

Memorandum

To: Mayor and Members of Chatham-Kent Council

From: Maggie Downey, Administrative Assistant

Date: June 26, 2023

Re: Council Information Package

I have attached a list of items that have come into the office that may be of interest to members of Council. Please note that in accordance with Section 6.4(d) of the Procedural By-law, **Any member of Council may raise for discussion a communication, petition or resolution that is in the Information Package during the Approval of Communication Items portion of the Council Meeting.**

1. Staff Reports and Information

- (a) Action items from the June 5, 2023 Council Meeting

2. Correspondence From

- (a) Communication from Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry received May 29, 2023 re Streamlining of Approvals under the Aggregate Resources Act and Supporting Policy
- (b) Communication from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) received June 9, 2023, re Public Consultation on the Next Edition of The Ontario Fire Code
- (c) Letter from Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) dated June 6, 2023 re Helping local small businesses affected by major construction
- (d) Communication from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks dated June 12, 2023 re Complaint received through CK Councillor
- (e) Letter from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated June 16, 2023 re Municipal Housing Pledges and Targets
- (f) Communication from the Town of Essex to Honourable Doug Ford dated June 19, 2023 re Local Emergency Response System and Gaps in Healthcare regarding Code Red and Code Black Frequency

3. Resolutions

- (a) Resolution from Prince Edward County dated May 10, 2023, re Proposed New Provincial Planning Statement
- (b) Resolution from the Municipality of South Huron dated May 30, 2023, re Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023
- (c) Resolution from Township of Ryerson dated May 30, 2023, re Water Aerodromes and Aeronautics Act
- (d) Resolution from the Regional Municipality of Waterloo dated April 24, 2023, re Protect the Privacy of Candidates and Donors
- (e) Resolution from the Municipality of Huron Shores dated June 2, 2023, re Health Care Crisis in Rural and Northern Ontario
- (f) Resolution from the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury dated June 9, 2023 re Right-to-Repair Movement
- (g) Resolution from the Town of Parry Sound dated June 6, 2023 re Additional resources to combat the opioid crisis, mental health and homelessness

	Date	ITEM	Requestor	RTC Req'd (Y or N)	Target Date
22-2023	June 5 2023	Communication Item 2(a) - Letter of support for expanding and enhancing interprofessional primary care teams	Finn/Pinsonneault	No	June 6, 2023

Item 1 a)
June 26, 2023

RE: Streamlining of Approvals under the *Aggregate Resources Act* and Supporting Policy

Greetings,

Ontario's aggregate industry plays a key role in our government's vision to Build Ontario, supporting vital development and jobs across the province. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (the ministry) is proposing changes to [Ontario Regulation 244/97](#) under the *Aggregate Resources Act* to expand the list of changes that can be made to existing pit or quarry site plans without ministry approval, called self-filing changes (subject to conditions and eligibility), as well as seeking feedback on a new policy that provides direction for making changes to licences, permits and site plans that do require ministry approval.

The ministry is proposing to expand the list of small or routine site plan changes to an existing pit or quarry that can be self-filed, provided they satisfy detailed eligibility requirements and specified conditions. If approved, five additional site plan changes will be added to the list of self-filed amendments in the regulation. These are:

- Enabling recyclable aggregate material to be imported (concrete, asphalt, bricks, glass, or ceramics) to aggregate sites
- Adding or relocating entrances or exits to aggregate sites when the operator can provide proof of the relevant road authority approval for the change
- Adding, removing or changing portable processing equipment at aggregate sites (e.g., for crushing or screening aggregate material)
- Adding, removing or changing portable concrete or asphalt plants where required for public authority projects
- Adding, removing or changing above-ground fuel storage at aggregate sites

In addition, the ministry is proposing a new policy to clarify requirements including notification requirements when amendments are proposed to existing licenses, permits, or site plans that require ministry approval. The ministry is also outlining criteria or considerations to determine whether these changes are significant or not.

Amendment requests can include changes to site plans, conditions of a licence or permit, or any other information normally included on licences, permits, or wayside permits (e.g., name of operator, address, etc.). Amendment requests can vary in type and complexity ranging from small or administrative changes to significant changes to operations and rehabilitation. Significant changes may require consultation and notification.

We invite you to review the changes and offer comments.

**Ministry of Natural Resources and
Forestry**

Resources Planning and Development
Policy Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

**Ministère des Richesses Naturelles et
des Forêts**

Direction des politiques de planification et
d'exploitation des ressources
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

A complete summary of the proposed regulatory and policy changes can be found on the Environmental Registry at the following address: www.ero.ontario.ca. Then search for notice: 019-6767.

There are several ways you can comment on this proposal, including:

1. Directly through the Environmental Registry posting (click on the "Submit a comment" button)
2. By email to aggregates@ontario.ca, or
3. By mail to:

Resources Development Section
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water Street, 2nd Floor South
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

If you have any questions, you can contact Jamie Prentice at aggregates@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes,
Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch

From: MCCSS West Region <MCCSSWestRegion@ontario.ca>
Sent: June 9, 2023 11:41 AM
To: MCCSS West Region <MCCSSWestRegion@ontario.ca>
Subject: Public Consultation on the Next Edition of The Ontario Fire Code

Public Consultation on the Next Edition of The Ontario Fire Code

On May 29, 2023, the Ministry of the Solicitor General posted a series of proposed changes to the Ontario Fire Code on the Ontario Regulatory Registry (ORR) for a 45-day public consultation period.

The ministry is seeking feedback on the proposed code changes and input on potential costs and impacts related to these proposals. The approach for the 2023 Ontario Fire Code focuses on changes that:

- Improve harmonization with the 2020 National Fire Code;
- Align with recent changes to the Ontario Building Code;
- Strengthen fire safety by addressing known fire safety risks; and
- Include administrative, consequential, and minor technical amendments.

The Government has committed to bringing into force an updated version of the Ontario Fire Code by March 2024, as part of its efforts to reduce red tape and barriers through more coordinated development of construction codes at the federal and provincial/territorial levels.

Stakeholders are encouraged to participate in this important public consultation and help shape the next edition of the Ontario Fire Code.

Consultation publique concernant la prochaine édition du Code de prévention des incendies de l'Ontario

Le 29 mai 2023, le ministère du Solliciteur général a publié une série de modifications proposées au Code de prévention des incendies de l'Ontario dans le Registre réglementaire de l'Ontario (RRO) pour une période de consultation publique de 45 jours.

Le ministère souhaite obtenir des commentaires sur les modifications proposées au code et sur les coûts et impacts potentiels liés à ces propositions. L'approche adoptée pour le Code de prévention des incendies de l'Ontario 2023 met l'accent sur les modifications visant à:

- Améliorer l'harmonisation avec le Code national de prévention des incendies de 2020;
- S'aligner sur les récentes modifications apportées au Code du bâtiment de l'Ontario;
- Renforcer la sécurité incendie en répondant aux risques reconnus en matière de sécurité incendie; et
- Inclure des modifications administratives, corrélatives et des amendements techniques mineurs.

Le gouvernement s'est engagé à faire entrer en vigueur une version actualisée du Code de prévention des incendies de l'Ontario pour mars 2024, dans le cadre de ses efforts pour réduire les formalités administratives et les obstacles grâce à une meilleure coordination de l'élaboration des codes de construction aux niveaux fédéral et provincial/territorial.

Les intervenants sont encouragés à participer à cette importante consultation publique et à contribuer à l'élaboration de la prochaine édition du Code de prévention des incendies de l'Ontario.

Loveleen Gill on behalf of:

Diane Gammon, (A) Regional Director, West Region
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

June 6, 2023

His Worship Darrin Cannif, Mayor of Chatham-Kent
& Municipal Council Members
315 King St W.
Chatham, Ontario
N7M 5K8

Subject: Helping local small businesses affected by major construction

Dear Sir:

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) is Canada's largest association of small- and medium-sized businesses with 97,000 members in all sectors and parts of the country, including 38,000 in Ontario.

On behalf of small businesses, we are calling on all municipalities to implement a construction mitigation program for lengthy projects that cause major disruptions. This initiative should include direct funding to small businesses for income losses.

Lengthy construction projects have wreaked havoc on many of our members. Reduced accessibility has resulted in decreased foot traffic, leading to lower sales and forcing some businesses to close.

Small businesses are willing to put up with some frustration to reap the rewards of improved transportation. The problem is that they must somehow manage to survive until the project reaches the finish line. The glossy project images never show the mess businesses are forced to go through to get there.

According to a report we published in 2018,¹ 41% of Canadian small- and medium-sized businesses were disrupted by local construction projects between 2012 and 2017. In that time, nearly 65,000 businesses were significantly affected by construction, forcing business owners to take out loans, relocate, or even close their doors. Over two-thirds (69%) of survey respondents indicated that their local government

¹CFIB, Paving a Smoother Road: Helping Small Businesses Survive Infrastructure Work, May 2018: <https://20336445.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/20336445/research/report-paving-a-smoother-road-construction-mitigation-policy.pdf>

should adopt a comprehensive construction mitigation program, including compensation for business losses.

In 2018, Montréal became the first municipality in Canada to launch such a program permanently, offering up to \$40,000 in financial assistance to eligible businesses. Montréal recently announced that in addition to the up to \$40,000 per year based on income losses already provided, the city will also offer a \$5,000 grant to businesses with construction disruptions lasting six months or longer. The money will be available from the start of a project without any lost income strings attached.

We encourage you to visit the [City of Montréal's website](#) for further information and to contact us through Riley Locke (riley.locke@cfib.ca) to discuss a similar program for your municipality. In addition, we would be happy to connect you to bilingual contacts at the City of Montréal who can answer questions and help guide you through the implementation of a successful construction mitigation program.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Julie Kwiecinski
Director of Provincial Affairs (Ontario)

Original signed by

Riley Locke
Policy Analyst (Ontario)

Cc: Municipal Clerk

From: Jacobs, Deb (MECP) <deb.jacobs@ontario.ca>
Sent: June 12, 2023 2:58 PM
To: Michael Duben <Michael.Duben@chatham-kent.ca>
Cc: Wilson, Marcelina (MECP) <Marcelina.Wilson@ontario.ca>
Subject: Complaint received through CK Councillor

Dear Michael Duben,

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) was recently referred a complaint that was originally received by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) from one of Chatham-Kent's Councillors, Rhonda Jubenville. It was determined that the subject matter involved relates to matters under MECP jurisdiction.

The complaint was related to the operation and effects of the spray field used by the Conagra plant in Dresden to pre-treat their tomato wastewater during their fresh pack season, which usually runs from August -October each year. The OMAFRA reports reads: "...The caller is a Councillor that is reporting on behalf of numerous residents complaining of spray from the tomato waste as well as fruit flies have become a nuisance on their properties..."

Trying to follow up on second-hand reports is problematic for a variety of reasons, including that it is difficult for us to verify complainant-specific details in timing and the nature and severity of impacts. As well, knowing the number and extent of independent, first-hand complaints helps the Ministry to understand how narrow or broad the reported impacts are.

For this reason, MECP strongly encourages anyone experiencing impacts to contact the ministry directly. The ministry will review and log every complaint to determine the appropriate action to address the concerns and/or ensure compliance.

This process may include:

- gathering additional information (via phone, site visit or inspection),
- assessing information to confirm non-compliance issues or potential/actual human health and environmental impacts, and
- taking compliance actions when deemed necessary. These actions are proportionate to the risk associated with the non-compliance issue or human health and environmental impacts.

Please feel free to communicate this process to your Municipal Councillors so that they can best advise residents who may contact them.

Anyone wishing to directly report an environmental concern may contact the ministry at 519 948-1464 (Windsor Office), during working hours or 1-866-MOE-TIPS (663-8477) at any other time.

If you have any specific questions about the content of this email, please feel free to contact me (contact information below) or my supervisor, Marcelina Wilson (copied on this email).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deb Jacobs

Environmental Officer / Agente de l'environnement

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks / Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Windsor Area Office / Bureau de Secteur de Windsor

4510 Rhodes Drive, Unit (é) 620

Windsor, Ontario

N8W 5K5

Tel. / Tél.: 519-948-4148 (*no voicemail / pas de boîte vocale*)

Cell / Mobile. : 519-980-2542

Fax / Télécopier: 519-948-2396

Email / Courriel: deb.jacobs@ontario.ca

*We want to hear from you. How was my service? You can provide feedback at 1-888-745-8888 or ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback
Votre opinion nous importe. Comment avez-vous trouvé mon service? Transmettez-nous vos commentaires au 1-888-745-8888 ou à ontario.ca/retroactioninspection*

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

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



234-2023-3202

June 16, 2023

Your Worship
Mayor Darrin Canniff
Municipality of Chatham-Kent
darrin.canniff@chatham-kent.ca

Dear Mayor Canniff:

Subject: Municipal Housing Pledges and Targets

Our government is committed to bold and transformative action in order to tackle Ontario's housing supply crisis and reach our goal of building 1.5 million homes by 2031. We recognize that municipalities are critical partners in achieving this goal, and it is in that spirit that I am writing to you today.

While many municipalities have taken significant steps to increase their local housing supply, Ontario needs an unprecedented amount of new homes to meet current and anticipated demand. You may be aware that in Fall 2022, our government requested Municipal Housing Pledges for 29 of Ontario's largest and fastest-growing municipalities. To reach the goal of 1.5 million homes built by 2031, Ontario will need municipalities across the province to do their part in providing homes for future population growth.

Today, I am asking the Municipality of Chatham-Kent to demonstrate its commitment to accelerate housing supply by:

- Identifying a locally appropriate Housing Target (i.e., new housing units) to meet current and future housing needs in your municipality to 2031; and
- developing a Municipal Housing Pledge to increase and accelerate housing supply.

Municipalities are critical partners to help us get more homes built faster. Our intention in requesting a housing pledge is that it will be approved by municipal councils and help codify Council's commitment to their target. A Municipal Housing Pledge would set out a Municipal Housing target to 2031, and the strategies and actions that your municipality will take to accelerate housing development.

As the province and municipalities work together to deliver on a commitment to build 1.5 million new homes by 2031, these pledges are critical to coordinate our efforts across governments. Please see the attachment to this letter for additional information on how to develop a Municipal Housing Pledge

Our government will work with you to address potential policy and implementation barriers as you develop your pledges. I encourage you to send any questions to Andrew Carr, Team Lead, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, at Andrew.Carr@Ontario.ca. The deadline for submitting your Housing Target and Housing Pledge is December 15, 2023.

I look forward to working with you to meet our shared commitments and help build the homes Ontarians need and deserve.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

- c: The Honourable Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Housing
Ryan Amato, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Planning and Growth Division
Joshua Paul, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division
Trevor Jones, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington
The Honourable Monte McNaughton, MPP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

Info Sheet: Considerations in Developing Municipal Housing Pledge

The pledge is not intended to be a land-use planning document, and its development should not require external technical expertise. The format and language used in the pledge should be accessible to the general public. The pledge is intended to be approved by municipal councils and should help codify Council's commitment to meeting their municipal housing target.

Municipalities can leverage new and existing policy tools as they develop housing pledges and work towards their housing targets.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of potential strategies and actions that municipalities may include in developing their housing pledges. There may be additional opportunities based on local circumstances and the Province is interested in hearing about those ideas and creative solutions.

- Strategies to encourage and promote gentle intensification to enable and expedite additional residential units in existing residential areas
- Outline ways in which funding under provincial programs, such as the Streamline Development Approval Fund (SDAF) or Municipal Modernization Program (MMP), has been used to streamline existing municipal development approval processes
- Information on municipal development approval timelines and whether municipalities are being appealed for non-decisions
- Identify potential measures where current lack of infrastructure capacity (e.g., water/wastewater servicing) may limit future housing development
- Strategies to use municipal surplus lands
- Commitment to plan for, fund, and approve (where applicable) specific critical municipal infrastructure to support growth and new housing (e.g., water, wastewater, transit etc.), which may include expanded capacity as well as fully new facilities/assets
- Priorities for strategic and site-specific planning decisions to expedite housing in priority areas (e.g., around transit stations and in transit-serviced areas)
- Update zoning by-laws to permit a greater range of housing to be built without the need for costly and lengthy rezoning applications
- Municipalities may also consider existing tools such as the Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator, [Community Planning Permit System](#), Major Transit Station Areas, and Protected Major Transit Station Areas.

Below are some of the potential components of a municipal housing pledge. Municipalities are free to choose, alter, or add any new components that seem reasonable. Pledges can be represented in the form of plain text, tables, charts, maps, or a combination of them.

- Municipal Housing Target
- Planned and proposed Municipal Initiatives
- Initiative Owner and Additional Stakeholders
- Context and Description of How Initiative Accelerates Housing
- Number of units per initiative and housing type
- Considerations (Barriers, Implementation, Risks, etc.)
- Potential Mitigation Strategies and Proposal to Accelerate Housing
- Potential Reporting and Monitoring Measures

Municipal housing pledges are intended to be public documents and it's anticipated that municipalities will post them online.

Municipalities can contact Ministry staff with any questions and for clarification.



CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

p: 519.776.7336 f: 519.776.8811 | essex.ca

Honourable Doug Ford

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

June 19, 2023

BY EMAIL

RE: Local Emergency Response System and Gaps in Healthcare regarding Code Red and Code Black Frequency

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

Further to Town of Essex resolution number **R23-05-203** passed on May 15, 2023, we enclose a letter from Town of Essex Mayor Sherry Bondy for your review and consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jmall", written in a cursive style.

Joseph Malandrucolo

Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandrucolo@essex.ca

encl.

c.c. Mary Birch, County of Essex
mbirch@countyofessex.ca

Anthony Leardi, MPP
anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org

Lisa Gretzky, MPP
lgretzky-co@ndp.on.ca

Item 2(f)
June 26, 2023



CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

p: 519.776.7336 f: 519.776.8811 | essex.ca

Andrew Dowie, MPP
andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org

Marit Stiles, MPP
Mstiles-op@ndp.on.ca

Chris Lewis, MP
chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca

All other municipalities in Ontario



CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

p: 519.776.7336 f: 519.776.8811 | essex.ca

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

The Town of Essex Council hereby appeals to the province of Ontario to acknowledge the challenges faced by our local emergency response system and take decisive action to resolve the gaps in our healthcare. While we recognize that our situation is not unique, we believe that it is essential to draw attention to our persistent Code Red and Code Black conditions, which are primarily caused by an insufficient number of hospital beds, medical personnel, and resources.

Windsor and Essex County residents ought to have confidence that when they dial 911 it will elicit a prompt ambulance response for emergency situations. Local healthcare providers are engaging various initiatives such as a paramedic offload program, offload to the waiting room for assessment and triage of less severe medical matters, diversion to another hospital for low acuity cases, and the Essex-Windsor EMS paramedic patient navigator to monitor and manage dispatch. Nevertheless, these initiatives alone have been unable to curb the escalation of Code Red and Code Black frequency, signifying few or no ambulances available for emergencies.

In the year 2021, Windsor-Essex experienced a cumulative of 3253 minutes in Code Red and 791 minutes in Code Black. In 2022, the period subjected to Code Red increased significantly to 8086 minutes, whereas Code Black saw 2257 minutes. In March 2023, just three months into the year, the community has clocked 864 Code Red minutes already plus another 2257 Code Black minutes.

We implore the authorities to apply an immediate and comprehensive review of our hospital offload delays and staffing crisis in our front line. Ambulance offload processes and hospital volumes are merely two contributing factors, if nothing tangible is done, local families risk experiencing catastrophic consequences. Our former Warden, McNamara, declared an emergency on ambulance unavailability in October 2022 linked to hospital admission delays; to date, this emergency situation still holds with no decrease in Code Reds and Code Blacks.

We require a holistic solution to address our hospital deficiencies and healthcare shortcomings on an underlying basis. In addition, the Town of Essex Council request that the province of Ontario conduct a review of projected population growth and aging in Windsor – Essex and increase health care capacity to match our present and future needs.



CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

p: 519.776.7336 f: 519.776.8811 | essex.ca

Therefore, the Town of Essex Council requests that the province of Ontario recognize the dangerous strain facing our local emergency response infrastructure and urgently work to address these gaps in our healthcare system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherry Bondy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherry Bondy

Mayor

Town of Essex

May 10, 2023

Please be advised that during the Regular Council meeting of May 9, 2023 the following resolution regarding the proposed new Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-293

DATE: **May 9, 2023**

MOVED BY: **Councillor Hirsch**

SECONDED BY: **Councillor MacNaughton**

WHEREAS the goal of increasing housing supply and reducing barriers in planning processes as set out in the recent legislative, regulatory and policy changes, including new provisions from Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 is welcomed;

WHEREAS the proposed PPS (sections 2.6 and 4.3) would dramatically remove municipal power and renders aspects of the County's Official Plan, and other official plans throughout Ontario inoperative, terminating some local planning autonomy, and directly interfering with municipalities' ability to meet local variation and unique community needs;

WHEREAS the proposed PPS changes that would allow proliferation of lots with protection restricted to specialty crop areas only diminishes the purpose, uses, and integrity of rural and agricultural lands, thereby removing protection and restricting future uses of those lands;

WHEREAS the proposed PPS changes encourage sprawl and rural roadway strip development, rather than more fiscally and environmentally sustainable practices like intensification in established settlement areas; and

WHEREAS the province has announced changes will be proposed to natural heritage (section 4.1) that have yet to be published;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward urges the province to:

- pause proposed changes to the PPS, particularly regarding natural heritage (section 4.1) and agricultural lands (sections 2.6 and 4.3)

- reinvest trust in the local planning authority of all 444 municipalities, recognizing that each Ontario municipality has unique landscapes, different housing needs and differing visions for local planning matters;

THAT our fellow municipalities be urged to voice their concerns regarding the proposed undermining of local planning authority;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to all 444 municipalities, The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Hon. Lisa Thompson, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, The Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Bay of Quinte MPP, Todd Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Ferguson, Councillor Hirsch, Councillor MacNaughton & Marcia Wallace, CAO





CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

May 30, 2023

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Re: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023

Please be advised that at their Regular Council Meeting of May 15, 2023, South Huron Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution 211-2023

Moved: A. Neeb

Seconded: T. Oke

That South Huron Council receives the report of Craig Metzger, Senior Planner regarding the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 and Bill 97 Changes to the Planning Act; and

That South Huron Council directs staff to submit comments to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 as outlined in the report.

Carried (5-0)

Enclosed please find Planner Metzger's report dated May 10, 2023 which provides staff comments in relation to the proposed changes to the Provincial Planning Statement including agricultural lot severances, settlement area expansions, employment areas and employment land conversions, growth targets, and natural heritage.

Respectfully,

Alex Wolfe, Deputy Clerk
Municipality of South Huron
awolfe@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 ext 224

Item 3(b)
June 26, 2023

Encl. Report of Craig Metzger, Senior Planner – Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 and Bill 97 Changes to the Planning Act – dated May 10, 2023

Cc: Association of Municipalities Ontario, Lisa Thompson, MPP, Ontario Municipalities, Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Acting CAO/Clerk, Mike Rolph, Director of Planning and Building/CBO, Craig Metzger, Senior Planner, Vanessa Culbert, Planning Coordinator

CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF HURON

Planning and Development Department

To: Mayor and Members of South Huron Council
From: Craig Metzger, Senior Planner
Date: May 10, 2023
Subject: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 and Bill 97 Changes to the Planning Act

RECOMMENDATION

That South Huron Council receives the report of Craig Metzger, Senior Planner regarding the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 and Bill 97 Changes to the Planning Act; and

That South Huron Council directs staff to submit comments to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 as outlined in the report.

BACKGROUND

On April 6, 2023, the Province released a proposed Provincial Planning Statement (PPS), 2023. This new document integrates the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 with A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe to create a single, province-wide, housing focused land use planning policy document. On the same day, the Province also introduced Bill 97, the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act which received first reading. It proposes a series of legislative amendments to several Acts, including amendments to the Planning Act. These changes are part of the Province's Housing Supply Action Plan with the goal of achieving the construction of 1.5 million new homes across Ontario by 2031.

The Provincial Planning Statement is posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario for a 60 day commenting period until June 5, 2023 and Bill 97 is posted for comment until May 6, 2023.

COMMENTS

The following is an overview and comments on the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023 and the changes to the Planning Act under Bill 97 that are relevant to planning in South Huron.

Proposed Provincial Planning Statement (PPS), 2023

1. Agricultural Lot Severances

Proposed Changes

The most significant change for South Huron proposed under the new PPS 2023 is new policies for residential lot creation in prime agricultural areas. The current Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 discourages residential lot creation in prime agricultural areas, with the exception of surplus farm residence severances. The changes would allow additional permanent residences and the severance of the additional residences, and the creation of new residential lots in the agricultural area subject to the following criteria:

4.3.2.5 Subordinate to the principal dwelling, up to two additional residential units may be permitted in prime agricultural areas, provided that:

- a) any additional residential units are within, attached to, or in close proximity to the principal dwelling;
- b) any additional residential unit complies with the *minimum distance separation formulae*;

- c) any additional residential unit is compatible with, and would not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations; and
- d) appropriate *sewage and water services* will be provided.

The additional residential units may only be severed from the lot containing the principal dwelling in accordance with policy 4.3.3.1.

4.3.3.1 Residential lot creation in prime agricultural areas is only permitted in accordance with provincial guidance for:

- a) new residential lots created from a lot or parcel of land that existed on January 1, 2023, provided that:
 - 1. agriculture is the principal use of the existing lot or parcel of land;
 - 2. the total number of lots created from a lot or parcel of land as it existed on January 1, 2023 does not exceed three;
 - 3. any residential use is compatible with, and would not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations; and
 - 4. any new lot:
 - i. is located outside of a *specialty crop area*;
 - ii. complies with the *minimum distance separation formulae*;
 - iii. will be limited to the minimum size needed to accommodate the use while still ensuring appropriate *sewage and water services*;
 - iv. has existing access on a public road, with appropriate frontage for ingress and egress; and
 - v. is adjacent to existing non-agricultural land uses or consists primarily of lower-priority agricultural lands.
- b) a residence surplus to an agricultural operation as a result of farm consolidation (subject to criteria that remain essentially unchanged including the prohibition of a residence being constructed on the retained farm parcel).

Examples of a specialty crop area include: Holland Marsh, Niagara Peninsula (tender fruit and grapes), Thedford Marsh, and Grey County's apple growing area.

It should be noted that the new PPS also states that Official Plans and Zoning By-laws cannot contain provisions that are more restrictive than those found in 4.3.3.1 (a) except to address public health or safety concerns. This prohibition does not apply to surplus residence severances.

Staff Comments

Residential lot creation in prime agricultural areas has been discouraged since the Countryside Planning/Foodland Guidelines were issued by the Province of Ontario in the 1970s. The purpose of this provincial-wide planning document was to ensure the protection of prime agricultural land for food production.

South Huron is a prime agricultural area and agriculture is extremely important to the economy and the production of food. For over 40 years, South Huron and its former municipalities have had strong Official Plan policies protecting this agricultural resource and directing non-agricultural related development to settlement areas. Staff and Council recognize the need for housing in the agricultural area and have allowed for on-farm housing for farm labour. The Province's proposal to allow for scattered residential development through lot creation does not further the interests of the agricultural industry.

The opening up of scattered residential lot creation in our prime agricultural area may:

- increase conflict with modern farming practices,
- increase MDS restrictions on the placement of new barns;

- reduce the number of units being built in settlement areas where municipalities have invested substantial funds on services (hard and soft),
- result in lost opportunities for infrastructure efficiency in settlement areas;
- increase the demand on municipalities to provide enhanced rural services (e.g. more frequent snow plowing, road maintenance, garbage collection, emergency services, etc.); and
- ring serviced settlement areas with unserviced residential development making it more difficult and costly for future settlement area expansions and extension of services.

It is requested the Province provide clarification on the criteria in the policies for creating new residential lots; for example: what is considered to be adjacent to a non-agricultural use and what are lower-priority agricultural lands. It is unclear if this is limited to adjacent to Settlement Areas, Recreational uses and Institutional uses, or does it open it up for new residential lots next to all existing residences including farm residences and those that have been severed as surplus. And further, does this also allow residential lot creation on any area that a farm considers lower priority or inconvenient to farm rather than just areas with lower capability soils. Clarification is also requested on the criteria that requires an existing access on a public road and whether that access must exist or can it be obtained as part of the severance process. This clarification would help to determine the number of new residential lots that could be eligible to be severed in South Huron (and across Huron County) and the effect of the policy on the agricultural industry.

If the Province’s intention is to permit 3 residential lots from every farm parcel, this has the potential to result in thousands of non-farm related lots in the agricultural area across the County. The Province should reconsider this substantial policy direction change and the long term effects it will have on the protection of prime agricultural lands and on maintaining the ability for farmers to farm. In addition, there may be other unintended consequences such as the effect of additional residences on the potential for future aggregate extraction.

The County of Huron has completed an assessment of the impacts of the policy to determine the potential for new residential lot creation in the prime agricultural area in the County. The analysis included the number of properties zoned AG1, AG1-Special, AG2 or AG2-Special where a minimum of 25% of the property was zoned AG1. The analysis did not include parcels zoned AG3 or AG4. The results indicate that there are 8,304 parcels within these agricultural zones and with the potential for 3 new lots per parcel, the effect could be 24,912 new residential parcels in the prime agricultural area (of which 3,351 would be in South Huron). It is recognized this estimate may vary due to the impacts of Minimum Distance Separation and access permits but does still give a sense of the potential impacts of the policy change. The information is provided in the chart below.

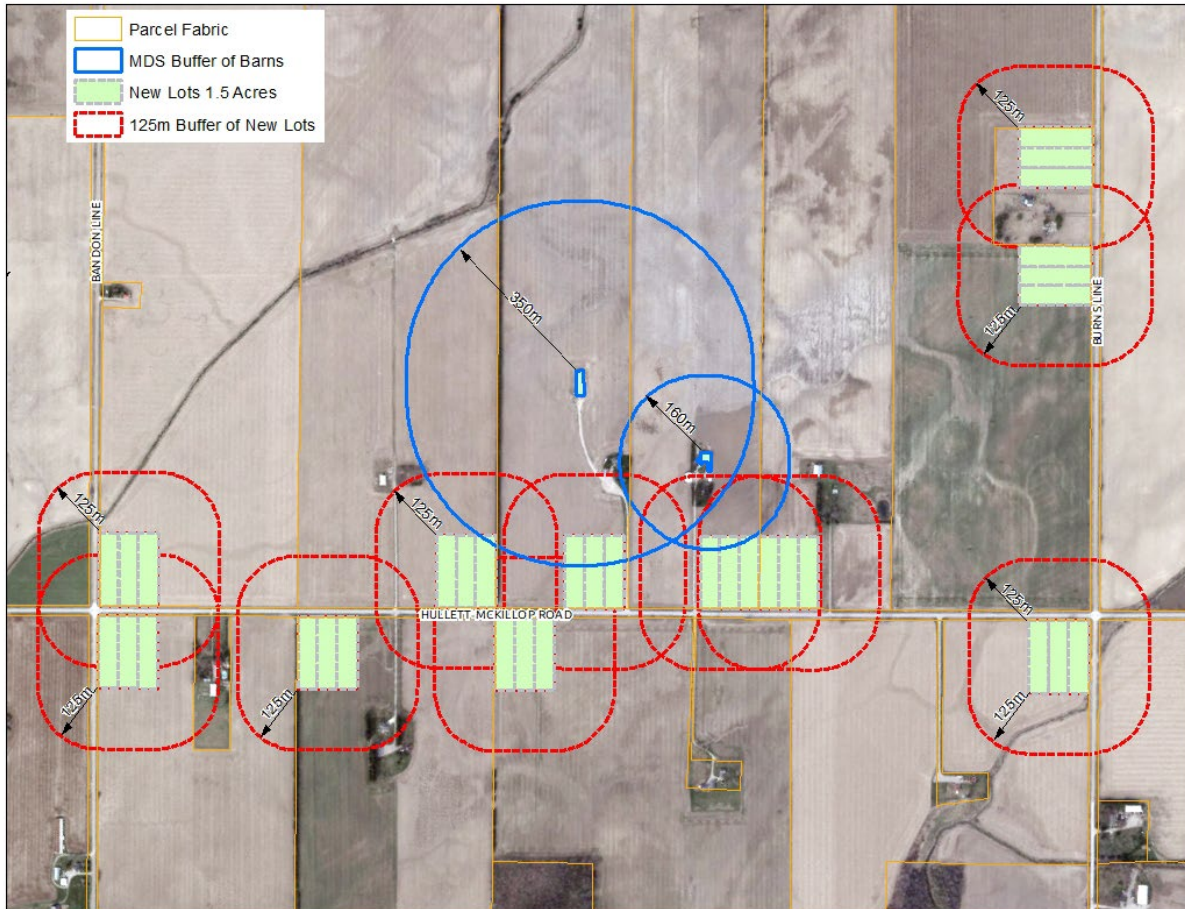
Chart 1: Assessing the Impact of Proposed Provincial Planning Statement Lot Creation Policy in Prime Agricultural Areas within Huron County

Local Municipality	Number of Parcels zoned AG1 and AG1-Special	Number of Parcels zoned AG2 and AG2-Special	Total Number of Eligible Agricultural Parcels	Potential New Lots if 3 per parcel is possible
Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh	1,367	0	1,367	4,101
Bluewater	1,027	0	1,027	3,081
Central Huron	1,105	45	1,150	3,450
Howick	622	44	666	1,998
Huron East	1,593	111	1,704	5,112
Morris-Turnberry	852	55	907	2,721
North Huron	340	26	366	1,098
South Huron	1,026	91	1,117	3,351
County of Huron	7,932	372	8,304	24,912

Note: Due to the impacts of Minimum Distance Separation and access permits, three (3) residential lots may not be possible from every identified parcel. AG2 zones typically represent retained farmland from surplus farm residence severances. In ACW & Bluewater, these lands are re-zoned to an AG1-special zone which is why no AG2 zones exist in these municipalities.

To provide a visual context, an example was mapped using one Concession Block in Huron County, including the number of potential residential lots and the increased area that would no longer be eligible for the construction of a livestock barn due to Minimum Distance Separation setback requirements to these new lots.

Image 1: Example of Potential Impact of Proposed PPS Lot Creation Policy on Rural Concession



As discussed in the next item of the report, the Province is proposing to permit Settlement boundary expansions without the requirement for a Comprehensive Review. Understanding that some agricultural land may be needed to address the demand for housing, staff are supportive of eliminating this requirement for expansions and directing development to settlement areas which is a more efficient use of agricultural land than scattered residential development throughout the countryside.

Rather than the creation of non-farm related residential lots to increase the potential for housing in the agricultural area, the Province could consider amending the policy for surplus farm residence severances that requires the retained farmlands to be rezoned to prohibit a residence. The current limitation on the retained land could be removed, allowing a residence on these farm parcels where the severance was completed a certain number of years ago – perhaps 10-15 years or longer to avoid speculation. This would allow for additional housing related to agriculture and would not result in additional severances.

2. Settlement Area Expansions

Proposed Changes

The requirement for a Comprehensive Review to identify a new settlement area or expand a settlement area boundary has been removed in the proposed PPS. With no requirement for municipal comprehensive reviews, municipalities could consider settlement area expansions at any time. The tests to be applied are not as stringent as they were, but would still require consideration of adequate servicing, phased progression of urban development, and impacts on agriculture including minimum distance separation through an Agricultural Impact Assessment. There is no limit on the ability of landowners to apply for an expansion, although the Planning Act continues to limit the ability to appeal the refusals of any such applications.

Staff Comments

As indicated above, staff are supportive of the change to streamline the process for expanding settlement areas where required based on adequate servicing (provided priority is given to expansion in fully serviced areas), logical extensions and addressing agricultural impacts. This is a more efficient use of land than scattered residential lots in the prime agricultural area. The Province only encourages municipalities to set density targets for these expanded areas, but should give consideration to stronger language to ensure efficient use of these additional development lands.

3. Employment Areas and Employment Land Conversions

Proposed Changes

The definition of 'employment areas' is proposed to be changed in both the Planning Act and the new PPS to only include areas with heavy industry, manufacturing, and large-scale warehousing. It does not include commercial, institutional, retail or office not accessory to heavier industry.

The PPS is proposing to allow the removal of lands from an employment area to permit other uses without the requirement for a Comprehensive Review. Municipalities can consider (and landowners can apply for) the removal of land from employment areas where it can be demonstrated that there is a need for the removal, the proposed uses will not negatively impact the overall viability of the employment area, and infrastructure is planned or available to accommodate the proposed use. The Planning Act continues to limit the ability to appeal refusals or non-decisions of such applications.

Staff Comments

No concerns with this proposed change as the South Huron Official Plan already limits employment areas to Industrial designations and does not include Commercial or Community Facility designated lands as employment areas.

4. Growth Targets

Proposed Changes

When updating official plans, municipalities will be required to have enough land designated for at least 25 years (a change from up to 25 years), with planning expressly allowed to extend beyond this horizon for infrastructure and employment areas.

Municipalities will no longer be required to have an intensification target but will need overall density targets.

Staff Comments

No concerns. The County of Huron is preparing updated population and housing needs projections which will assist in establishing minimum density policies.

5. Natural Heritage

Proposed Changes

There is a note in the PPS that indicates as of April 6, 2023, natural heritage policies and related definitions remain under consideration by the government. Once proposed policies and definitions are ready for review and input, they will be made available through a separate posting on the Environmental Registry of Ontario.

Staff Comments

Staff will update Council once the Natural Heritage policies are provided by the Province for review.

Bill 97 – Changes to the Planning Act

The proposed changes to the Planning Act under Bill 97 are more minor and technical in nature and include the following:

1. New Ministerial Powers

The Minister will be given the power to:

- Exempt lands that are the subject of a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) from complying with provincial policies and official plans when other planning approvals are applied for, such as plans of subdivision. This gives the Minister the ability to address circumstances where a Minister's Zoning Order permits residential uses in an area where the official plan does not.
- Make regulations regarding transition related to the applicability of a new provincial policy statement.
- Make regulations regarding the powers of municipalities to regulate demolition and conversion of residential rental properties, including to pass a by-law requiring a landowner to provide compensation.

2. New Effective date for Bill 109 Planning Fee Refunds

The effective date for planning application fee refunds for Zoning By-law and Site Plan Approval applications where no decision is made within the statutory time periods that were originally in place for applications filed on or after January 1, 2023, is proposed to be changed to July 1, 2023. If any fee refunds were owing because of applications filed and not decided on between January 1 and July 1, 2023, the refund is deemed not to have been required.

A report was provided to Council outlining process improvements to reduce the need for refunds.

3. Parking for Additional Units

Bill 23 put in place restrictions on the ability to require more than one parking space where additional residential units are permitted as of right. Bill 97 proposes to clarify that official plans and zoning by-laws can still require more than one parking space for the primary residential unit.

4. Site Plan Control for Developments of 10 or Fewer Units

Bill 23 had previously removed the authority for municipalities to require Site Plan Control for housing developments with 10 or fewer units. A new regulation has been posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario which prescribes areas where site plan control could apply to developments containing 10 or fewer residential units, specifically within 120 metres of a shoreline and within 300 metres of a railway line. This would allow South Huron to apply site plan control within these areas if issues such as drainage, servicing connections, etc. are determined to be best addressed through this process.

NEXT STEPS

The County of Huron is submitting their own separate, similar comments on the proposed Provincial Planning Statement and encourages local municipalities to also submit comments to the Province.

The next step is for Council direct staff to submit the comments from this report and any additional comments identified by Council to the Province for consideration and clarification.

OTHERS CONSULTED

Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Mike Rolph, Director of Building and Planning Services/Chief Building Official
Huron County Planning and Development staff

Craig Metzger
Senior Planner



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

Date: May 30, 2023

Resolution Number: R- 101 - 23

Moved by: Councillor Abbott

Seconded by: Councillor Patterson

WHEREAS some proponents of water aerodromes claim federal jurisdiction to bypass provincial and municipal authorities and build massive docks and boathouses under the guise of the Aeronautics Act;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada does not require proponents of water aerodromes to follow the same registration and certification procedures as land aerodromes;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada's current regulations for water aerodromes fail to state that mixed-use docks and structures are not permitted;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada does not require a proponent to be transparent with local authorities about their intentions or submit a building permit and final construction plans;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada does not require a proponent to provide the municipality with a copy of the water aerodrome registration or certification documents;

AND WHEREAS Registration and certification of water aerodromes are done without environmental impact assessments from provincial and municipal authorities;

AND WHEREAS Registration and certification of water aerodromes are done without safety assessments from local authorities;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada's loopholes in the regulations lead to lengthy court battles paid by provincial and municipal jurisdictions.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Ryerson supports efforts to raise awareness about the loopholes in current regulations regarding water aerodromes that allow proponents to build massive docks and boathouses without municipal consultation, approval, or adherence to bylaws and regulations.

AND FURTHERMORE, The Council of the Township of Ryerson endorses the letter from the Three Mile Lake Community Club Inc. and calls on Transport Canada to:

- Amend current legislation regarding water aerodromes to require mandatory consultation and transparency with provincial and municipal authorities prior to construction.

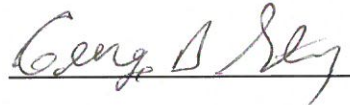
- State that 'mixed-use' docks and structures will not be permitted

AND FURTHERMORE, the Council of the Township of Ryerson urges all mentioned in this resolution to support petition e4364 to the Minister of Transport, Omar Alghabra.

Petition e-4364 - Petitions (ourcommons.ca)

AND FURTHERMORE, be it resolved that this resolution be forwarded to neighbouring municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), MP Scott Aitchison, MP Marcus Powlowski (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, Ontario), Graydon Smith MPP.

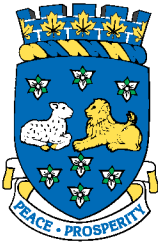
Carried Defeated



 (Chair Signature)

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by: _____

RECORDED VOTE					
Vote called by Clerk in random order, Chair to vote last					
Members of Council		Yea	Nay	Abstention	Absent
Councillors	Beverly Abbott				
	Glenn Miller				
	Delyne Patterson				
	Dan Robertson				
Mayor	George Sterling				



April 24, 2023

Area Members of Provincial Parliament
Sent via email

Dear Area Members of Provincial Parliament:

Re: Councillor J. Erb Notice of Motion

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their regular meeting held on April 19, 2023, approved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act requires all individuals wishing to be a candidate in a municipal or school board election to file Nomination Paper - Form 1 with the municipal clerk;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act requires all candidates who sought election to a municipal council or school board to file Financial Statement – Auditor’s Report Candidate – Form 4 with the municipal clerk;

AND WHEREAS Form 1 requires candidates to provide their qualifying address;

AND WHEREAS Form 4 requires candidates to list the name and home address of any donor contributing over \$100.00

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act specifies that these documents are not protected by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and requires the municipal clerk to make Form 4 available on a website;

AND WHEREAS there has been concern expressed about those who hold public office and those who support them that they have been the subject of unnecessary attention and excessive scrutiny;

AND WHEREAS the requirement to publish the personal home address of donors to specific candidates may discourage individuals from

engaging in the democratic process to elect municipal and school board politicians.

THEREFORE, BE RESOVLED THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo calls on the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Ontario to protect the privacy of candidates and donors by removing the requirement for their street name, number and postal code to be listed on publicly available forms.

AND FURTHER THAT for verification purposes, the addresses of all candidates and all donors over \$100 be submitted to the municipal clerk on separate forms that are protected by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will not be published.

AND FINALLY, that this resolution be forwarded to the Area Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, and all Ontario municipalities.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Rebekah Harris, Research/Administrative Assistant to Council, at RHarris@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519-575-4581.

Regards,



William Short

Regional Clerk/Director, Council and Administrative Services

WS/hk

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
Ontario municipalities



Municipality of Huron Shores
7 Bridge Street, PO Box 460
Iron Bridge, ON P0R 1H0
Tel: (705) 843-2033 Fax: (705) 843-2035

June 2, 2023

Re: Res. #23-12-01 – Letter to the Ontario Minister of Health re: Health Care Crisis

The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Huron Shores passed Resolution #23-12-01 at the Special Meeting held Wednesday, May 31st, 2023, as follows:

“WHEREAS the North Shore Health Network has temporarily closed the Emergency Department at the Thessalon site on May 24th, May 25th, May 29th, and May 31st, due to physician shortages;

AND WHEREAS having no primary care physicians to help service the Thessalon site and catchment area is particularly concerning;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Huron Shores authorizes Mayor Seabrook to draft a letter to the Minister of Health to address the current health care crisis occurring in rural and Northern Ontario;

AND THAT the letter be circulated to all Northern Ontario municipalities, the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health, and Northern Ontario MPP's;

AND THAT the letter be posted on the Municipal website and social media accounts.”

Should you require anything further in order to address the above-noted resolution, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Natashia Roberts

CAO/Clerk
NR/KN

Item 3(e)
June 26, 2023

Municipality of Huron Shores

7 Bridge Street, PO Box 460
Iron Bridge, ON P0R 1H0



Ontario Ministry of Health
The Honourable Sylvia Jones
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, On M7A 2J3

May 31, 2023

Minister Jones;

I am writing to you today regarding urgent and deeply-concerning challenges in medical care in the Municipality of Huron Shores and surrounding areas.

Over the past week, the Emergency Department at North Shore Health Network – Thessalon Site has been shut down four times due to a lack of available physicians. This is especially concerning as we have no primary care physicians in the four practices at two medical clinics that help service this site and catchment area. We currently rely on locum coverage.

Your Ministry recently decided to cancel the CTSLEPE funding, a key tool in attracting the locums who have helped keep our Emergency Department open for the last two years. The removal of this program, with no replacement, has made the arduous task of attracting locums even more challenging.

As well, the RNPGEA contract that our primary care physicians work under needs a major overhaul. It is no longer relevant, and acts as an impediment to attracting doctors to practice in the North, particularly in our small medical clinics that serve thousands of patients. This is as significant an issue as the discontinuation of the CTSLEPE funding. Under a different contract, the neighboring practices in Blind River have full complements, including physicians who live in our Municipality. While we appreciate efforts like adding 30 undergraduate positions at NOSM, these are potential long-term fixes that do not address the current crisis.

Municipality of Huron Shores

7 Bridge Street, PO Box 460
Iron Bridge, ON P0R 1H0



The daily closures I mentioned are not the only ones we will face at the Thessalon Site over the next few months. As you can appreciate, any Emergency Department closure puts patients at risk, particularly as the next nearest sites are significant distances away. We call on you and your government to engage with stakeholders in the North and provide the tools necessary to keep our Emergency Department open, and to attract physicians to the practices currently sitting empty.

Northern Ontario residents deserve quality local medical care.

Regards,

Matthew Seabrook, Mayor
Municipality of Huron Shores

c.c: Northern Ontario Municipalities
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Michael Mantha, MPP Algoma – Manitoulin
Ross Romano, MPP Sault Ste Marie
Lise Vaugeois, MPP Thunder Bay – Superior North
Hon. George Pirie, MPP Timmins
Jamie West, MPP Sudbury
Hon. Victor Fedeli, MPP Nipissing
Hon. Greg Rickford, MPP Kenora – Rainy River

Office of the Mayor

9 June 2023

VIA EMAIL

Hon. François-Philippe Champagne PC MP
Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development
Via email: ministerofisi-ministredeisi@ised-isde.gc.ca

Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau PC MP
Minister of Agriculture
Via email: Marie-Claude.Bibeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ministers:

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, we are writing to you pursuant to the enclosed motion to endorse the right-to-repair movement and to call on your government to expedite the promised consultations to enshrine this principle in consumer-protection law, with specific consultations and measures related to supporting the agricultural sector undertaken.

Right to Repair is a simple environmental and consumer protection measure: it ensures consumers are able to reasonably access repairs to electronic and other devices at a fair price, rather than creating a monopoly through technology companies only being able to repair their own products. This measure will also help reduce waste by combatting planned obsolescence, where companies make products that are only intended to last for a period of some years, and are not really repairable.

Further, farmers and growers are intimately familiar with the particular nuances of this issue when it comes to increasingly high-tech agricultural equipment. As the “soup and salad bowl of Canada”, Bradford West Gwillimbury is home to many farmers and growers, so we know firsthand how important an issue these consultations will be.

Our Council has shown in recent years that we are at the forefront of advocating for important environmental protections, including the Freshwater Action Fund, and we are grateful to our new Green Initiatives Committee for recommending this current piece of advocacy to protect the environment and consumers.

A copy of the motion is enclosed. We would be happy to meet with you or your representatives to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,



James Leduc
Mayor

CC: John Barlow, MP Foothills
 Rick Perkins, MP South Shore—St. Margarets
 Alistair MacGregor, MP Cowichan—Malahat—Langford
 Rachel Blaney, MP North Island—Powell River
 Scot Davidson, MP York—Simcoe
 Federation of Canadian Municipalities
 Association of Municipalities of Ontario
 Ontario's Municipal Councils
 Ontario's Conservation Authorities

At its Regular meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council approved the following resolution:

Resolution: 2023-199

Moved: Councillor Verkaik

Seconded: Councillor Harper

Whereas the “right-to-repair” movement seeks to ensure consumers of electronic products, including mobile phones and computers, as well as agricultural equipment, are able to make routine fixes to damaged products without having to rely on the manufacturer and to affordably make such repairs; and

Whereas this movement and efforts against “planned obsolescence” seeks to ensure affordability for consumers and to protect our environment by reducing electronic waste; and

Whereas the agricultural sector has unique needs related to specialized electronic farm equipment and the ability to make repairs in a timely and affordable manner, especially during the growing season; and

Further to a commitment in the 2023 federal budget that “the government will work to implement a right to repair, with the aim of introducing a targeted framework for home appliances and electronics in 2024. The government will launch consultations this summer, including on the right to repair and the interoperability of farming equipment, and work closely with provinces and territories to advance the implementation of a right to repair” (p. 38); and

Be it therefore resolved that the committee recommend Council endorse the right-to-repair movement through a letter from the Mayor and Green Initiatives Committee Chair to call on the federal government to expedite the promised consultations to enshrine this principle in consumer-protection law, with specific consultations and measures related to supporting the agricultural sector undertaken; and

That a copy of this resolution and letter be shared with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development; the Minister of Agriculture and their critics; and the Member of Parliament for York—Simcoe; and to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario’s Municipal Councils, with a request for their endorsement of same.

Result: CARRIED.



9.5.6.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2023 - 079


DIVISION LIST

YES NO

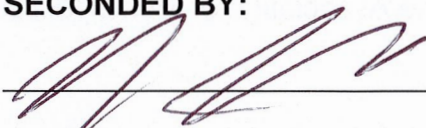
DATE: June 6, 2023

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

MOVED BY:

 _____

SECONDED BY:

 _____

CARRIED: DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

WHEREAS Council of the Town of Parry Sound recognizes that challenges of mental health, addictions, specifically opioids, and homelessness are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of Parry Sound;

WHEREAS addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of municipal and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within Parry Sound and surrounding communities;

WHEREAS mental health, opioids and homelessness trends are, in recent years, at an all-time high and such prevalence is impacting the overall wellbeing of the people of Parry Sound and the surrounding communities;

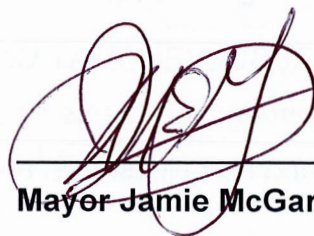
WHEREAS Council of the Town of Parry Sound acknowledges that approaches to addressing and responding must include diverse and inclusive approaches to these issues, and should not be viewed as a single solution response;

WHEREAS Council of the Town of Parry Sound accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, residents, as well as federal and provincial government and agencies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Parry Sound calls upon the provincial and federal governments for additional resources to combat the opioid crisis, mental health and homelessness; and

THAT Council of the Town of Parry Sound recommends to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit that a regional coalition of public health, relevant community agencies and others as appropriate be established in order to amplify regional concerns and investigate potential strategies and resources, and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, all municipalities in Ontario, First Nations communities within Parry Sound District, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. McGarvey', is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey