalities with extensive geographic areas and significant agricultural land holdings are responsible for maintaining large road and bridge networks that support agricultural production, goods movement, and rural economic activity. These municipalities often have limited population growth and a smaller tax base over which to distribute infrastructure costs, resulting in disproportionately higher infrastructure costs on a per-capita basis.

In recent years, infrastructure funding programs offered by senior levels of government have generally focused on growth-related and housing-enabling infrastructure projects. While those investments are important, municipalities continue to face considerable challenges in funding the rehabilitation and replacement of existing infrastructure assets.

The enhanced OCIF allocation has become a critical funding source for municipalities by:

- Supporting infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement projects;
- Assisting municipalities in meeting regulatory asset management requirements;
- Helping maintain municipal service levels;
- Preserving existing community infrastructure assets; and
- Complementing local capital funding strategies.

MFOA has noted concerns from municipal finance professionals regarding the potential deterioration of municipal infrastructure and service levels if the enhanced OCIF funding level is not maintained.

Further, current geopolitical and economic uncertainties have increased the importance of maintaining public infrastructure investments that support economic activity, community resilience, and long-term growth. Municipal infrastructure serves as a foundational component of local and provincial economic prosperity.

Without a commitment to continue the doubled OCIF funding beyond 2026, municipalities may face increased challenges in closing infrastructure funding gaps, potentially requiring the deferral of capital renewal projects or increased reliance on property taxation and debt financing.

3. Recommendations and Rationale

It is recommended that Council support the MFOA request for the permanent doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund beyond 2026.

Continued enhanced OCIF funding would provide municipalities with greater certainty in long-term capital planning and support efforts to address infrastructure renewal requirements identified through asset management planning processes. Maintaining the current funding level would help municipalities continue investing in housing-enabling infrastructure while simultaneously preserving and renewing existing public assets that support economic development and community well-being.

While maintaining the current enhanced OCIF funding level is important, Council may also wish to advocate for a more equitable allocation approach that recognizes the realities of rural Ontario. Municipalities with large geographic areas, low population density, and agricultural land comprising more than 50 percent of the municipal land base maintain infrastructure that is critical to Ontario's agricultural economy. Additional provincial investment targeted to these communities would help address longstanding infrastructure funding gaps and support the sustainability of rural transportation networks and municipal services.

Supporting the resolution aligns with municipal interests across Ontario and reinforces the importance of sustainable infrastructure funding programs that address both growth and state-of-good-repair infrastructure needs.

4. Implementation Plan

Should Council approve the recommendation:

1. Council will adopt the attached resolution supporting MFOA's advocacy initiative.
2. The Clerk's Office will forward the adopted resolution to MFOA, the Ministry of Infrastructure, AMO, and other interested municipalities.
3. Staff will monitor future provincial announcements regarding OCIF funding allocations and update Council as necessary.

4. Staff will continue incorporating anticipated OCIF funding into long-term capital planning and asset management strategies.

Township Strategic Plan Alignment

Supporting stable and predictable infrastructure funding aligns with the Township's strategic objectives related to:

- Responsible asset management;
- Long-term financial sustainability;
- Infrastructure stewardship;
- Service delivery excellence; and
- Economic development and community prosperity.

The continued availability of enhanced OCIF funding supports the Township's ability to maintain and renew critical infrastructure assets in a financially sustainable manner.

Financial Implications

The continuation of the enhanced OCIF funding program beyond 2026 would positively impact municipal capital planning by providing ongoing support for infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement projects. Predictable infrastructure funding assists municipalities in managing asset renewal pressures while reducing reliance on taxation and debt financing.

Other Departments/Agency Comments

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario has requested municipal support for this advocacy initiative.

No additional departmental concerns have been identified.

Legal Considerations

N/A

Attachments

1. MFOA Letter to MOI permanent doubling of OCIF
2. History of OCIF

Previous Reports on this Topic

N/A

Reviewed by

Senior Management

Approved by

Rik Louwagie, Chief Administrative Officer

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of Infrastructure
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

June 25, 2026

Dear Minister McCarthy,

RE: Making permanent the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) that is scheduled to end after the 2026 allocation

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request that the Government of Ontario make permanent the five-year doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200 million/year to \$400 million/year in advance of the 2027 OCIF allocation calculations.

The Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long-term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, governments at all levels have reoriented their priorities to address the ongoing housing crisis, with heightened attention on growth-related infrastructure and increasing housing production. Application-based or incentive-based funding programs for municipalities have placed greater emphasis on growth-related or housing-enabling capital projects (e.g., Development Charge Reduction Program, Building Communities Strong Fund – Community Stream, Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program, Building Faster Fund). OCIF remains one of the few federal or provincial funding programs where the focus remains primarily on the preservation and renewal of existing infrastructure to maintain or improve municipal service levels.

With support from the Government of Ontario and MFOA, municipalities have made significant improvements to their municipal asset management plans and programs. The Government of Ontario introduced O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) in late 2017, which provided a standard framework for infrastructure planning. To support the transition to O. Reg. 588/17, MFOA has partnered with the Government of Ontario on many asset management initiatives, including guides, workshops, direct consulting support and other resources. As a result of these and significant municipal efforts, most municipalities in Ontario have an asset management inventory that identifies their infrastructure assets, including conditions, replacement costs and renewal schedules of those assets.

By leveraging municipal asset management plans in 2020, the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario estimated the state-of-good-repair backlog to be \$52.1 billion for core municipal infrastructure. That is an estimated cost of restoring such infrastructure to a 'good' condition. The report notably focused primarily on core assets and thus likely understated the full extent of the backlog. Addressing this should not be a priority that falls by the wayside due to an increased focus on growth-related capital projects by other funding programs. OCIF's flexible design provides municipalities with the opportunity to fund asset management staff, which can improve data and analysis quality, and it provides a critical means by which municipalities address the infrastructure funding challenges identified in their asset management plans.

In 2021, the Government of Ontario doubled OCIF for a five-year period. Minister Surma, in announcing that initiative, commented that the Government of Ontario was "providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities as they repair, upgrade and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier and more reliable for all." And Minister Bethlenfalvy said that "by nearly doubling our investment in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, our government is supporting public safety, job creation and economic growth." In the current climate of geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and the resulting economic shocks and instability, the need to provide municipalities predictability and to preserve and enhance the economic activity and benefits provided by well-supported and well-maintained municipal infrastructure is as imperative as it was in 2021.

We have also heard from our members on this matter. Municipalities outside of high-growth regions have expressed concern about the diminishing level of grant funding opportunities for municipalities trying to preserve the economic value of their existing infrastructure. Additionally, while growing municipalities have made significant efforts to emplace new, housing-enabling infrastructure, which has been rewarded through the Building Faster Fund, many of their state-of-good-repair capital plans remain underfunded. To maximize the economic potential of federal and provincial investment in infrastructure, all orders of government must work together to preserve service levels and the public value of existing infrastructure, and permanently doubling OCIF to \$400 million/year will especially help small and rural municipalities preserve that economic foundation throughout Ontario.

By adopting a Team Ontario approach during recent and ongoing economic challenges, we have seen how significant progress can be made when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge (donna@mfoa.on.ca).

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Found, Ph.D., PLE
President and Chair

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
cc. Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance

History and Timeline of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was announced in 2014 to support core infrastructure needs in small, rural and northern municipalities. The program was initially designed to provide \$100 million annually for local road, bridge, water and wastewater projects. At the time, half of the funding was distributed through a formula-based allocation, intended to reflect differences in municipal infrastructure and fiscal needs, while the remaining \$50 million was delivered through an application-based stream. Eligibility was focused on municipalities with populations under 100,000, as well as municipalities located in northern or rural Ontario.¹

OCIF was later expanded through the 2016 Ontario Budget, which committed to increasing the program to \$300 million annually by 2018–19 to further support infrastructure projects in small, rural and northern communities.² Under this expanded structure, formula-based funding increased to \$200 million annually, while the application-based stream was expected to increase to \$100 million annually. However, in 2019, the Province indicated that fiscal circumstances prevented the full expansion of OCIF, resulting in the cancellation of the top-up application component, while maintaining the increase in formula-based funding to \$200 million for that year.³

In 2021, the Province announced a further expansion of OCIF through the Fall Economic Statement, committing an additional \$1 billion over five years. This brought the total OCIF investment to nearly \$2 billion over the 2022-2026 period, or about \$400 million per year. Beginning in 2022, allocations continued to be based on a formula recognizing the different needs and economic conditions of communities across Ontario, with the minimum annual allocation increasing from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per community.⁴

Starting with the 2023 allocations, the Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) updated the OCIF formula to incorporate current replacement values for eligible core infrastructure, shifting from the use of historic cost data to CRVs. A municipality's core infrastructure was calculated using either asset management plan CRV estimates or MOI's CRV estimates for eligible core infrastructure categories. Starting with the 2024 OCIF cycle, the Ministry introduced a standardized Excel-based CRV template to collect municipal CRV data more consistently, building on the initial 2023 shift from historic cost data to current

¹ [Province Supporting the Infrastructure Needs of Small Communities | Ontario Newsroom](#)

² [2016 Ontario Budget | Background: Building Tomorrow's Infrastructure Now](#)

³ Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). [Ontario Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program Review and the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund, 2019.](#)

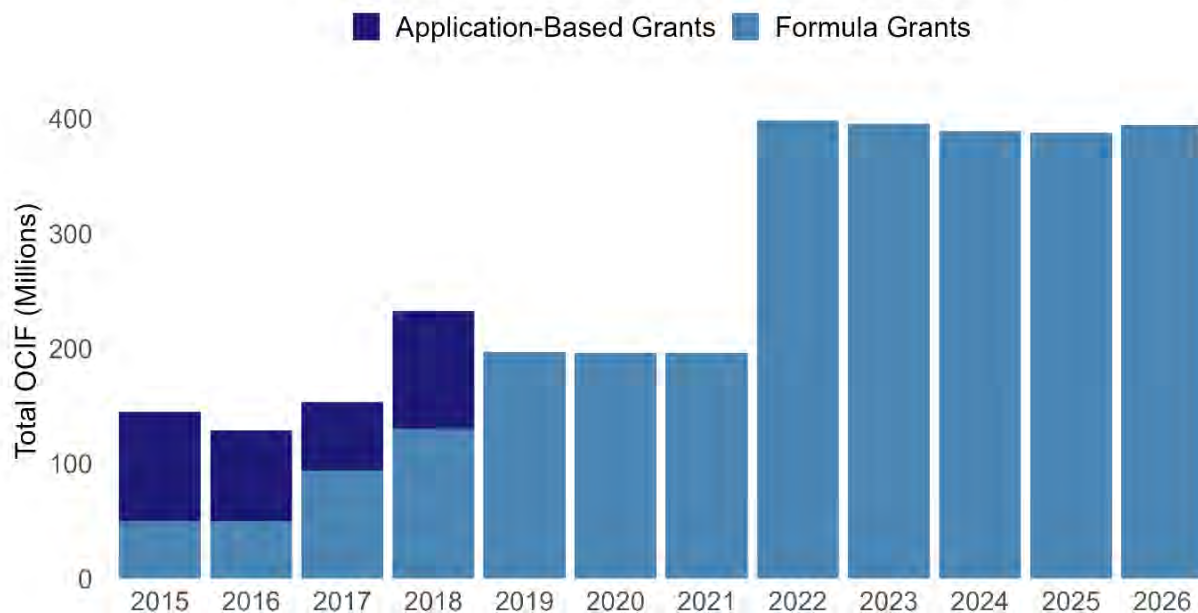
⁴ [Building Ontario with Investments in Critical Infrastructure for Small, Rural and Northern Communities | Ontario Newsroom](#)

replacement values.⁵ A smoothing mechanism was also implemented to generally limit changes in 2023 funding to within ± 15 percent of prior year's allocations.⁶

In 2026, 423 small, rural and northern communities across Ontario are receiving approximately \$400 million in OCIF funding to renew and rehabilitate critical infrastructure. Starting this year, the minimum grant amount has increased from \$100,000 to \$125,000. The smoothing mechanism has also been adjusted, generally limiting year-over-year changes in 2026 allocations to within ± 10 percent of 2025 grants.⁷ However, as 2026 is the final year of the current five-year funding commitment, municipalities are seeking greater clarity on the future of the program.

The graph below shows annual OCIF grants to Ontario municipalities from 2015 to 2026, including both formula-based and application-based grants where applicable. Totals are based on actual approved yearly grants from MOI data and may not fully match announced OCIF allocation amounts.

OCIF Grants to Ontario Municipalities



Source: MFOA chart, based on data from Ontario's Ministry of Infrastructure.

⁵ Ministry of Infrastructure, *Ministry of Infrastructure – Update*, presentation at the 2024 Municipal Finance Officers' Association Annual Conference, September 2024.

⁶ Ministry of Infrastructure, *Information Session: 2023 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Formula Calculation*, 2023.

⁷ [Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund recipients - Dataset - Ontario Data Catalogue](#)