

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

# Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 1:30 p.m. COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND ZOOM CONFERENCING

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA
- 3. PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- 5. DELEGATIONS
- 6. REPORTS
  - 6.1 1:30 pm Daryl Verch Water and Sewer
  - 6.2 1:40 pm Jason Zohr Public Works
  - 6.3 1:50 pm Darryl Wagner Fire and Building

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 Correspondence "A"
  - 1. AMO Policy Nov 14
  - 2. AMO Policy Nov 21
  - 3. AMO Watchfile Nov 20
  - 4. AMO Watchfile Nov 27
  - 5. FCM Communique Nov 18
  - 6. FCM Communique Nov 24
  - 7. Update on Bill 17
- 7.2 Correspondence "B"
  - Advocacy for Funds to Effectively Manage the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation
  - 2. Strengthening Self Defense Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

- 3. Solve the Crisis and Winter Homelessness Program Support
- 4. Black Bear Harvest Management in Ontario
- 5. Curbside Recycling Non Profits
- 6. Ottawa Valley Affordable Housing
- 7. Upholding Women's Rights Leadership and Environmental Health in the Implementation of Ontario Bill 5
- 8. Town of East Gwillimbury Resolution Regarding EG's Opposition to the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act 2025
- 7.3 Correspondence "C"

# 8. NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8.1 Mayors Report
- 8.2 BMO Closure Report
- 8.3 OPP Detachment Board Report
- 9. ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE
- 10. MEDIA SESSION
- 11. CLOSED SESSION
- 12. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY MINUTES

# **COMMITTEE MEETING**

# TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2025, 1:30 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING

**PRESENT** Mayor Jennifer Murphy

**Deputy Mayor John Epps Councillor Merv Buckwald** 

**Councillor Meredith Caplan Jamieson** 

**Councillor Tracey Sanderson CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist** 

**Treasurer/Deputy CAO Sandra Barr** 

**REGRETS** None

GALLERY 1

# **CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING**

Chair, John Epps called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

# **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

MOVED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson

**THAT:** The agenda be accepted, as presented, with the addition of Correspondence Item B 7.2 6. Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025 (Bill 60) Carried

# PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED BY Jennifer Murphy

**THAT:** The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on November 4, 2025, be accepted as presented.

Carried

# **DELEGATIONS**

# **REPORTS**

# **Recreation & Culture**

Kevin McGrath, Manager of Recreation and Culture, was present and gave his report.

- a) The tree lighting will be Friday November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Hot chocolate will be served. John Park Wheeler and Michelle Robichaud will lead the carolling and will be joined by the Eganville Choir;
- b) The Legion banners will be taken down this month and will be replaced with the Township banners. The lights on the bridge will be put up, with help from the Works Department;
- c) The park benches around town will be put away for the season;
- d) The Recreation Department thanked the Horticultural Society for decorating the planters around town this fall, as well as for Remembrance Day and Christmas;
- e) The EHL took two weeks off from their ice rentals for the deer hunt;
- f) EDPS has rented ice every Tuesday & Thursday at 1pm until Christmas;
- g) The Christmas Parade will be held on Sunday, December 14th. Floats will depart from the arena which will be open for registration;

- h) Eagles' Nest Staff have six events booked to date, of the Eagle's Nest Hall. The library is holding their fundraiser, BUPL Rocks, on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Township Christmas party is December 6<sup>th</sup>. Rio was awarded the dinner at a cost of \$38.50 per person plus HST. Staff also received quotes from Charlie's Eatery and Ullrich's;
- i) The Committee discussed introducing a *Kids' Time* program at the Eagle's Nest during Public Skating. The proposed initiative would offer supervised games and activities for children in the Eagle's Nest area. The Township already has a large Connect 4 set available and has been offered a corn hole set to start. Additional board games could potentially be borrowed from the library, and participants may also be encouraged to bring their own games. Staff will issue a call for parent volunteers to help supervise the children, using social media to recruit support. Registration for Kids' Time would take place in advance through social media, and sessions would be cancelled if no children are signed up. The program would run from February to March 2026 as a pilot project to gauge community interest ahead of the 2026 budget deliberations. If the program proves successful, additional costs may need to be included in the 2026 budget.

Recreation Report Received.

# <u>Finance</u>

Sandra Barr, Treasurer/Deputy CAO, was present and gave her report.

- a) The November 12, 2025 Provisional Budget Report and the Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2025 were provided to Committee;
- b) A draft Debt Management Policy for the Township of Bonnechere Valley was provided to Committee for review and comments. The Annual Repayment Limit (ARL) is the maximum a municipality can pay annually on long-term debt and financial obligations without approval from the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). For most municipalities, the ARL is 25% of own-source revenues, minus existing long-term debt payments. Before taking on new debt, the municipal treasurer must update the ARL and confirm whether the municipality has borrowing capacity or needs OLT approval. This policy sets out that the Township would borrow up to a maximum of 80% of the Annual Repayment Limit, leaving us with the flexibility to borrow up to an additional 20% if required, to respond to emergencies and /or to meet senior government funding opportunities. The Township's 2025 ARL is currently at \$812,617. Under the 2025 budget our projected loan repayment for 2025 was estimated at \$711,940. We were at approximately 87.6% of our ARL. With the addition of three upcoming loans for: a new 2026 plow truck (2025 budget), a new garbage truck, and the 2026 Fire Truck, Staff are anticipating our 2026 loan repayments to be \$773,755. Once we file our 2025 Financial Statements with the Province in early 2026, staff anticipate some growth in our ARL;
- c) Calculated and billed out two property tax Supplemental tax billing batches, totaling \$14,733.48;
- d) Calculated and billed out two property tax Write off billing batches, totaling \$1541.66;
- e) As in previous years, (2021-2024) Sandra calculated and billed out a property tax Write Off in the amount of \$553.89 due to a legislative issue. Background: In March 2021 the Province of Ontario amended legislation to reduce business education tax rates for taxable business properties. The consequence of this change, in relation to Payments in Lieu of Taxes, created an inconsistency between the treatment of taxable and Canada Post property within the province. Property owned by Canada Post Corporation is exempt from property taxes and eligible for Payments in Lieu of Taxes. These rates included a business education rate which was higher than the rate applicable to taxable property. Canada Post refuses to pay the higher education rate (that is retained by the municipality as per legislation) we have written off the difference in the rate for 2025;

- f) The Township's WSIB rate for 2026 went up slightly from \$3.25 to \$3.32 up 2.2%;
- g) The Township has received its final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter payment from the OMPF Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund payment in October, in the amount of \$402,300;
- h) The Township received notice of our 2026 OMPF funding. The Township will receive **\$1,778,700** in 2026, which is up \$169,500 from 2025 (Increase of 10.533%);

2022	\$ 1,519,600	
2023	\$ 1,501,200	Down \$18,400 from 2022
2024	\$ 1,475,000	Down \$26,200 1.75%
2025	\$ 1,609,200	Up \$134,200 9.0983%
2026	\$ 1,778,700	Up \$169,500 10.533%

- i) Sandra attended the Cunningham & Swan Municipal Law Seminar on October 28, 2025 at the Eganville Arena Eagles Nest. Topics covered included: Legal Traps in Municipal Decision Making, Employment Matters, and a Legal Update. Sandra thought the presentation was excellent, featuring multiple case law examples that provided valuable practical insights;
- j) On November 5, 2025 we received notice from our benefit Consultants, Cowan Benefits Ltd. regarding our Manulife health, dental, life and LTD benefits. The renewal rates for 2025 will increase overall by 1%;
- k) Background: Under Section 357 of the Municipal Act 2001, an application for an adjustment of taxes has been made for the following properties and an assessment report (attached hereto) has been received by MPAC. We require Council approval for these adjustments. Re: Michael. Recommendation: That the application for an adjustment of taxes for 629 Golden Lyn Way be approved due to a demolition. And further that an adjustment of taxes in the amount of \$1382.05 be made to the property for 2025;
- I) The 2026 Budget Deliberations will be held on Monday, March 23, 2026. If needed, a second meeting will take place on Thursday, April 16, 2026;
- m) The final instalment of the 2025 taxes was due on October 31, 2025. Taxes Receivable are up over same period last year. Chart below for year to year comparison.

TAXES RECEIVABLE	AT MONTH END		
	2023	2024	2025
January 31	447,036.86	552,948.25	713,471.02
February 28	386,536.33	487,248.74	538,006.83
March 31	1,968,135.26	2,161,455.97	2,349,257.10
April 30	1,696,205.80	1,767,809.93	1,940,774.01
May 31	876,567.66	973,660.25	1,096,448.48
June 30	557,308.55	644,325.89	637,897.82
July 31	461,226.64	546,377.17	626,127.43
August 31	2,320,108.62	2,532,521.63	2,766,683.42
September 30	1,978,111.86	2,183,350.64	2,325,044.74
October 31	1,122,271.92	1,243,046.09	1,332,674.07
November 30	802,736.66	1,014,881.63	

Finance Report Received

# **Administration**

Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk, was present and gave her report.

a) Since her last report Annette attended various meetings with Ontario Elections Group, Renfrew County Recycling Group, Association of Municipal Managers Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, Association of Municipalities on Ontario and corresponded with the Ministry of Energy and Environment to advocate for local issues as previously discussed. Annette is working on completing the 3 delegation documents for the Rural Ontario Municipal Conference. Councillor Meredith Caplan Jamieson has indicated she would like to attend the ROMA Conference. The Township has booked a room for

- Meredith and staff will register both Meredith and Annette in January as the conference budget has been spent for 2025;
- b) On November 19<sup>th</sup> Annette Gilchrist is participating in a panel discussion on climate initiatives to talk about the Township's Electric Vehicle and chargers purchase as well as the Arena upcoming project to ensure energy efficiencies and reduction of our carbon foot print;
- c) Committee was provided a draft of the final revised museum lease for final review. Committee recommends that this be brought back with a by-law for approval at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Council;
- d) Committee was provided with the final revised Memorandum of Understand for the dog park which is expiring this year. Committee recommends that this be brought back with a by-law for approval at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Council;
- e) Committee was provided with a draft encroachment agreement for review that included the property information and pictures. Committee had no concerns and recommends that this be brought back to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting for approval;
- f) Committee was provided with the proposed 2026 Council meeting calendar for their review. The March 2026 dates were changed and Committee approved the meeting dates for 2026;
- g) Council and Senior Staff Training Opportunity CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist has a leadership training session scheduled for senior staff and she invited Council to attend. We had multiple training sessions including a Council staff relations training session following the last election and last year a strategic plan initiative that included senior staff and council. With one year to go and some changes in Council Annette thought it would be a great opportunity to extend this team building leadership training to all of Council. It has been scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday December 18<sup>th</sup> and the CAO Annette Gilchrist thinks it will be a great opportunity to strengthen the leadership within the Township as we head into an election year;
- h) Santa Claus Parade Staff meet with Rotary on November 14<sup>th</sup>, to go over the details for the Parade and staff will start advertising;
- i) Canada Day 2026 Staff have confirmed with Capital Drone Show and are working on the agreement with them. Staff have received two quotes from Ry-J's Climbing Adventures. Committee agreed to the second quote which includes the Rock-Climbing Wall and additional staff for a total of \$6304.55. Administrative Report Received.

# **CORRESPONDENCE**

# (A) Correspondence "A"

- 1. AMO Watchfile Nov 6
- 2. AMO Watchfile Nov 13
- 3. AMO Policy Nov 5
- 4. AMO Policy Nov 6
- 5. AMO Policy Nov 7
- 6. FCM Communique Nov 3
- 7. FCM Communique Nov 5
- 8. FCM Communique Nov 7
- 9. FCM Communique Nov 10
- 10. County Construction Update November 2025
- 11. EORN Renfrew County October 2025
- 12. Halloween Email

# (B) Correspondence "B"

- 1. Motion State of Emergency on Mental Health Homelessness and Addictions
- 2. Accessible and Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario
- 3. Resolution of Council Regarding Support for the Future Use and Deployment of Canadian Nuclear Energy
- 4. Roseburg Support Letter
- 5. Support 2+1 Highway 17
- 6. Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025 (Bill 60)

# (C) Correspondence "C"

- B.3 Committee supports the resolution regarding support for the Future Use and Deployment of Canadian Nuclear Energy and directed staff to bring the resolution to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Council.
- B.4 Committee supports the request from Roseburg and directed staff to write a letter of support.
- B.5 Committee supports the resolution regarding 2+1 Highway 17 and directed staff to bring the resolution to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Council.

# **NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(1) Notice of Approval of OPA 48 Lake Clear – Committee was provided with the documentation for the Official Plan Change. There is a 20-day appeal period.

# **ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday December 2, 2025.

# **MEDIA SESSION**

# **CLOSED SESSION**

# MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

**THAT:** Committee proceed in Closed Session in accordance with the Municipal Act 2001, section 239.2 to deal with the matters as indicated below:

(c) A proposed or pending acquisition of land by the municipality Carried

# **MOVED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**THAT:** Committee moves out of Closed Session at 3:39 p.m. to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give direction to the mayor and staff regarding negotiations for the Eganville Creamery property and adjacent lands and approved minutes from October 21, 2025.

Carried

# **CONCLUSION**

MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

**THAT:** the meeting adjourns at 3:39 p.m. Carried

John Epps, Chair	Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk

# The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley Water and Sewage Department

# Report to Public Works Committee December 2025

# 1: Water Operations

- A The Eganville Drinking Water System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements.
- B We had 2 Water Inspectors, carry out the 2025 inspection,

  The reports have not been received as of Tuesday.
- C The Auditor from NSF did an offsite audit on the water operations and And we received the report, with no issues.
- D Franklin Emperor was on site to certify the Millitronic level sensors
- E Locates for Enbridge Gas & Cavanagh Construction

# 2: Wastewater Operations

- A The Eganville Wastewater System continues to operate in full compliance According to the Provincial Guidelines that is set out in the C of A  $\,$
- B Checking Sanitary Manholes after the Cavanaugh road construction on Bonnechere Street East.
- C Franklin Emperor was on site to certify the Millitronic Flow Meters

Respectfully Submitted Daryl Verch









NSF International Strategic Registrations Audit Report

# The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

49 Bonnechere Street East Eganville, Ontario K0J 1T0 CAN

# C0122087

# **Audit Type**

Surveillance Audit

# **Auditor**

James Pang

# **Standard**

Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Version 2 (Exp Date: 14-AUG-2026)

# Audit Date(s):

11/14/2025 - 11/14/2025

# Recommendation

Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Version 2 : Continue Certification (No NCRs)











<b>Executive Summary</b>	
Ontario's Drinking Water Quality	The QMS rep is well tuned to the requirements of the DWQMS Standard.
Management Standard Version 2	

Opportunities	
Ontario's Drinking Water Quality	None
Management Standard Version 2	

# Corrective Action Requests There is NO Corrective Action Request in this audit.

# Site Information

The audit was based on a sampling of the company's management system.

## **Industry Codes**

NACE:E 41

<u>Scope of Registration</u>
Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Version 2: Eganville Drinking Water System, OAP 171, Entire Full Scope Accreditation











# Opportunities for Improvements

General Information	
Operating Authority: Legal Name & Address	The Corporation of the
	Township of Bonnechere
	Valley,
	Bonnechere Street,
	East Eganville,
	ON, K0J 1T0
Owner: Legal Name, Address, Contact Name, Title and Email Address.	The Corporation of the
	Township of Bonnechere
	Valley,
	Bonnechere Street,
	East Eganville,
	ON, K0J 1T0
Operating Authority Representative Information (Name, Title, Phone,	Andrew Polley,
Email & Address, if different from the OA Address)	QMS Representative
	613-628-2800
Accreditation Option	Full Scope - Entire
·	DWQMS
List Drinking water system names and Population of the Subject	EGANVILLE DRINKING
System(s)	WATER SYSTEM serving
	1,300 people
Activities:	Treatment and Distribution

# **Processes**











Summary of Findings									
Requirement	Finding								
1. Quality Management System	N/A								
2. Quality Management System Policy	N/A								
3. Commitment and Endorsement	С								
4. Quality Management System Representative	С								
5. Document and Record Control	N/A								
6. Drinking-Water System	N/A								
7. Risk Assessment	С								
8. Risk Assessment Outcomes	С								
9. Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities, and Authorities	N/A								
10. Competencies	N/A								
11. Personnel Coverage	N/A								
12. Communications	N/A								
13. Essential Supplies and Services	N/A								
14. Review and Provision of Infrastructure	С								
15. Infrastructure Maintenance, Rehabilitation & Renewal	С								
16. Sampling, Testing & Monitoring	N/A								
17. Measurement & Recording Equipment, Calibration & Maintenance	N/A								
18. Emergency Management	С								
19. Internal Audits	С								
20. Management Review	С								
21. Continual Improvement	С								
Major Non-Conformity. The auditor has determined one of the following:  (a) a required element of the DWQMS has not been incorporated into a QMS:  (b) a systemic problem with a QMS is evidenced by two or more minor conformities; or  (c) a minor non-conformity identified in a corrective action request has not been remedied.									
Minor Non-Conformity. In the opinion of the auditor, part of a required element of the DWQMS has not been incorporated satisfactorily into a QMS.									
OFI Opportunity for Improvement. Conforms to requirement, but there is opportunity for improvement.	Opportunity for Improvement. Conforms to requirement, but there is opportunity for improvement.								
C Conforms to requirement.									
Not Applicable to this audit									
* Additional Comment added by auditor in the body of the report.									











# Verification of CARs For Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Version 2

Have you verified the effectiveness of all previous CARs? (List all new CAR's that you initiated in this report because you did not verify effective implementation of a previous CAR)

N/A.

Discuss your evaluation in detail.

No CAR from the previous audit.



# **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Prepared by: Jason Zohr, Works Superintendent Prepared for: Council Meeting **DECEMBER 2, 2025** 

- Rehabilitation of Bonnechere Street: The construction project is now complete
  except for the greenery portion of the project. In the Spring, Cavanagh will need to
  come back and finish that portion.
- 2. **Fall Leaf Pick up:** 175 bags were picked up as part of Fall Leaf pickup. This is down from last year's number of 289 but also think the 1<sup>st</sup> snow of the season impacted that number.
- 3. **Waste Sites during Christmas season:** No waste sites are impacted by the Christmas season therefore all sites will be open as regularly scheduled for winter hours.

#### 4. Christmas Schedules:

Christmas or Boxing Day does not impact any of the waste sites so they are operating on normal winter hours.

**No Curbside Garbage** pickup on Thursday, December 25, 2024. Pickup will take place on **Wednesday**, **December 24**, **2025**.

**No Curbside Garbage** pickup on Thursday, January 1, 2026. Pickup will take place on **Wednesday**, **December 31, 2025**.

- 5. **Recycling Transition in 2026:** Miller Waste is purchasing 23 of our recycling bins from us and replacing other bins at the sites with their own bins. This will not impact the residents. May mean that the bins will need to be emptied more frequently.
- 6. **Winter Maintenance on Connecting Link:** We were able to negotiate a better price for winter maintenance on the Connecting Link through Webber.
- 7. **Santa Claus Parade:** We will assist to provide assistance with traffic control for the Santa Claus Parade pending any significant weather.

- 8. **Declare Surplus Equipment:** Requesting direction of Council to initiate the intent to declare and dispose of surplus municipal equipment with respect to:
  - a) 2007 Sterling Tandem Garbage Truck with McNielus Compactor, Model LT7501, 197,000 km.
  - b) 2009 Chevrolet Extended Cab 4x4 Truck with 423,000 km.



# **Bonnechere Valley Township**

P.O. Box 100 49 Bonnechere St. E. Eganville, ON KOJ 1T0



# FIRE CHIEF CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 2,2025 FIRE

# Calls for Service year to date:

Month	Fire	MVC	Other	Medical	2025	2024	2023	2022
January	0	1	2	0	3	8	3	6
February	3	1	0	1	5	5	3	2
March	1	4	5	0	10	6	2	8
April	2	3	12	0	17	7	16	3
May	2	0	3	0	5	10	11	10
June	4	4	6	1	15	3	16	5
July	2	4	0	0	6	8	9	9
August	6	1	2	0	9	7	3	3
September	2	0	1	2	5	5	6	5
October	2	3	1	1	7	3	9	2
November	0	0	3	0	2	4	11	4
December						9	6	5
Totals	24	21	35	5	85	75	95	62

Other – trees on hydro lines, alarm calls, public assist calls, calls outside Township.

	FF Count	FF on leave	A/DZ	Authorized Limit
BONNECHERE VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT	20	1	8	40

<sup>\*</sup> Including new recruits in the initial training process\*

Fire Ban was lifted November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# **Community Risk Assessment**

Community Risk Assessment updates: acronyms, pages 36, 62, 76, 103, 104, 107, 108, 173, 183, 184. I have also copied two sections from the CRA, introduction and risk summary which can be referred to if you are looking for an executive summary so that you don't have to bring up the entire document.

# INTRODUCTION

This document has been developed for the Township of Bonnechere Valley Fire Department (BVFD) in accordance with the Office of The Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM), *Regulation 378/18*, that came into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.1 Part of this regulation requires that a new Community Risk Assessment (CRA) be completed every five (5) years, no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The regulation also requires fire departments to review their CRA every 12 months to ensure it accurately reflects the mandatory profiles and fire and emergency risks. The completion of a CRA will allow the municipality and its fire service to make sound decisions on the level of fire protection it will provide its residents.

<sup>\*</sup> Not including Fire Chief / Deputy Chief \*

Risk is the measure of the probability and possibility of an event occurring that will have adverse effects on the community including the health, property, organization, environment, and/or community. The best possible mitigation of any risk associated with fire is to deal with the risk before having the fire department respond. The acceptance of standards or practices approved by the Council that promote fire prevention and code enforcement during the building of any development, should be applied during all approval processes. Every municipal department involved in the approval process should view each development with the goal of risk reduction and risk avoidance.

As summarized in Table #1, the OFMEM identifies a fire protection planning strategy known as the "Three Lines of Defense". The application of this strategy highlights the importance of recognizing that there are options to developing an effective Community Fire Safety Plan. Although emergency response (fire suppression) may be needed, there are other strategies that can be applied as elements of a broader community risk.

# TABLE #1--OVERVIEW OF THE THREE LINES OF DEFENCE

Line of Defense	Description
Public     Education &     Prevention	Educating residents of the community is a means for them to fulfill their responsibilities for their own fire safety is a proven method of reducing the incidence of fire. Only by educating residents can fires be prevented and can those affected by fires respond properly to save lives, reduce injury, and reduce the impact of fires.
2. Fire Safety Standards & Enforcement	Ensuring that buildings have the required fire protection systems and safety features (Fire Safety Plans). The systems should be maintained, resulting in the severity of fires being minimized.
3. Emergency Response	Providing well trained and equipped firefighters directed by capable officers to stop the spread of fires once they occur and to assist in protecting the lives and safety of residents. This is the failsafe for times when fires occur despite prevention efforts.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note: This document follows the format laid out by the OFMEM to ensure that all sections are addressed. As such, some comments may appear generalized in nature and may not be seen as relevant or specific to the organization.

The model also recognizes that developing programs and providing resources to implement the first line of defense (a proactive public education and fire prevention program) can be the most effective strategy to reduce and potentially minimize the other lines of defense. The CRA process is designed to inform the fire department by incorporating strategies and recommendations based on all Three (3) Lines of Defense. BVFD will need to ensure that their present level of resources in fire prevention will be able to meet future requirements for both inspections and public education.

Inspections not only support compliance with regulations, but they also provide opportunities for educating owners and critical information for the safety of responding personnel.

Identifying and prioritizing fire and life safety risks will provide a baseline to produce a plan to prevent and mitigate such events from occurring. This assessment directs fire services in identifying the levels of service to be provided in relation to public fire safety education, Fire Code inspections and enforcement, and emergency response.

The CRA profile is based on nine mandatory sections:

- Geographic profile
- Building stock profile
- Critical infrastructure profile
- Demographic profile
- Hazard profile
- Public safety response profile
- · Community services profile
- Economic profile
- Past loss and event history profile

A recent Fire Marshal Directive 2022-0013 now identifies the need for municipalities to identify the number and locations of structures that have incorporated light-weight construction (LWC). Light-weight construction could be found in floor joists and roof trusses which have been known to fail within a short period of time once flame impingement takes place. Upon their failure, this creates a high level of risk to occupant's and firefighter's safety.

Fire departments should annually maintain the documentation required by *O. Reg. 378/18*. This documentation should include:

- Any changes to the mandatory profiles.
- Any changes to assigned risk levels or fire protection services that occur because of the review.
- Any other information the fire department deems appropriate to the review or any resultant changes to fire protection services.
  If upon the annual review changes are required, the profiles should be updated accordingly. These changes in the profile may also need to be reflected in the mitigation strategies. If there are no necessary changes, this should be documented, showing that the annual review has been completed.

## **RISK SUMMARY**

The following summary outlines the top risks to life safety and property along with the suggested options of reducing or mitigating the risks. By adopting Preferred Treatment Options, the Fire Chief can put forward strategies to address the risks. These strategies can include such things as a greater focus on public education and OFC enforcement.

These implemented strategies will form the basis of the Township of Bonnechere Valley 's community risk mitigation strategies.

A thorough review coupled with sound strategic planning will garner successes in the form of fewer fires, reduced fire related injuries, and lower dollar property loss through ongoing fire prevention initiatives. These fire prevention initiatives would include early warning detection systems (i.e., smoke alarms), proactive inspections, and/or public education.

Bodies of Water – With the many bodies of water in the Township, there will always be the risk of a misfortune occurring including drowning. The rapids of the Bonnechere River that located in the TOBV are used for mostly recreational use, with incidents rarely being reported.

Township of Bonnechere Valley - New developments will bring an increase in both populous permanent and seasonal building stock. May see an increased demand for fire inspections and public education events. The BVFD should review time spent and demands placed on fire prevention operations which may require additional resources to meet the demand and industry standards.

Technical Rescues –. Formal agreements are not in place to mitigate technical rescues that include Trench, Confined Space, High and Low Angle. BVFD should develop a strategy in advance of such events so that a mitigation plan is in place if one does occur.

Hazardous Material Incidents – There is no formal agreement in place to mitigate HAZMAT incidents. BVFD should develop a mitigation strategy, including entering into a formal response agreement with another fire department or third parties.

Weather Events (e.g. Tornados) – The Township and surrounding areas have experienced several severe storms and tornadoes over the past decade.

Communities in the Province are now installing storm sirens—as seen in the United States—which are not required at this time due the lack of built-up residential areas.

TOBV is primarily a rural municipality. The District of Muskoka and the Muskoka Emergency Response Committee has launched the "#Alert Muskoka" App to notify residents of pending emergencies. The COR in cooperation with its municipalities should conduct a needs analysis if such an app would be advantageous, including acquiring access to the Alert Ready App the federal government developed.

Domestic Terrorism – Can occur in any community and include an active shooter. Use *NFPA 3000—Standard for an Active Shooter* and (ASHER), as reference in conducting any public education on the subject. Provide training in co-operation with the OPP Detachment.

Industries – There are industries that could be of risk to the community. The high fire load, in event of a fire present may require the assistance of outside resources such as tankers from outside fire departments.

Building Stock - With existing and new residents living in the Township there could be illegal second units and apartments. There is also an unknown number of short-term accommodations in the Township. BVFD should address both by establishing individual by laws that address both second suite and units and short-term accommodations which requires them to be built to the OBC and OFC and need to be registered with the Township and inspected by BVFD fire prevention personnel.

Building Stock – The OFMEM has identified the risks associated with occupancies in which light weight construction practices have been used. Municipalities are to populate all building stock that includes the use of LWC practices. BVFD and the building department should work in collaboration in developing an ongoing list of all building stock, based on the OBC Occupancy Classifications.

# Measurement of Public Education Programs

For any fire safety program to be effective there should be a method to measure success. This can be achieved through surveys, community groups, fire response data, public forums, etc. The inclusion of external stakeholders provides feedback and statistical information. This may be achieved through a monthly survey or questionnaire sent out from the fire service. The survey and questionnaire could be sent for completion to a predetermined number of residents that have previously called upon the fire service for an incident, or other fire department services such as public education, fire inspections, and training.

The survey should include a cover page detailing the purpose of the form sent to them, ensuring that privacy will be respected. The survey questions should be related to placing the call, response of the crew, and some fire prevention related matters. The ease in which the survey will be completed will dictate the participation rate. Included in the package should be a self-addressed envelope including postage to encourage participation in the process. It is suggested that no surveys be sent to addresses in which the fire service attended for a medical emergency. 8 | Page

Alternatively, surveys could be completed online by providing the respondent with a participation code that entitles them to complete the questions.

The Department could investigate the initiation of a Community Response Committee that would meet quarterly to discuss issues in fire service provision and those of public interest involving the BVFD. Members would include both internal and external stakeholders such as seniors' groups, a representative of Council, and community leaders. There should be terms of reference developed with goals and objectives with an established way to measure outcomes. A committee should meet for at least a two- year mandate, at which time the value of its continuance could be determined.

Some fire services have contracted a third party to conduct a phone survey relating to the fire service provision and fire safety related questions (i.e., have they requested the fire department, for what reason, do they have smoke alarms on every floor, are they tested and cleaned, do they have a CO alarm, etc.). Prior to the process beginning, it would be advantageous to include a media release so the public may be made aware of the survey taking place. Once completed, responses would then be organized and reviewed.

Within the school system, the Department could team up with local retailers to provide prizes for a fire safety contest for students. An example would be a home fire escape plan; encourage children to video their family developing a plan, discussing means of escape if a fire were to occur in different parts of the home, practicing their escape routes, showing any fire safety equipment they may have such as fire extinguishers and fire escape ladders, and ending in the family meeting at the designated location outside the home. Upon viewing the videos will indicate how well the fire safety messaging is being received and shared with all members of the family. The media would be a great medium to promote the contest and publicize the winners.

The Department could partner with local community service groups, associations, and local retailers to deliver fire safety messaging at events such as neighborhood functions, special speaking engagements, fall fairs, etc. The participation and

interest in the messages being delivered will indicate the success of these programs and whether they are worthwhile continuing.

# Community Outreach Program

During the development of a successful Community Risk Reduction Plan, it may become evident that more could be done to engage the community at large. The OFMEM is stressing the need for fire services to enhance their public education along with the number of fire inspections completed and the enforcement of violations.

All fire services have had varying levels of success in promoting community fire safety programs within its daily operations. These successes are not only with Suppression, but all divisions by providing first aid instruction over the phone by the communications personnel, instructions on the proper use of an Automated External Defibrillator that saves a life, or the successful prosecution of significant fire safety violations.

All these successes should be celebrated in some form; for example, certificates, awards, recognition in front of Council or ensuring media are made aware of them so they may be shared with the citizens.

The following are suggestions on engaging the community, while recognizing that not all may be applicable to TOBV:

- Work with business and/or community groups to sponsor fire safety coloring books for the children that highlight the ethnicities of the community. Engage art classes within the school system to design them.
- Consider establishing an "Adopt a Fire Truck" program, in exchange for their business logo to be placed on the apparatus it adopted. This type of program would require limits to the number of sponsors per apparatus, parameters on the size of the logo, the minimum amount to be donated each year, etc.

•

- Attend community functions and celebrations. Perhaps permit
  a birthday party in the fire station for a fee including staff time
  coverage to monitor the party if the station's crew must leave
  for a call and other departmental expenses.
- During the summer consider attending a different park each week and inviting the community to come out to meet the firefighters. The community could tour the apparatus, conduct games for children to win fire safety prizes, have face painting, etc.
- Working with the Water Department to establish an adopt a
  hydrant program which have been successful in many
  communities. Families adopt the hydrant in front of their
  residence, and their responsibility is to ensure it is clear of tall
  grass in the summer and snow in the winter. In return the
  family receives a certificate and is permitted to paint the
  barrel of the hydrant in a manner that reflects a theme.
- Consider inviting high school students to complete community hours to assist Fire Prevention at public education functions or community events.
- In conjunction with local police and paramedic service, consider developing a "Pull to the Right" program to educate drivers on the need to pull to the right when they hear sirens. This could involve sponsorship from the local media.
- Fire departments could develop an "After the Fire" booklet
  that would aid residents in understanding what the
  Department did to extinguish the fire such as breaching walls
  and ceilings, who they need to contact (insurance
  companies), the process of establishing a claim, how to
  recover documents, etc. This too could be sponsored by local
  businesses and insurance companies.
  - Focus on the surrounding neighborhood based on a topic of interest that relates to the type of calls in the neighborhood

    (safe cooking education)

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- Everyone is familiar with Sparky the NFPA fire services mascot and could interact with local school mascots
- Consider contacting some of the ethnic or neighborhood organizations to participate in any festival and celebrations.
   The municipal office may have a list of these as some may require a permit.

Developing new programs and expanding existing programs as indicated by a needs analysis will further community engagement in Public Education.

The list is endless and hopefully some of these suggestions, if not already in place, may aid in enhancing the fire service's community relations and establish fire safety messaging in one (1) form or another.

# Community Risk Reduction Planning

Once the CRA is completed and all risks identified, then begins the process of developing a Community Risk Reduction Plan (CRRP). When properly applied, the CRRP coordinates emergency operations with prevention and mitigation efforts throughout the community and at the fire station level. Involvement of the personnel in the fire stations is critical for both gathering local risk data and performing activities necessary to implement the CRRP.

Aside from the main benefits to the community, a CRRP can contribute positive impacts on the fire department. The CRRP improves firefighters, emergency responder safety, occupational health, and reducing line-of-duty deaths.

In addition to firefighter safety, there are several other reasons why departments should begin the process of developing a CRRP. These include:

- The presence of new and emerging hazards, which makes the community safer
- Declining budgets among fire departments and local governments. Thereby better allocation of resources
- Community demographics are changing rapidly
- Engages the members of the community
- High-risk residents tend to remain underserved

- May avoid the potential ramifications of hazards that were ignored or not fully addressed
- Better defines the fire department's purpose and value within the community, beyond just fighting fires

To be successful a CRRP must include participation of all members of the fire department. There are six (6) steps in the development of a CRRP, two (2) of which were identified and completed with this CRA (i.e., Identifying Risks and Prioritizing Risks). The following steps are:

• Identification and Prioritization – Upon the completion of the CRA various community risks were identified and the priorities determined, the results should all have been documented for use in the remaining planning process. The document does not need to be complex or complicated, but in a clear and concise format that enables the reader to understand the risks and those that should have the highest priority.

During this process consider the following:

- Why and how the risk occurs and when? (If applicable)
- Who does the risk affect the most and why?
- How is the community and the fire department affected by the risk?
- What about this risk ranks it higher than others?
- Develop Mitigation Strategies and Tactics This requires
  input with a variety of individuals involved, including those
  most effected by the risk. Stakeholder involvement is
  paramount and should always be included in some of the
  decision-making processes. It will necessitate decisions to
  determine what tactics and strategies will be necessary to
  prevent and/or mitigate those risks with the highest priority.

During the development of the plan, there are five (5) elements that should be included:

- Education-- Determining the appropriate type and mix of educational messaging necessary to inform the public and effect behavioral change.
  - More encompassing education through different mediums of social media.
- Enforcement-- Identifying whether stronger
  enforcement is necessary or if recent codes and
  standards need adoption. Notification of the public on
  successful convictions through the justice system.
- Engineering Determine whether there are engineering or technological solutions to address the identified risk(s).
- Emergency Response Changes to the emergency response protocols, SOGs, SOPs, and policies to better meet a specific risk or need. This may require additional resources such as stations, apparatus, equipment, staffing, and/or enhanced levels of training.
- Economic Incentive Identifying whether financial incentives will improve compliance or help increase awareness of community needs.
- Prepare the CRRP Once the risks are identified and prioritized, and strategies and tactics determined for prevention and mitigation, it will be necessary to develop a written plan.

- Implementation of the CRRP The implementation of the completed CRRP usually involves several steps. The process should include timelines which can be quick and focused or slow and methodical. The implementation may rely on the fire department, community partners, or a combination of both.
- Monitor the Progress, Evaluate Your Findings and Modify the CRRP – The final step involves monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the plan, and adjusting as necessary. This will enable the organization to determine if they are achieving their desired goals and/or if the plan is having an impact. Ongoing monitoring allows for plan modifications in a timely manner.

The CRRP is a gateway to the reinvention of the fire service culture. It requires buy-in from Council along with vision and strong leadership to support the change needed and to navigate the process. Having a successful CRRP will bring additional resources to the effort through partnerships within the fire department as well as the community it serves. The community-based approach increases public safety because of the collective work within the community to understand, assess, and provide inclusive solutions to community safety issues.

RECRUITMENT IS ALWAYS ONGOING.

# **BUILDING**

Information item, monthly building report attached.

## Township of Bonnechere Valley

## BUILDING REPORT to NOVEMBER 28, 2025

	2025 Totals		New Residential		Other Residential		Commercial		Temp. Structure		Septic		
2025 Year to Date	Month	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value
\$0	Jan.	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$625,000	Feb.	3	\$625,000	2	\$575,000	1	\$50,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$1,184,971	Mar.	4	\$559,971	1	\$500,000	3	\$59,971	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$2,345,971	Apr.	6	\$1,161,000	1	\$750,000	5	\$411,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$51,000
\$3,548,971	May	10	\$1,203,000	2	\$1,088,000	8	\$115,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$27,400
\$4,631,971	June	6	\$1,083,000	1	\$650,000	5	\$433,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$31,500
\$6,084,638	July	16	\$1,452,667	2	\$907,467	13	\$500,200	1	\$45,000	0	\$0	1	\$15,000
\$6,889,638	Aug.	8	\$805,000	1	\$627,000	7	\$178,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$27,500
\$9,503,638	Sept.	7	\$2,614,000	2	\$1,700,000	5	\$914,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$51,000
\$11,396,638	Oct.	6	\$1,893,000	1	\$1,100,000	5	\$793,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$70,000
\$11,411,638	Nov.	4	\$61,300	0	\$0	4	\$61,300	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$23,000
	Dec.												
\$11,411,638	TOTALS	70	\$11,411,638.00	12	\$7,897,467.00	51	\$3,469,171.00	1	\$45,000.00	0	\$0.00	20	\$296,400.00

	2024 Totals		New Residential		Other Residential		Commercial		Temp. Structure		Septic		
2024 Year to Date	Month	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value	No. of Permits	Value
\$17,000	Jan.	2	\$17,000	0	\$0	2	\$17,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$370,500	Feb.	3	\$353,500	0	\$0	2	\$199,000	1	\$154,500	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$585,500	Mar.	3	\$215,000	1	\$125,000	2	\$90,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$1,716,500	Apr.	10	\$1,131,000	1	\$480,000	9	\$651,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	5	\$48,000
\$2,557,200	May	11	\$840,700	1	\$300,000	10	\$540,700	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$24,500
\$4,968,200	June	11	\$2,411,000	3	\$2,000,000	7	\$368,000	1	\$43,000	0	\$0	5	\$58,500
\$6,118,720	July	10	\$1,150,520	2	\$500,000	7	\$648,000	0	\$0	1	\$2,520	6	\$87,500
\$9,365,854	Aug.	10	\$3,247,134	4	\$1,298,000	5	\$332,500	1	\$1,616,634	0	\$0	4	\$57,000
\$10,340,714	Sept.	9	\$974,860	1	\$300,000	6	\$416,500	1	\$250,000	1	\$8,360	4	\$62,500
\$11,316,914	Oct.	7	\$976,200	1	\$450,000	6	\$526,200	0	\$0	0	\$0	5	\$69,000
\$11,385,144	Nov.	2	\$68,200	0	\$0	2	\$68,200	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$12,500
\$11,447,914	Dec.	4	\$62,800	0	\$0	4	\$62,800	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
\$11,447,914	TOTALS	82	\$11,447,914.00	14	\$5,453,000.00	62	\$3,919,900.00	4	\$2,064,134.00	2	\$10,880.00	33	\$419,500.00

ROLL_NUM	MUN_ADDRESS	LEGALDESC	PER_NUMBER	RECD_DT	ISSUE_DT	FINAL_DT PERMIT_VALUE	PERMIT_COMMENTS	OWNER	STATCAN_BUILDER_NAME	STATUSDESC
473803906022800	259 JANE STREET	LOT 20 CON 8	B 67-25	20251023	20251105	30000	DOUBLE SIDED SIGN	RCDSB	EVEREST SIGNS	ACTIVE
473803906516900	220 QUEEN STREET	LOT 8 PL 16 BLK S	B 68-25	20251021	20251105	4300	240 SQ FT PARKING SHELTER	TYLER BRUNTON	SAME	ACTIVE
473801605508807	1059 LAKE CLEAR ROAD	LOT 16 CON 12	B 69-25	20251103	20251105	12000	392 SQ FT BOAT STOARGE	ANNE GOODWIN	SAME	ACTIVE
473803810128100	193 FOYMOUNT ROAD	LOT 23 CON 20	В 70-25	20251118	20251120	15000	1600 SQ FT STORAGE	KARLY ZOMERS	SAME	ACTIVE
473801605033100	141 MULBERRY LANE	LOT 20 CON 10	S 20-25	20251024	20251031	20251104 8000	REPLACE FAILED FILTER BED	QWEN FIEBIG	RON SELLE	CLOSED
473803801002000	1528 MCGRATH ROAD	LOT 27 CON 14	S 21-25	20251117	20251121	15000	CLASS 4 TRENCH BED	MAURICE CHARTRAND	JAMES SELL	ACTIVE
473803801005111	44 WENTLAND ROAD	LOT 20 CON 16	B 34-25	20250703	20250711	20251117 6000	512 SQ FT DECK	CHRISTINE SPENCE	SAME	CLOSED
473803906037600	30 LISK STREET	LOT 20 CON 8	B 36-25	20250703	20250714	20251117 4000	240 SQ FT ACCESSORY BUILDING	LESLIE BARROWS	SAME	CLOSED
473803801005115	78 WENTLAND ROAD	LOT 20 CON 16	B 57-25	20250912	20250916	20251117 4000	640 SQ FT STORAGE	GRAYSON SPENCE	SAME	CLOSED

# **Annette Gilchrist**

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 14, 2025 5:47 PM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

**Subject:** AMO Policy Update – Special Economic Zones Advocacy, CWELCC Program

Extended, Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, New Road Safety Initiatives

Fund



# AMO Policy Update – Special Economic Zones Advocacy, CWELCC Program Extended, Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, New Road Safety Initiatives Fund

# **Top Insights**

- AMO's submission to provincial consultation on special economic zones calls for a collaborative consultation process that includes municipalities and Indigenous communities.
- It is positive news that the Canada-Ontario funding agreement for child care and early years programming has been extended for one year, though a longer-term agreement is needed.
- A new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program for small municipalities is open for applications.
- New \$210M Road Safety Initiatives Fund announced. AMO is working with the province to understand how it will fund new road safety measures, and if municipalities will be reimbursed for the cost of cancelling existing speed camera programs.

# AMO Reinforces the Importance of Municipal Engagement for Special Economic Zones

AMO has <u>submitted comments</u> to the Environmental Registry <u>consultation</u> seeking feedback on proposed criteria for special economic zones (SEZs). AMO is calling on the province to use SEZs:

- In situations where approvals cannot be otherwise expedited.
- In collaboration with the host municipality, alongside the province, project proponent, and affected Indigenous communities.
- With a formal municipal support resolution where projects consider highrisk exemptions, including exemptions from source water and drinking water protections, municipal revenue collection bylaws, and where exemptions to land-use control could irreversibly damage critical assets like agricultural land and environmentally significant areas.

While AMO supports bold action to strengthen Ontario's economy in the context of shifting global trade, our submission underlines the importance of ensuring that host municipalities experience the economic benefits of SEZs. We also strongly support Indigenous communities in their calls for the province to uphold treaty rights and maintain strong environmental protections.

# **Child Care and Early Learning Funding Agreement Extended**

The provincial and federal governments have negotiated a one-year extension to continue to implement the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) program for Ontario. The program was set to expire on March 31, 2026, and the extension ensures continuity of the program for the coming year. The extension keeps fees at their current average of \$19 per day, and a maximum of \$22 per day.

Sustaining the program is core to supporting families and benefiting children and their parents by maintaining access to more affordable and inclusive childcare and early years programming. Looking ahead, governments need to work toward a longer-term agreement beyond the current 2026 extension to provide stability to children and their parents, including reaching the affordability goal of \$10 per day and creating spaces to meet the demand.

# **Pothole Prevention and Repair Program**

The province has launched a new Pothole Prevention and Repair Program for municipalities with populations up to 10,000 people. Eligible municipalities can receive up to \$38,000 for projects.

Municipalities across Ontario have a substantial infrastructure maintenance and repair backlog, and roads represent the largest share of this gap. Targeted funding to smaller municipalities with limited resources allows them to address and prevent pothole related issues.

Applications for the <u>Pothole Prevention and Repair Program</u> are now open. Eligible municipalities can apply through the <u>Transfer Payment Ontario portal</u> until December 12, 2025.

# **New Road Safety Initiatives Fund**

The government <u>announced</u> details about the new \$210M Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) following the province-wide cancellation of municipal Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE). AMO has worked with municipalities to develop fund design recommendations and gather ASE cancellation cost data. We continue to advocate for adequate funding to fairly reimburse municipalities for cancellation costs, and for flexibility and local choice in the RSIF to ensure municipalities can implement the most effective traffic calming measures in their communities. AMO continues to engage with the Ministry of Transportation on ASE and the fund to advance this advocacy.

An online version of this Policy Update is also available on the AMO Website.

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#### **Annette Gilchrist**

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: November 21, 2025 10:16 AM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

Subject: AMO Policy Update – New Procurement Requirements, Bill 30 Advocacy, 2025

Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments



## AMO Policy Update – New Procurement Requirements, Bill 30 Advocacy, 2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments

#### **Top Insights**

- Yesterday, the province announced it is introducing the *Buy Ontario Act* to require municipalities to prioritize Ontario and then Canadian vendors in procurements.
- AMO submitted comments and a letter to the province opposing Bill 30's proposal to exempt projects funded by the Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream from the *Planning Act* and some or all of the *Municipal Act*.
- Passed by Parliament on Monday, the 2025 Federal Budget was initially heralded for significant infrastructure investments. However, analysis shows it repackages existing infrastructure funds with only some new spending.

#### **Public Sector Procurement Legislation**

The Ontario government <u>announced</u> it is introducing the *Buy Ontario Act* which, if passed, would require public sector entities including municipalities to prioritize Ontario and then Canadian made goods and services.

AMO continues to reaffirm to the province that municipalities want to do their part to support Ontario's economy and mitigate the impacts of tariffs and trade disruptions. According to AMO's <u>survey of municipal procurement</u>, municipalities spend over \$22 billion annually on goods and services, and 98% of its non-construction procurement is already from Canadian vendors.

AMO will work with the province to ensure that municipal procurement can be effectively harnessed as a tool to support our economy, while ensuring that we can mitigate against significant cost escalation and ensure continuity for municipal service delivery. For example, AMO is working with provincial and municipal staff to help inform the design of the first procurement policy to add "Buy Ontario" restrictions to municipal fleet vehicle procurement.

## Bill 30: AMO Urges Safeguarding of Critical Municipal Planning Processes and Authorities

AMO has <u>submitted comments</u> opposing proposals in Bill 30, *Working For Workers Seven Act*, which seek to exempt projects funded through the Skills Development Fund's (SDF) Capital Stream from the *Planning Act* and the *Municipal Act*.

While AMO supports streamlining planning, the legislative amendments proposed in Bill 30 are problematic given they extend broad planning exemptions to private sector organizations, which lack the robust regulatory and accountability frameworks that mitigated risks in previous planning exemptions (e.g., hospitals, schools). AMO is concerned that the SDF's eligibility criteria alone is insufficient to support exempting recipients from the *Planning Act* and the *Municipal Act*. The proposed legislative changes pose significant risks to orderly and sustainable municipal growth, infrastructure planning, and site and community safety.

In its <u>letter</u> to Ministers Piccini and Minister Flack, AMO urges the Province to reconsider and remove these proposed exemptions from Bill 30 and reiterated its commitment to work with the government to develop solutions

that meet provincial objectives while upholding the ability of municipalities to maintain healthy, sustainable communities.

#### 2025 Federal Budget Infrastructure Investments Announcements

#### Infrastructure

The 2025 Federal Budget announced an investment of \$115 billion over 5 years for new public, municipal, indigenous and trade infrastructure. AMO appreciates the federal acknowledgement of the importance of local infrastructure, but the 2025 Federal Budget does not adequately provide sustainable, predictable and long-term funding streams required by municipalities. Instead, the existing infrastructure funding is mostly repackaged under new titles and frameworks.

For example, the new Build Communities Strong Fund (BCSF) was announced, providing \$51 billion over 10 years, starting in 2026-27, with a further \$3 billion per year ongoing funding for provincial and territorial governments. Funding for this program consists of limited new dollars and reallocated resources from the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund, Canada Public Transit Fund, and the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF). The BCSF will consist of three streams:

- A Provincial and Territorial Stream, providing \$17.2 billion over 10 years, beginning next year, to be shared between housing-enabling infrastructure, health-related infrastructure and infrastructure at colleges and universities. This is conditional funding geared towards municipalities that substantially reduce development charges and do not impose new levies that can negatively impact housing supply.
- A Direct Delivery Stream, providing \$6 billion over 10 years, to support large regional projects.
- A Community Stream providing \$27.8 billion over 10 years, which is a rebranding of the CCBF and contains no new additional funding.

For municipalities, this results in greater uncertainty, administrative complexity and competition for accessing federal funding as the funding envelope is distributed across multiple streams.

#### Housing

The 2025 Federal Budget commits funding to Build Canada Homes to create housing including the \$1 billion investment in supportive and transitional housing and \$1.5 billion for the Canada Rental Protection Fund. However, there is no mention of the campaign promise to build 500,000 homes a year.

Even with increased funding in the next few years few years, overall spending on housing will decrease from the current year's allocation of \$3.53 billion to \$3.36 billion by 2029. The future of the National Housing Strategy beyond its expiry in 2028 is unclear as are the investments in the Housing Accelerator Fund (which has no funding beyond 2027-28) and the Reaching Home program for critically needed homelessness prevention.

An online version of this Policy Update is also available on the AMO Website.

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#### **Annette Gilchrist**

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

**Sent:** November 20, 2025 10:35 AM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

**Subject:** Correction: Revised link - AMO Watchfile - November 20, 2025



November 20, 2025

We are re-issuing this week's Watchfile with corrected links for the <u>AMO and OMAA Webinar</u> and the LAS <u>AODA Toolkit RFP</u>. We apologize for the inconvenience.

#### In This Issue:

- Share your local municipal staff career spotlights!
- Sport Hosting Program Applications Intake.
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- Applications now open: Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official, March and May 2026 workshops.
- ROMA Zone Meet-ups over lunch Sunday, January 18.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate Dec 3rd.
- New Dates! Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's free workshop series is for you.
- AODA Accessibility Solutions RFP Now Open.
- Is your municipality ready for the phase-out?
- Energy Training that pays for itself!
- Blog Fire Prevention Tips for a Safe and Cozy Winter Season.
- Review Your Group Benefits Before the New Year.
- New AMO/OMAA Webinar: Impact of the Mayor-CAO relationship on workplace culture.
- New Program to Help Get Your Community Energy Emissions Planning Done!
- Federal Food Waste Prevention and Diversion Webinar.
- Release of Gender Based Violence Prevention Framework.
- Careers.

#### **AMO Matters**

AMO is building a campaign to highlight the impact and the people behind municipal work - and we want to hear your story. Submissions will be featured on the campaign website and newsletters as *Impact Stories* to highlight the everyday work that keeps communities safe, clean, connected and welcoming. Please contact us at workforce@amo.on.ca to share stories from your community.

#### **Provincial Matters**

The province is accepting applications for next round of <u>Sport Hosting Program</u> to support sport tourism and local economies. Municipalities are eligible to <u>apply</u>. The deadline to submit for 2026/27 applications is until January 12, 2026.

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#### **Federal Matters**

Municipalities with 50 or fewer full-time employees are eligible to apply for wage subsidies for summer work experiences targeting youth aged 15- 30 years old. Application window closes December 11, 2025, at 11:59 pm (PST). Click here for more info.

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Conflict and misunderstanding is a big part of many municipal leaders current realities. This workshop provides an opportunity to transform conflict into collaboration. The <u>Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official</u> workshop teaches skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones in your role as an elected municipal official.

This year's ROMA Zone Meet-ups will be held over lunch at the ROMA Conference on Sunday, January 18. The Zone Meet-ups are an important opportunity to hear about the work of the ROMA Board and engage with your Zone and Board representatives. Register today for the ROMA 2026 conference and plan to arrive Saturday to take part in discussion on ROMA strategic priorities.

Focused specifically on underrepresented candidates, AMO's Running for Municipal Office - Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate 90 minute free workshop provides useful insights and strategies to support you in getting your name on the ballot.

If you missed *AMO's Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* workshop registration, we are offering new dates to register. Designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. It's offered at no charge in two streams: first time candidates, and those considering re-election in 2026. Full details and registration information here.

#### LAS

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Staff training is critical to identifying energy savings opportunities and reducing costs in your buildings. The <u>LAS Energy Workshop & Treasure Hunt</u> will empower your teams to meet your energy and budget goals. Contact <u>Christian Tham</u> for more information. Eligible for IESO incentives.

Read our latest blog to understand the risk factors and discover fire prevention tips that can help you and your loved ones remain safe and cozy all winter long.

Help reduce your group benefits costs with the LAS Group Benefits program offered by Mosey & Mosey. The plans are customizable to suit your needs. <u>Learn more</u>.

#### **Municipal Wire\***

Back by popular demand, AMO and OMAA are pleased to present the next topic in our Mayor-CAO Relationship Series. This conversation turns the spotlight on how the Mayor-CAO partnership shapes municipal workplace culture and why strong, trust-based leadership matters now more than ever. Register here for the free December 8th Session.

Has your municipality been considering developing your 'CEEP' for too long to identify and reduce your community's energy emissions? Get it done, now, through QUEST Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program! Contact Lead, Projects, Norma Panetta at <a href="mailto:npanetta@questcanada.org">npanetta@questcanada.org</a> by December 1, 2025. <a href="mailto:More information">More information</a>.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is showcasing the Waste Reduction and Management Division's Grant and Contribution funding recipients whose projects focus on food waste prevention and diversion December 4th. Register now.

The <u>Gender Based Violence Prevention Framework</u> provides a roadmap for preventing gender-based violence. Municipalities and public health units are encouraged to review the framework and resources.

#### Careers

<u>Manager, Waste Disposal - Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority</u>. Closing Date: December 5, 2025.

<u>Project Manager, Affordable Housing Development and Renewal - Regional Municipality of Durham</u>. Closing Date: December 7, 2025.

<u>Manager, Development Partnerships - Regional Municipality of Durham</u>. Closing Date: December 8, 2025.

#### **About AMO**

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow <a href="mailto:@AMOPolicy">@AMOPolicy</a> on Twitter!

#### **AMO Contacts**

AMO Watchfile Tel: 416.971.9856

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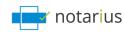
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#### **Annette Gilchrist**

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

**Sent:** November 27, 2025 10:02 AM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

**Subject:** AMO Watchfile - November 27, 2025



November 27, 2025

#### In This Issue:

- We need your local municipal staff career spotlights!
- Public Health Ontario Rounds: Population Health Approach to GBV Prevention.
- Municipal Energy Plan Program provincial funding.
- Sport Hosting Program Applications Intake.
- Ontario Energy Board Plans 2026 review of Model Franchise Agreement.
- Applications now open: Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy.
- Federal Food Waste Prevention and Diversion Webinar.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official, March and May 2026 workshops.
- ROMA Zone Meet-ups over lunch Sunday, January 18.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate Dec 3rd.
- New Dates! Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's free workshop series is for you.
- AODA Accessibility Solutions RFP Now Open.
- Get a Quote for Your 2026 Road/Sidewalk Assessment.
- Is your municipality ready for the phase-out?
- Energy Training that pays for itself!
- Blog: Smarter Procurement, Stronger Communities.
- Webinar: Navigate Healthcare-Related Procurement and Supply Chain Challenges.
- New AMO/OMAA Webinar: Impact of the Mayor-CAO relationship on workplace culture.
- New Program to Help Get Your Community Energy Emissions Planning Done!
- Careers.

#### **AMO Matters**

We need your help! AMO is building a public affairs campaign to highlight the impact and the people behind municipal work - and we want to feature real stories from Ontario's municipalities. Submissions will be featured on the campaign website and newsletters as *Impact Stories* to highlight the everyday work that keeps communities safe, clean, connected and welcoming. Please contact us at workforce@amo.on.ca to learn how to share stories from your community.

#### **Provincial Matters**

This Public Health Ontario Rounds will be held virtually December 2nd from 12-1pm. It will present a Framework to support public health agencies contributing to gender-based violence prevention. Register here.

The Municipal Energy Plan Program, a voluntary, application-based program of the Ministry of Energy and Mines helps develop and enhance energy plans. <u>Learn more here</u>.

The province is accepting applications for next round of <u>Sport Hosting Program</u> to support sport tourism and local economies. Municipalities are eligible to <u>apply</u>. The deadline to submit for 2026/27 applications is until January 12, 2026.

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supports, to support province-wide AODA compliance and promote inclusive, accessible communities. <u>Download the RFP from here.</u>

Is a road needs study or sidewalk assessment part of your 2026 work plan? <u>Contact Tanner</u> to get a free quote with the <u>LAS Road & Sidewalk Assessment</u> service. Better data helps make the best decisions for your assets.

The <u>phase-out of mercury containing lamps</u> (CFL, linear fluorescent lamps, metal halides, etc.) begins on January 1, 2026. The <u>LAS Facility Lighting Service</u> offers a turn-key solution to upgrade your lights so you won't be left in the dark. Contact <u>Christian Tham</u> to find out how you can get ready.

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Ontario municipalities are under mounting pressure to do more with less. Rising healthcare-related expenses, aging populations, and tighter budgets mean every dollar must be stretched further. Read more here.

<u>Join a free webinar</u> on December 9 to find valuable insights from municipal and healthcare supply chain leaders who are working to strengthen procurement practices, control costs, and build more resilient systems across Ontario.

#### Municipal Wire\*

Back by popular demand, AMO and OMAA are pleased to present the next topic in our Mayor-CAO Relationship Series. This conversation turns the spotlight on how the Mayor-CAO partnership shapes municipal workplace culture and why strong, trust-based leadership matters now more than ever. Register here for the free December 8th Session.

Has your municipality been considering developing your 'CEEP' to identify and reduce your community's energy emissions for too long? Get it done, now, through QUEST Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program! Contact Projects Lead Norma Panetta at npanetta@questcanada.org by December 1, 2025. More information.

#### Careers

<u>Manager Transportation Operations & Maintenance (Winter Services – City Wide) - City of Toronto</u>. Closing Date: December 5, 2025.

Supervisor of Fleet Services - City of Quinte West. Closing Date: December 8, 2025.

<u>Manager, Development Engineering (Water And Wastewater) - Region of Waterloo.</u> Closing Date: December 26, 2025.

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Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions



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#### **Annette Gilchrist**

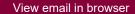
FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>

**Sent:** November 17, 2025 6:05 PM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

**Subject:** FCM Voice: Budget 2025 | Upcoming webinars | Toolkits and funding for your

community | and more





November 17, 2025











### What Budget 2025 means for your community



Tabled by the federal government earlier this month, and to be voted on in the House of Commons this evening, Budget 2025 underscores the need for strategic investments to support Canadians and emphasizes economic resilience and national priorities like local infrastructure. The mix of new and reprofiled investments in Budget 2025 will help municipalities move faster now, but a long-term plan to fund the infrastructure that makes national housing and growth goals achievable is still needed.

FCM's federal budget policy analysis highlights key measures, identifies gaps in federal support, and offers insights to strengthen your advocacy and planning efforts.

#### » DOWNLOAD THE ANALYSIS

#### **EVENTS**

## Collective webinar: Building a robust visitor economy in rural communities

Tourism can serve as a powerful catalyst for sustainable local prosperity. FCM is partnering with Destination Canada on a free Collective webinar exploring the positive impact that the visitor economy can have on local growth, community pride and job creation.

Join our expert panel on Thursday, November 27, from 12-1 p.m. ET as they share practical tools and best practices for municipal leaders to leverage these opportunities while keeping communities in mind and celebrating local heritage.

#### » REGISTER

## Building circular futures: Leading change in municipal construction, renovation and demolition

Join us on Thursday, November 27, from 2-3 p.m. ET for the *Building Circular Futures:* Leading Change in Municipal Construction, Renovation and Demolition webinar. Discover proven tactics to integrate circularity into your municipality projects and learn how to plan deconstruction without delays, source and verify reclaimed materials before they reach site, while keeping timelines on track.

#### » REGISTER

#### Information session on VNCRM project

On Tuesday, November 18, from 1-2 p.m. ET, we are hosting an information session for Canadian municipalities interested in the Viet Nam Climate Resilient Municipalities (VNCRM) project.

This session is a great opportunity to learn more about the project's goals, the peer-topeer partnership model and what participating municipalities can expect over the next five years. We will explain the application process and answer any questions you may have.

#### **FCM IN THE NEWS**

» Is this the federal budget you expected? Is it the budget you wanted? | Radio Noon Quebec | On Demand | CBC Listen [15:48-22:14]

On November 5, FCM President Rebecca Bligh spoke with Shawn Apel from CBC Radio about the federal budget, FCM's positive takeaways, how it will benefit municipalities moving forward, and what is missing from the federal government's plan.

## » How can we improve the fight against forest fires in Canada? | Le téléjournal avec Céline Galipeau

As part of a Radio-Canada report on wildfires across the country, Yvon Godin, President of the Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick and member of FCM's Board of Directors, discussed the situation and emphasized the need for increased federal government support. Currently, FCM is advocating for a national fleet of water bombers.

#### » Nunavut municipalities discuss military-civilian dual-use infrastructure projects | CBC News

The Nunavut Association of Municipalities held its annual conference from November 11-13 in Iqaluit, where infrastructure funding was top of mind. FCM's Executive Director of Policy and Public Affairs Matt Gemmel attended and talked to CBC North about the significance of the federal government's investment in core municipal infrastructure.

#### » London Mayor Josh Morgan discusses feeling 'pleased' with federal budget | CP24

FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus Chair and London Mayor Josh Morgan recently spoke with CP24 about the federal budget and what it means for Canadian municipalities, particularly regarding investments in local infrastructure. "We still need a long-term stable commitment to municipal infrastructure in this country to meet all of our collective goals," Morgan said.

#### **RESOURCES**

**Destination Development toolkits to support rural, remote and Northern community-based tourism** 

In partnership with Destination Canada, we are proud to share two powerful new resources designed exclusively for rural, remote, and Northern municipalities.

When tourism is woven into municipal growth strategies, it can be a catalyst for local resilience, inclusive prosperity, and community revitalization. These Destination Development toolkits incorporate feedback and expertise from municipal leaders across Canada to ensure they deliver actionable, practical solutions for your community's tourism ambitions.

#### » GET THE TOOLKIT

## How energy-efficient affordable housing is improving the lives of Canadians

When communities across Canada add more affordable housing, there's nobody that benefits more than the residents themselves. When those homes are designed or retrofitted for greater energy efficiency, they not only provide rent stability, but also healthier air and greater year-round comfort—and residents are even saving up to \$200 on their monthly energy bills.

As we look forward to celebrating National Housing Day this Saturday, discover the inspiring stories of six Canadians who are living comfortably and saving money thanks to projects supported by GMF's Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative.

#### » READ THE ARTICLE SERIES

## Small towns, big impacts: Creating jobs and building sustainable community spaces

Rural and Indigenous communities are investing in green community buildings that create local jobs and support residents' well-being.

For example, in Nunavut, Cambridge Bay is revitalizing local practices and supporting Northern and Indigenous-owned businesses with the construction of a new cultural campus. And the City of Iqaluit created 38 new jobs and brought the community together by constructing a new energy-efficient aquatic centre.

#### » READ MORE

#### Waste less, earn more: Funding available now

Facing rising landfill pressures and energy demands, Ontario municipalities can benefit from GMF funding to turn food scraps, biosolids and agricultural byproducts into clean energy and valuable soil products. In Waterloo, for example, biogas powers the wastewater facilities, cutting 1,900 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and saving \$1.5M annually. From assessments to implementation, we'll help you turn waste into opportunity.

#### » APPLY TODAY

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

#### Connect with us on social media

Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:

















FCM's 1st VP Tim Tierney is in Calgary today, connecting with municipal leaders from across Alberta at Alberta Municipalities | Strength in Members 2025 Convention & Trade Show.









FCM joined local leaders from all across Nunavut in Iqaluit this week to hear their unique challenges and perspectives. Together with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities, FCM brings local voices directly to the federal government. Our thanks to NAM and Mayor Solomon Awa for having us.

**READ MORE** 

**SHARE THE POST** 

**VIEW THE PHOTOS** 



FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS













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#### **Annette Gilchrist**

FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>

**Sent:** November 24, 2025 6:11 PM

**To:** Annette Gilchrist

**Subject:** FCM Voice: FCM's nationwide outreach | BCH updates | Upcoming webinars | and

more





FCM been busy meeting with members from coast to coast to coast this fall—attending numerous provincial and territorial association (PTA) conferences across the country to connect with you in person. Over the past two months alone, FCM's table officers, leadership team and staff have engaged with local municipal leaders at conferences held by the Fédération québécoise des municipalités, Union of BC Municipalities, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities, Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick, Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick, Alberta Municipalities, Nunavut Association of Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador and later this week, the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. Our commitment to connect with our members in their own communities, and ensure their voices are heard by the federal government, remains paramount.

#### » SEE HOW FCM'S MEMBER ENGAGEMENT EXTENDS TO NORTHERN CANADA

#### **NEWS**

#### **Build Canada Homes application portal opening soon**

The federal government has just released its Investment Policy Framework for Build Canada Homes—outlining the agency's priorities, investment principles, and eligibility criteria. FCM is glad to see a focus on affordability, flexibility and shovel-ready projects. We will continue advocating for a program design that ensures municipalities of all sizes can access this fund.

The application portal for Build Canada Homes is due to open before the end of November. Stay tuned for further information.

#### » LEARN MORE

Last chance to register: Building a robust visitor economy in your communities

Tourism can serve as a powerful catalyst for sustainable local prosperity. This week, FCM is partnering with Destination Canada on a free Collective webinar exploring the positive impact that the visitor economy can have on local growth, community pride and job creation.

Join our expert panel on November 27 as they share practical tools and best practices for municipal leaders to leverage these opportunities while keeping communities in mind and celebrating local heritage. Space is filling up fast, so save your spot today!

#### » REGISTER

#### **EVENTS**

## Building circular futures: Leading change in municipal construction, renovation and demolition

Join our one-hour webinar on Thursday, November 27, at 2 p.m. ET, to learn how material circularity delivers results in construction, renovation and demolition. You'll hear project leads share practical tactics: specifications that enable material reuse, deconstruction planning without delays, sourcing and verifying reclaimed stock, while keeping timelines on track.

#### » REGISTER

#### Join Ghana's workshop on ending workplace gender-based violence

As part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, our PMI-WILL partners in Ghana are hosting a national workshop on preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in local governments.

The workshop will be held in person in Accra on November 27, from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. GMT. For those not attending on site—including Canadian municipalities—a virtual option is available from 5–8 a.m. ET. Participants will hear from municipal leaders, gender experts and civil society organizations on building safe, inclusive, harassment-free municipal workplaces.

This workshop is part of the PMI-WILL project, implemented by FCM and funded by Global Affairs Canada.

#### » REGISTER

#### How municipalities can strengthen Canada's economic resilience

Municipalities drive economic growth by providing the infrastructure that connects us, supports jobs and attracts new businesses. That's why impacts of trade uncertainty and U.S. tariffs are felt in our communities first.

On December 4 at 1 p.m. ET, the Lawrence National Centre for Policy and Management will be hosting a webinar with a panel of experts including London Mayor Josh Morgan, Sturgeon County Mayor Alanna Hnatiw and Saint John Mayor Donna Reardon. This session will explore how municipalities can strengthen their role in Canada's evolving trade environment and help shape a more resilient economic future for their communities and residents.

» REGISTER

#### **FCM IN THE NEWS**

» Budget 2025: MPs pass Carney budget, avoid holiday election | CTV News

On November 17, the federal minority government survived the final confidence vote on Budget 2025, preventing federal elections during the holiday season.

- » Patty Cuttell elected Halifax's new deputy mayor | CityNews
  FCM Board member Patty Cuttell has been appointed Halifax's new deputy mayor.
  "Deputy mayor Cuttell brings significant professional experience to her role, including her national leadership at FCM," said Halifax Mayor Andy Fillmore. Cuttell was first elected to the regional council in 2020.
- » Push for nation-building projects could leave northern communities behind, municipal leader fears | Nunatsiaq News FCM's Executive Director of Policy and Public Affairs Matt Gemmel spoke with Nunatsiaq News about the importance of the federal government investing in smaller communities. Gemmel stated that FCM is examining the future of the North from a municipal perspective.

#### **RESOURCES**

#### Rural communities leading the way through waste challenges

Across rural Canada, a growing number of projects are demonstrating remarkable innovation and impact, showcasing the country's leadership in turning organic waste into clean, renewable energy. With support from GMF through the Organic Waste-to-Energy and Net-Zero Transformation offers, municipalities are adopting practical, small-scale energy recovery.

Explore how GMF's funding can help your municipality turn organic waste into success stories and replicate proven approaches to create new opportunities.

» LEARN MORE

#### Discover inspiring stories of Canadians living in energy-efficient affordable housing

Through five years, GMF has supported more than 4,100 units across the country. That means thousands of Canadians have improved their quality of life now that they have safe, healthy and affordable housing. Residents enjoy cleaner air, greater year-round comfort and financial stability. Read this article series to hear from the people and their families whose lives have greatly improved after moving into a GMF-funded housing development.

» EXPLORE REAL-LIFE ACCOUNTS

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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FCM's 1st VP @TimTierney was in Salt Lake City this week connecting with local leaders south of the border at the National @leagueofcities'

City Summit. Ties between Canada and the U.S. run deep, and when it comes to local priorities, there's much more that unites us than divides us.









Housing is more than a roof overhead-it's the foundation for healthy lives and thriving communities. On this National Housing Day, FCM reaffirms our call to the federal government for more affordable housing in communities of all sizesbecause everyone deserves a place to call home.















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#### Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto ON M7A 2J3 Tel.: 416 585-7000

#### Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17e étage Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3 Tél.: 416 585-7000



234-2025-4982

November 25, 2025

#### Dear Head of Council:

Through the *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* (Bill 17), which received Royal Assent on June 5, 2025, changes were made to the *Planning Act* that will help streamline and standardize municipal development processes.

This includes changes that enable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, by regulation, to permit variation from a zoning by-law "as of right" if a proposal is within a prescribed percentage of the required setback (the minimum distance a building or structure must be from a property line) on specified lands. This new authority was intended to reduce planning applications for minor variances.

Today, our government announced further action to streamline planning approvals by exercising my authority established under Bill 17 to amend Ontario Regulation 545/06 (Zoning By-laws, Holding By-laws and Interim Control By-laws) to allow variations to be permitted "as-of-right" if a proposal is within 10% of setback requirements applicable to specified lands. Specified lands include any parcel of urban residential lands outside of the Greenbelt Area, and exclude areas such as hazardous lands, and lands near shorelines and railways. These changes in Ontario Regulation 257/25 were filed on November 21, 2025 and took effect upon filing.

Any variances sought beyond the prescribed percentage of the setback requirement would be subject to the usual minor variance or rezoning approval process and other zoning standards (e.g., height limits, etc.) would continue to apply, helping to mitigate potential land use compatibility issues.

This "as-of-right" permission is intended to remove the need for certain variances that are the most minor in nature, resulting in fewer applications submitted and fewer hearings for minor variances before a municipal committee of adjustment for these proposals.

The proposed regulation works with the <u>Additional Residential Units regulation</u> (Ontario Regulation 299/19) to help create additional residential units, such as basement suites, by eliminating additional barriers related to setbacks.

We look forward to continued collaboration with our municipal partners as we work together to achieve our goal of building the homes that Ontarians need.

Sincerely,

Hon. Robert J. Flack

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c. Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, MMAH
David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Planning and Policy Division, MMAH

Municipal Chief Administrative Officer





30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach Ontario, Canada L9Z 1A1 Tel (705) 429-3844 mayor@wasagabeach.com

#### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

November 24, 2025

Relevant Provincial and Federal Ministries and Agencies.

#### BY EMAIL ONLY

### RE: Resolution from the Town of Wasaga Beach – Advocacy for Funds to Effectively Manage the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach, during their November 13, 2025 Council meeting, and at the request of the Township of Stone Mills, passed the following resolution regarding Advocacy for Funds to Effectively Manage the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation.

Whereas the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation has caused a significant increase in dead ash trees across Ontario, creating ecological, financial, and public safety challenges;

And whereas the removal and replacement of affected trees has placed a substantial financial burden on municipalities, organizations, and property owners;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Wasaga Beach supports the Township of Stone Mills motion to urge the Provincial and Federal governments to establish a dedicated fund to assist with the removal and replanting of trees impacted by the EAB infestation.

Be it further resolved that this letter of support be submitted to the relevant Provincial and Federal ministries and agencies to strengthen regional advocacy efforts on this issue.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at <a href="mayor@wasagabeach.com">mayor@wasagabeach.com</a> or (705) 429-3844 ext. 2225.

Sincerely,

Brian Smith

Mayor, Town of Wasaga Beach

/mps



## Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: November 26, 2025

## Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

Resolution Number: 2025-345

Moved By: Mayor Gould

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

WHEREAS violent home invasions have increased in several regions of Ontario, creating growing fear and frustration among residents;

AND WHEREAS Ontario homeowners increasingly believe that current self-defence laws do not provide sufficient or clear protection for individuals who lawfully defend themselves and their families during violent intrusions;

AND WHEREAS rural residents often experience police response times that can exceed 30 minutes or more, leaving citizens without immediate protection when confronted with life-threatening emergencies; AND WHEREAS the absence of "home invasion" as a distinct offence in the national Uniform Crime Reporting system prevents governments from understanding the true scale of this crime and responding appropriately;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has repeatedly called for strengthened homeowner protections, including consideration of castle-law-style provisions, and for the federal government to act; AND WHEREAS residents expect all levels of government to take decisive action to address gaps that leave families vulnerable in their own homes:

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The Municipality of Calvin strongly supports the Province of Ontario's call for strengthened homeowner self-defence protections, including the adoption of clear and robust "castle law"-type provisions to ensure that law-abiding residents can protect themselves without fear of unjust prosecution.
- 2. Council calls on the Government of Canada to immediately prioritize reforms to the Criminal Code that strengthen and clarify the rights of homeowners who act in legitimate self-defence during violent home invasions.
- Council demands that the federal government amend the Uniform Crime Reporting system to classify "home invasion" as a distinct criminal offence, allowing for accurate tracking, targeted enforcement, and informed public policy.
- 4. Council urges the Province of Ontario to take stronger action to monitor, publish, and improve police response times in rural and northern communities, and to ensure that residents are not left unprotected due to resourcing shortages.
- 5. Council encourages all Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions to demonstrate a unified municipal voice calling for urgent reforms that protect citizens in their homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to: The Prime Minister of Canada, The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. The Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General of Ontario, The Solicitor General of Ontario, MPP Vic Fedeli, and all Ontario municipalities.

Results: Carried

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of Resolution No. 2025-345 passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.

Trish Araujo Deputy Clerk Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

Agenda Item: Resolution - Background Report (Submitted by Mayor Gould)

Ontario Premier Doug Ford has repeatedly called for a review or adoption of "castle laws" in Canada, beginning June 16, 2025, and continuing in August and October of 2025. Premier Ford has emphasized that Ontario families must feel safe in their homes and that law-abiding residents should not face legal uncertainty when legitimately defending themselves from violent intruders.

Several urban and suburban regions, including York and Peel, have experienced a documented rise in violent home invasions and have established dedicated task forces to address this trend. In contrast, rural communities lack reliable statistics because "home invasion" is not recognized as a distinct offence under the national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system. As a result, these incidents are recorded under broader categories such as break-and-enter or assault, making it difficult to assess the true scale of the problem outside major urban centres.

Rural residents face additional vulnerabilities due to limited policing resources and significantly longer emergency response times, which can leave homeowners without immediate protection during life-threatening situations. These conditions highlight the need for clearer legal protections for homeowners, improved crime-tracking practices, and decisive action from both provincial and federal governments to enhance public safety.

Resolution: Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

WHEREAS violent home invasions have increased in several regions of Ontario, creating growing fear and frustration among residents;

AND WHEREAS Ontario homeowners increasingly believe that current self-defence laws do not provide sufficient or clear protection for individuals who lawfully defend themselves and their families during violent intrusions:

AND WHEREAS rural residents often experience police response times that can exceed 30 minutes or more, leaving citizens without immediate protection when confronted with life-threatening emergencies; AND WHEREAS the absence of "home invasion" as a distinct offence in the national Uniform Crime Reporting system prevents governments from understanding the true scale of this crime and responding appropriately:

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has repeatedly called for strengthened homeowner protections, including consideration of castle-law-style provisions, and for the federal government to act; AND WHEREAS residents expect all levels of government to take decisive action to address gaps that leave families vulnerable in their own homes;

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The Municipality of Calvin strongly supports the Province of Ontario's call for strengthened homeowner self-defence protections, including the adoption of clear and robust "castle law"-type provisions to ensure that law-abiding residents can protect themselves without fear of unjust prosecution.
- Council calls on the Government of Canada to immediately prioritize reforms to the Criminal Code
  that strengthen and clarify the rights of homeowners who act in legitimate self-defence during
  violent home invasions.
- Council demands that the federal government amend the Uniform Crime Reporting system to classify "home invasion" as a distinct criminal offence, allowing for accurate tracking, targeted enforcement, and informed public policy.
- Council urges the Province of Ontario to take stronger action to monitor, publish, and improve
  police response times in rural and northern communities, and to ensure that residents are not left
  unprotected due to resourcing shortages.

5. Council encourages all Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions to demonstrate a unified municipal voice calling for urgent reforms that protect citizens in their homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to: The Prime Minister of Canada, The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. The Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General of Ontario, The Solicitor General of Ontario, MPP Vic Fedeli, and all Ontario municipalities.

# Town of Jax By the Lake

#### **TOWN OF AJAX**

65 Harwood Avenue South Ajax ON L1S 3S9 www.ajax.ca

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

#### Sent by E-Mail

November 19, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, be it resolved:

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

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or <a href="mailto:Thomas.street@ajax.ca">Thomas.street@ajax.ca</a>

#### Sincerely,

B

Thomas Street
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

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

#### **Annette Gilchrist**

**From:** MNR Fish and Wildlife Policy Branch < MNR-

FishandWildlifePolicyBranch@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** November 21, 2025 2:43 PM

Cc: Wildlife Policy (MNR)

**Subject:** Black Bear Harvest Management in Ontario



Ministry of Natural Resources

ministère des Richesses naturelles

Stephen Casselman A/Director

Stephen Casselman Directeur par intérim

Fish and Wildlife Policy Branch 300 Water Street 5th Floor N

Direction des politiques relatives au poisson et à la faune 300, rue Water 5e étage Nord

Peterborough ON K9J 3C7

Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

November 21, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Black Bear Harvest Management in Ontario

Greetings,

I am writing to inform you that the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is seeking feedback on proposed policy and regulatory changes to black bear management. The proposal has been posted to the Environmental and Regulatory Registries for 45 days for public review and comment, closing on January 5, 2026. You can access the proposal and submit feedback here:

**English:** Proposal to update the province's black bear management approach | Environmental Registry of Ontario

**French:** <u>Proposition visant à mettre à jour l'approche de gestion de l'ours noir de la province |</u> Registre e...

#### **Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Black Bear Population Objectives: Population objectives, described as ranges with defined upper and lower limits, will guide management decisions. Preliminary Population Objective Ranges (PORs) are proposed, based primarily on ecological data. We are seeking public input to help incorporate social, cultural, and economic considerations to refine the final objectives.
- 2. <u>Harvest Management Guidelines</u>: Final PORs will serve as benchmarks for assessing the status of black bear populations and guide harvest management decisions. New adaptive

management tools are proposed (e.g., a resident draw to be used in areas of concern), alongside harvest sustainability indicators to support sustainable management. A defined allocation process will improve transparency and equitability in allocation between harvest sectors.

3. <u>Regulatory Amendments</u>: Proposed regulatory changes will extend protections for cubs and females with cubs into the fall and clarify the prohibition on the possession of bear bile to further promote long-term sustainable black bear management.

If the guidelines and final Population Objective Ranges are approved, the ministry has proposed a 5-year province-wide transition plan. During this transition period, harvest management decisions will not be applied based on the final Population Objective Ranges, except as a pilot on the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula, where unique concerns about the small, isolated population require immediate attention. The transition plan will allow the ministry to complete necessary preparations for implementation of the new guidance.

Black bears are an important part of Ontario's ecosystem and natural heritage. These proposed changes aim to support responsible black bear management, taking into account ecological considerations, public interests, and the diverse perspectives of all Ontarians. We encourage all interested individuals and organizations to review the proposal and share your perspectives. Your feedback will help inform decisions and ensure that a wide range of views are considered in the development of black bear management approaches.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the proposed changes further, please contact <u>wildlifepolicy@ontario.ca</u>.

Thank you,

Stephen Casselman A/Director, Fish and Wildlife Policy Branch Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

**Please note:** As part of providing <u>accessible customer service</u>, please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.



Taking pride in strengthening Ontario, its places and its people





November 12, 2025

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

Dear Premier Ford,

via email: <a href="mailto:premier@ontario.ca">premier@ontario.ca</a>

## Re: Curbside Recycling Eligibility for Non-Profit Organizations

At its regular meeting held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Council of the Township of Selwyn passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2025 – 223 – Curbside Recycling – Non Profits

Mayor Sherry Senis – Councillor Brian Henry –

Whereas the Province of Ontario designated producers to be responsible for collecting recycling in the Province; and

Whereas non-profit organizations, including our local food banks, have been deemed ineligible for producer blue box collection effective January 1st. 2026: and

Whereas food insecurity is a local, provincial and federal issue; and

Whereas food banks need to receive grocery items that are delivered in cardboard boxes and cartons which generate copious amounts of recyclable material; and

Whereas food banks are volunteer and donation based with no revenue collected to pay for services such as removal of recyclable materials;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Selwyn strongly urge the Province to re-instate the eligibility for curbside blue box collection as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, for non-profit organizations, such as food banks; and

That this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Dave Smith, County and City of Peterborough, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and Ontario Municipalities for support.

Carried.

Under the Province's producer-responsibility framework, food banks and similar non-profit organizations have been deemed ineligible for curbside blue box collection effective January 1, 2026. This change will place an unreasonable burden on these essential community services that rely entirely on volunteers and donations.

Food banks play a critical role in addressing food insecurity — an issue of local, provincial, and national importance. These organizations receive large quantities of grocery items packaged in cardboard and other recyclable materials, yet they have no sustainable means to manage the associated recycling costs once municipal collection ends.

The Township of Selwyn strongly urges the Province of Ontario to reinstate eligibility for curbside blue box collection for non-profit organizations, such as food banks.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Megin Hunter

Office Assistant/ Receptionist

Township of Selwyn

Cc: Minister of the Environment Conservation and Parks

MPP Dave Smith
City of Peterborough
Peterborough County

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Ontario Municipalities** 

Mailing Address PO Box 270 Bridgenorth Ontario KOL 1H0

Tel: 705 292 9507 Fax: 705 292 8964



# OTTAWA VALLEY AFFORDABLE HOUSING, Inc.

581B Eady Rd., Golden Lake, ON K0J 1X0 (613) 757-2223

Board of Directors: Ish Theilheimer, Chair; Brian Abdallah, Vice-Chair; Maria Robinson, Treasurer; Leigh Sweeney, Secretary; Cameron Montgomery, Patrick Renshaw, Ankit Vyas

November 19, 2025

Mayor Jennifer Murphy, Council and Staff Township of Bonnechere Valley Sent via email c/o Christine Gilchrist, CAO

### Dear Mayor, Council, and Staff:

I'm writing to introduce our new organization and offer help to provide affordable housing in your community. We believe we can help you make a difference.

Ottawa Valley Affordable Housing Inc. is a non-for-profit corporation launched in June, 2025, following on the work since 2022 of our precessor committee, the Affordable Housing Alliance of the Ottawa Valley (AHAOV). We have applied for charitable status. Our mandate is to develop affordable housing in the area both in partnerships with municipalities and non-profits and on our own, as appropriate. We think we can make a big difference.

The reason for our confidence is our partnership with Anhart Community Housing. Anhart is a non-profit based in Vancouver with a long history of developing affordable housing in Canadian and international communities. They have dedicated design, finance, legal, and developmental staff and a clear-cut method for developing projects quickly. Already, in partnership with OVAH, Anhart is currently working with proposals for affordable housing in Barry's Bay, Golden Lake, Eganville, Pembroke and Cobden.

..../2

A key to Anhart's approach is called **impact financing**. The gist of this is to bypass the usual obstacles of obtaining government funding for affordable housing. Instead, they focus on raising 20 percent of project costs privately at the outset through low-interest loans from ethically-motivated high-net-worth Canadian investors. Anhart has found that with a sound business plan and impact financing, their projects can raise the remainder of development costs from credit unions, banks, government and other sources. Anhart has had considerable positive experience helping to raise impact financing for the projects it helps communities launch. The great advantage of Anhart's approach is that it is not dependent on funding federal or provincial sources, so the uncertainty and lengthy waiting periods associated with applying for funding is greatly reduced.

We strongly urge you to work with us to develop housing. Although government funding is not the centrepiece of Anhart's approach, there is real opportunity in new federal funding that is being rolled out, so it is a very good time to get involved.

The most important things your municipality can contribute are

- surplus property or buildings, hopefully with water and sewage services, and
- a willingness to establish policies to encourage affordable housing.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss possibilities and opportutnities. Please let us know if we can discuss these matters with staff or Council.

Thanks very much for your attention.

Toh Theilheimen

Ish Theilheimer

Chairperson, OVAH

## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa



#### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

#### RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Resolution # RC25195	Meeting Order: 7
Moved by:	Seconded by:  Matter M

WHEREAS The Government of Ontario has passed Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, aiming to facilitate and accelerate resource development in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 presents far-reaching implications for municipalities, First Nations, and Indigenous communities across Northern Ontario—particularly affecting natural ecosystems and regions where women, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people have historically borne the brunt of unchecked development and continue to face systemic disparities and heightened risks tied to resource extraction; and

WHEREAS Women are too often included in economic and development decisions as an afterthought, rather than as proactive and central stakeholders, despite their increasing presence in leadership across municipalities, First Nations governments, community services, and economic development organizations; and

WHEREAS First Nations of Ontario women continue to be underrepresented at decision-making tables, despite significant leadership: as of recent reports, women hold over 35% of elected Chief positions in First Nations of Ontario, and significantly more leadership positions within community organizations, health, and education boards - positions that bring deep experience in balancing development with community well-being; and

WHEREAS The legacy of natural resource development in Northern Ontario has contributed to environmental degradation and social disruption, including clear links to the ongoing crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S); and

WHEREAS The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S) identified extractive industries as a key contributor to increased vulnerability to violence, especially in isolated development zones lacking oversight and safeguards; and

Part 2...

## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa



#### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Resource extraction has historically contributed to environmental degradation, increased cost-of-living, housing instability, and elevated levels of gender-based violence, particularly in rural and remote areas; and

WHEREAS Without gender-based and culturally informed planning, development under Bill 5 risks reproducing the same harmful patterns of exclusion, exploitation, and environmental harm that have characterized previous waves of resource development; and

**WHEREAS** Development under Bill 5 also presents opportunities for women's economic empowerment—including entry into skilled trades, environmental monitoring, and leadership roles in infrastructure and project planning—if such pathways are made intentional, accessible, and equitable; and

WHEREAS Environmental degradation is directly linked to the health and well-being of women and children, particularly in remote and Indigenous communities where access to clean water, healthy food systems, and cultural practices are tied to land-based knowledge; and

WHEREAS The Province of Ontario has an obligation to ensure that economic growth is not achieved at the expense of women's safety, human rights, or environmental integrity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa calls on the Province of Ontario to:

- 1. Ensure that women, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people—particularly from Indigenous and Northern communities—are actively engaged at the forefront of all planning, consultation, and implementation processes under Bill 5, from concept to completion;
- 2. Establish a dedicated Ministerial role or mandate for overseeing and safeguarding women's rights, safety, and economic opportunity throughout the resource development process, including authority to apply gender-based impact assessments to proposed projects;
- 3. Mandate gender-based and intersectional impact assessments be carried out on all developments enabled by Bill 5, particularly with regard to safety, housing, transportation, healthcare access, and cultural impacts on women and girls;

Part 3...

## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa



#### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

#### RESOLUTION

- 4. Ensure environmental protections are explicitly tied to community health outcomes, especially for women and children, by investing in environmental monitoring and enforcing strong environmental safeguards tied to traditional ecological knowledge and include community-led, land-based health indicators;
- 5. Invest in training, apprenticeship, and leadership programs to ensure women and girls—particularly those in remote, Indigenous, and underserved communities—can access opportunities in the skilled trades, environmental sciences, project management, and public service tied to resource development;
- 6. Recognize and act on the findings of the MMIWG2S Inquiry by implementing protective measures around development zones, including funding for shelters, safe transportation, trauma-informed care, community safety initiatives, and anti-violence strategies embedded in community agreements;
- 7. Publish annual, public-facing progress reports on the gendered impacts of development under Bill 5, including employment statistics, leadership inclusion, environmental outcomes, and indicators of community safety and wellness; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** This resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation, the Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, FONOM, NOMA, as well as all Northern Ontario municipalities and First Nations governments.

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.

<ul> <li>Disclosed the pecuniary interest and g and influence.</li> </ul>	eneral name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vo	te
and imagnos.	Clerk:	
MAYOD MELANIE DILON	CLEDY MALIDY O'NELL I	

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
m.P.lin	Many CAcil

This document is available in alternate formats. Page 80 of 97

# **Legal and Legislative Services**



Amanda McNeil, Hon. B.A., M.M.St. Legislative Coordinator 905-478-4282 ext. 1256 amcneil@eastgwillimbury.ca

October 28, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL

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

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: East Gwillimbury's Opposition to the *Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act*, 2025.

For your information and records, at its meeting of Municipal Council held on October 21, 2025, the Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury enacted as follows:

WHEREAS on April 17, 2025, the Government of Ontario brought forth Bill 5: "Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy", a broad omnibus legislation that introduces sweeping changes to multiple environmental and planning statutes, including the Environmental Assessment Act, Endangered Species Act, Ontario Heritage Act, and others; and

WHEREAS this legislation was passed through the legislature in 49 days, thus limiting opportunities to provide feedback; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 received Royal Assent on June 5, 2025; and

WHEREAS the "Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy" Act, 2025 enables the creation of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), which allow the provincial cabinet to exempt projects from compliance with municipal bylaws, environmental protections, and Indigenous consultation obligations; and

WHEREAS lands under protection through various provisions, such as the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Greenbelt Protected Countryside, constitute 83% of the total EG area, which makes EG relevant in environmental stewardship for the Region and the Province; and

WHEREAS the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Greenbelt Plan are foundational to protecting the ecological and hydrological integrity of the region, and the provisions in the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025 directly conflict with the objectives of these plans; and

# Legal and Legislative Services



Amanda McNeil, Hon. B.A., M.M.St. Legislative Coordinator 905-478-4282 ext. 1256 amcneil@eastgwillimbury.ca

WHEREAS in alignment with the 2022 – 2024 Strategic Plan, EG Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2023 and approved the EG's Thinking Green Environmental Strategy in 2024, highlighting EG's commitments and efforts to preserve and restore the environment as EG grows; and

WHEREAS the Town of East Gwillimbury achieved 92% of its 2024 housing target, regardless of current environmental provisions, demonstrating that promoting sustainable growth is not only responsible but necessary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council acknowledges the stated goals of economic growth and development in the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, but expresses serious concerns with the Act as it interferes with local planning, limits public consultation, is inconsistent with the principles of free, prior and informed consent in consultation processes with Indigenous communities, and weakens protections to heritage and species, and formally opposes the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025 in its current form; and

THAT Council endorses the position of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in requesting that municipalities be included in the development of any regulatory frameworks related to Special Economic Zones; and

THAT Council directs staff to submit this resolution to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs, President of the Treasury Board, and MPP for York-Simcoe
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
- Donna Big Canoe, Chief of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation
- Abram Benedict, Ontario Regional Chief (ORC) for the Chiefs of Ontario;
   and

THAT Council encourages residents to contact their MPPs to express concerns about the impacts of the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, on local governance, environmental protection, and Indigenous rights..

# **Legal and Legislative Services**



Amanda McNeil, Hon. B.A., M.M.St. Legislative Coordinator 905-478-4282 ext. 1256 amcneil@eastgwillimbury.ca

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Amanda McNeil, Hon. B.A., M.M.St. Legislative Coordinator

CC:

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs, President of the
Treasury Board, and MPP for York—Simcoe
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities
The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
Donna Big Canoe, Chief of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation
Abram Benedict, Ontario Regional Chief (ORC) for the Chiefs of Ontario

## **BMO Closing Report**

Prepared by: Annette Gilchrist, CAO

Prepared for: Committee Meeting

December 2, 2025

## Direction to staff needed on how to proceed.

### Background:

Attached is the information received from the Bank of Montreal after 127 years of operations in the Village of Eganville.

They have offered to meet this week to have a preliminary discussion with the Township so that we can best inform and support our residents through this change.

They are not holding a closure meeting but are having an informal drop-in session for questions as indicated in the attached.

The Township asked if they would attend a town hall if we organized it.

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's (FCAC) Commissioner may require the bank to hold a meeting. The meeting would be about the proposed closure or cessation of certain activities how to contact them and FCAC about the proposed closure Meeting about a branch closure FCAC's Commissioner will hold a meeting about the proposed branch closure if:

someone locally affected by the closure writes to FCAC asking for such a meeting the bank failed to properly consult the community about the closure. A meeting is not required if the branch that is closing:

is sold to another retail deposit-taking bank, but will continue to operate as a branch moves to a new location that is less than 500 metres away closes temporarily due to events beyond its control. For example due to a natural disaster like a flood or a pandemic Questions to ask your bank when your branch closes If you have concerns about your branch closing, discuss them with your bank.

The Township could make this request to the FCAC. It must be submitted 6 weeks in advance of the event. We could also reach out to advocacy groups such as ConnectWell, Senior Needs Association, Employment Services, Food Bank, Community Housing, the Library, the Legion and many others as the impact to our communities most vulnerable is of utmost importance.

Some of the questions we have for the bank include:

Will they waive fees or make arrangements with another financial institution for customers for services that will no longer be provided in Eganville such as ATM (automated teller) machine without charges or to make night deposits or safety deposit boxes. Are ATM, night deposit or safety deposit boxes some basic services that can continue at this location or a similar one in Eganville?

Will they waive fees for cheque scanners for local businesses so that we don't have to travel to Pembroke on a regular basis only when we have cash?

Will they extend hours at the new branch (Pembroke which is 40 minutes away) to allow for travel time for rural customers?

Will they give customers a free of charge credit reference if they decide to switch to another financial institution?

Will they pay for the costs associated with changing to a new bank if the Pembroke Branch is too far? For example, to order new cheques, move safety deposit boxes, change direct debits?

Will they have staff available additional hours to help customers find alternative services to meet their banking needs?

Will they give the Township first option on the building before they put it up for sale? If we agree to rent out space for safety deposit boxes and ATM machine will they accept that? There could be avenues such as CIP or County of Renfrew HYPE program for building improvements.

As our community goes through the grieving process, after 127 years of supporting the Bank of Montreal, will this large bank now offer support to our small urban and rural community as a thank you for all the years of business and if so how?



# Your BMO Bank of Montreal branch is closing.

Dear Client,

We are writing to let you know that your Eganville Branch at 266 Bridge Street, Eganville, ON, KOJ 1TO will be closing. We want to share details about this change and to help you prepare for the branch closure and the transfer of your account(s) to your new branch.

We are committed to making this move as easy as possible for you and ensure that you continue to receive the same great BMO service you have always received. Here is what you can expect:

- On June 19, 2026 beginning at 5:00pm., the Eganville Branch will close. Your Pembroke Main Branch located at 41 Pembroke Street W, Pembroke, ON, K8A 5M5 is already open, and you can begin using it at any time. Business hours are highlighted on the right. At this location, you will enjoy the same great service BMO has to offer, and, of course, you can continue to bank at any BMO branch you choose.
- All your bank accounts, loans and investments will be automatically transferred to the new branch. This includes lines of credit, mortgages, guaranteed investment certificates and registered retirement products.
- Your account numbers and cheques will remain unchanged. You can continue using the cheques you already have. The new branch information will be included on your next cheque order.
- Any direct deposits or pre-authorized payments will continue without interruption.
- For our senior customers, more information on available banking products and services can be found at https://www.bmo.com/main/personal/ seniors-banking/
- We are unable to move Safety Deposit Boxes to our new location. If you
  currently have a safety deposit box, please visit the Eganville Branch to
  close it by May 15, 2026. Our branch team can discuss your safe keeping
  requirements and how we can assist with the opening of a new safety
  deposit box at an alternate BMO branch.

For your reference, we have enclosed some regulatory information related to branch moves and closures. For more information about these requirements, please call the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada at 1-866-461-FCAC(3222).

Your information will be moved to the following BMO branch on June 19, 2026 where you can continue to enjoy full-service banking:

Pembroke Main Branch 41 Pembroke St, W Pembroke, ON K8A 5M5

613-735-5040

Hours of operation are:

Mon: 9:30a.m to 5:00p.m Tue: 9:30a.m to 5:00p.m

Wed: 9:30a.m to 5:00p.m Thu: 9:30a.m to 5:00p.m

Fri: 9:30a.m to 5:00p.m

Please note, if you or another member of your household have multiple accounts with us, you may receive more than one letter.

Continued



Thank you for banking with us. We value your business and we're here to help make this transition as easy for you as possible. If you have any questions, please call us or come see us at your branch to speak to one of our team members.

Sincerely,

Riccardo Campagna Regional Vice President

Informal drop-in Session							
Date:	Friday January 16, 2026						
Time:	9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.						
Location:	<b>Eganville Branch</b> 266 Bridge St Eganville, ON KOJ 1TO						

# Killaloe OPP Detachment Board Report

# November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

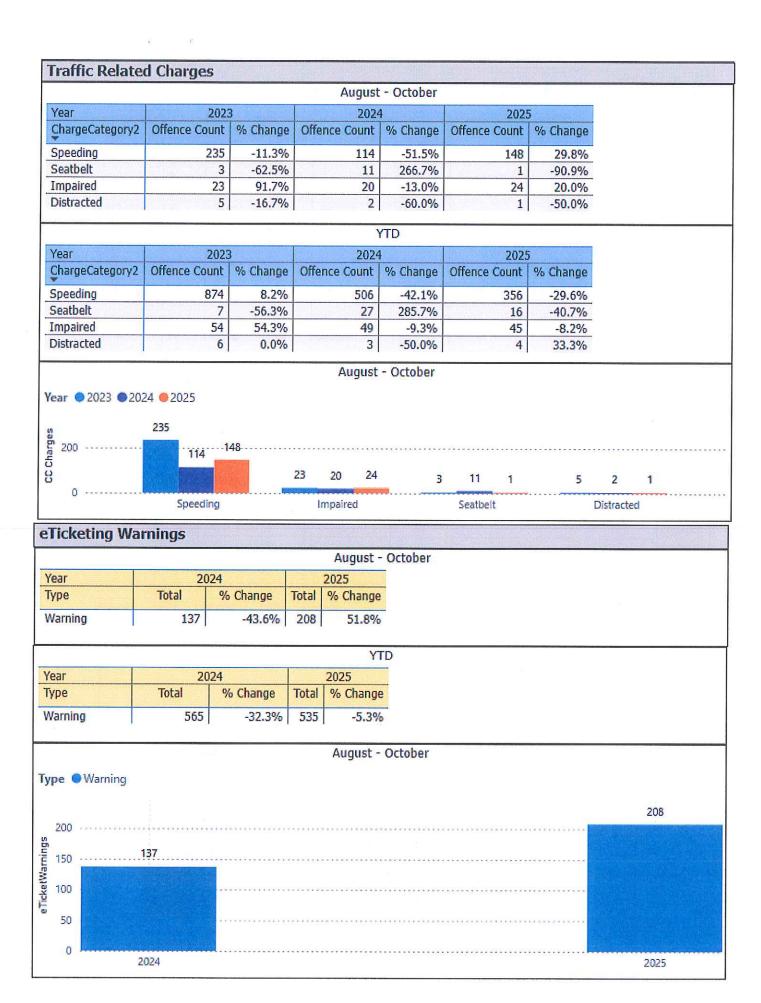


Presented By: Inspector Neufeld & S/Sgt. Darraugh



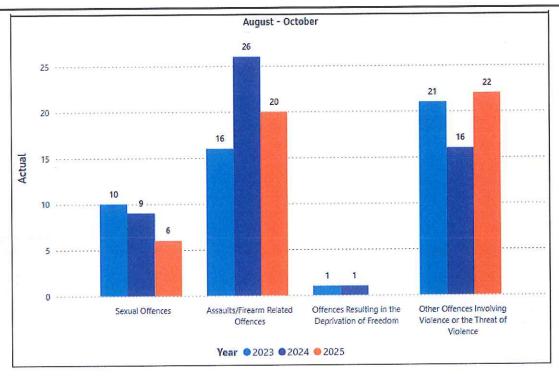
# OPP Detachment Board Report Records Management System August - October 2025

			August - Octol	per			
Year	2023	3	2024		2025	ō	
ChargeCategory1	Offence Count	% Change	Offence Count	% Change	Offence Count	% Change	
Criminal Code Non-Traffic	95	46.2%	129	35.8%	108	-16.3%	
Criminal Code Traffic	26	73.3%	23	-11.5%	29	26.1%	
Highway Traffic Act	354	-4.6%	198	-44.1%	216	9.1%	
Liquor Licence Act	18	200.0%	7	-61.1%	20	185.7%	
Other Violations	41	78.3%	43	4.9%	31	-27.9%	
Total	534	11.3%	400	-25.1%	404	1.0%	
			YTD				
Year	2023	}	2024		2025	5	
ChargeCategory1	Offence Count	% Change	Offence Count	% Change	Offence Count	% Change	
Criminal Code Non-Traffic	312	6.1%	453	45.2%	347	-23.4%	
Criminal Code Traffic	69	30.2%	. 62	-10.1%	60	-3.2%	
Highway Traffic Act	1,188	10.0%	749	-37.0%	572	-23.6%	
Liquor Licence Act	30	100.0%	19	-36.7%	31	63.2%	
Other Violations	189	133.3%	117	-38.1%	82	-29.9%	
Total	1,788	17.4%	1,400	-21.7%	1,092	-22.0%	
Control of the Contro			August - Octol	per			
/ear ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 20	25						
400		***********		*******	*************	************	
y 60 CD	8 216						
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5 200 ······		129 108					
4	95	129 108	41 43	31	26 23 29	18 7	20



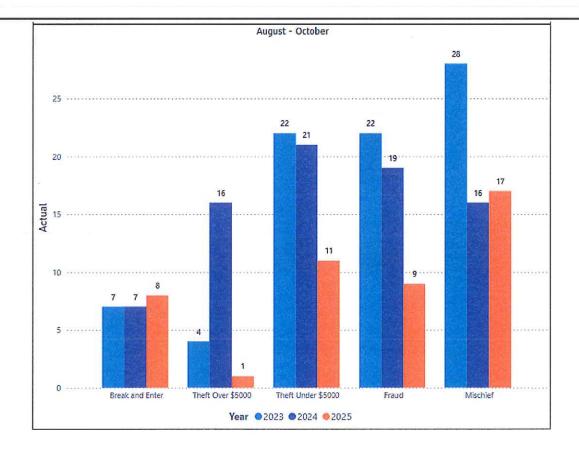
Violent Crime						
	Aug	ust-October				
Year		2023		2024		2025
ViolationGrp	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change
Homicides	0		0		0	
Other Offences Causing Death	0		0		0	
Attempted Murder	0		0		0	
Sexual Offences	10	233.3%	9	-10.0%	6	-33.3%
Assaults/Firearm Related Offences	16	14.3%	26	62.5%	20	-23.1%
Offences Resulting in the Deprivation of Freedom	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	-100.0%
Robbery	0		0		0	
Other Offences Involving Violence or the Threat of Violence	21	90.9%	16	-23.8%	22	37.5%
Offences in Relation to Sexual Services	0		0		0	
Total	48	65.5%	52	8.3%	48	-7.7%

		YTD				
Year ViolationGrp		2023		2024	2025	
	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change
Homicides	1		0	-100.0%	0	
Other Offences Causing Death	0	-	0	<u>-2</u>	0	-
Attempted Murder	0		0		1	
Sexual Offences	18	-14.3%	33	83.3%	19	-42.4%
Assaults/Firearm Related Offences	47	2.2%	74	57.4%	60	-18.9%
Offences Resulting in the Deprivation of Freedom	2	100.0%	5	150.0%	6	20.0%
Robbery	0	-	0	-	0	
Other Offences Involving Violence or the Threat of Violence	46	17.9%	42	-8.7%	52	23.8%
Offences in Relation to Sexual Services	0		0		0	
Total	114	6.5%	154	35.1%	138	-10.4%



Property Crime		Property Crime										
		August -	Octobe	ſ								
Year	2	023		2024		2025						
ViolationGrp	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change						
Arson	0		0		0							
Break and Enter	7	0.0%	7	0.0%	8	14.3%						
Theft Over \$5000	4	-20.0%	16	300.0%	1	-93.8%						
Theft Under \$5000	22	-18.5%	21	-4.5%	11	-47.6%						
Possession/Trafficking Stolen Goods	0		0		0							
Fraud	22	-12.0%	19	-13.6%	9	-52.6%						
Mischief	28	21.7%	16	-42.9%	17	6.3%						
Total	83	-4.6%	79	-4.8%	46	-41.8%						

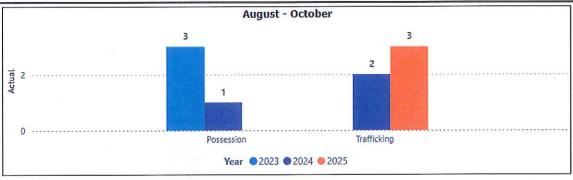
	YID						
Year ViolationGrp	2	2023		2024	2025		
	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	
Arson	0		0		0		
Break and Enter	21	10.5%	22	4.8%	16	-27.3%	
Theft Over \$5000	12	-14.3%	27	125.0%	11	-59.3%	
Theft Under \$5000	58	-3.3%	55	-5.2%	43	-21.8%	
Possession/Trafficking Stolen Goods	2	-33.3%	1	-50.0%	1	0.0%	
Fraud	65	-7.1%	52	-20.0%	39	-25.0%	
Mischief	68	28.3%	56	-17.6%	38	-32.1%	
Total	226	3.2%	213	-5.8%	148	-30.5%	



# **Drug Crime**

	August - October						
Year ViolationGrp		2023		2024	2025		
	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	
Possession	3	••	1	-66.7%	0	-100.0%	
Trafficking	0	-	2		3	50.0%	
Importation & Production	0	22	0		0		
Cannabis Possession	0		0	-	0	2 100 100 2	
Cannabis Distribution	0	1	0		0		
Cannabis Sale	0		0	-	0	<u>                                     </u>	
Cannabis Importation & Exportation	0		0		0		
Cannabis Production	0		0	PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	0	-	
Other Cannabis Violations	0		0		0		
Total	3		3	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Year ViolationGrp	2	2023		2024	2025		
	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	
Possession	7	250.0%	4	-42.9%	2	-50.0%	
Trafficking	6		3	-50.0%	4	33.3%	
Importation & Production	0		0		0		
Cannabis Possession	2		1	-50.0%	0	-100.0%	
Cannabis Distribution	0		0		0		
Cannabis Sale	0		0		0	-	
Cannabis Importation & Exportation	0		0		0	(	
Cannabis Production	0		0	-	0		
Other Cannabis Violations	0		0		0		
Total	15	650.0%	8	-46.7%	6	-25.0%	



Top 3 Violation Types					Top 5 Violation Groups							
		August - Oct		August - October								
1	00	*********			ViolationGrp	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total		
		83	79	8"	Mischief	23	28	16	17	84		
					Theft Under \$5000	27	22	21	11	81		
Actual	50	48	52	52 46	Assaults/Firearm Related Offences	14	16	26	20	76		
ব			25	40	Fraud	25	22	19	9	75		
	29		23		Other Offences Involving	11	21	16	22	70		
	18	17		18	Violence or the Threat of							
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Violence							
	Bankan and a	- Violent · Prope	erty —— Other									

				August - O	ctober	
Year	2023			2024	2025	
Violation_rollup	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change
Other	17	-5.6%	25	47.1%	18	-28.0%
Fed Statutes	0	-100.0%	0		0	
Prov Statutes	10	-23.1%	10	0.0%	6	-40.0%
Driving Offences	12	71.4%	11	-8.3%	14	27.3%
Total	39	-9.3%	46	17.9%	38	-17.4%

			YTD						
Year		2023		2024	2025				
Violation_rollup	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change	Actual	% Change			
Other	63	8.6%	87	38.1%	84	-3.4%			
Fed Statutes	3	-40.0%	3	0.0%	2	-33.3%			
Prov Statutes	27	-10.0%	38	40.7%	18	-52.6%			
Driving Offences	32	39.1%	35	9.4%	31	-11.4%			
Total	125	7.8%	163	30.4%	135	-17.2%			

