# Agenda

February 27, 2024

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

# PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:45 P.M. – ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

ZBA – Flag Lots

# **REGULAR MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 13, 2024	(1)
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List of proposed resolutions (2)

# **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:**

# **DELEGATIONS:**

Ted	Shelley, Historica	al Building – Proposed Donation	(3)

Ken and Joan McCue – Trailer By-law Licensing Exemption (4)

# **ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL:** None

**APPLICATIONS: None** 

# BY-LAW (S):

#13-2024 – To amend Zoning By-law #27-95 – Addition of Flag Lots	(5)
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#14-2024 – To accept a transfer of land (6)

#15-2024 – To establish a public highway (7)

# **REPORTS:**

Library Board – Meeting held on February 14, 2024 (8)

Agricultural Society - Meeting held on February 15, 2024

ACED – Director's Feb. 2024 Report, 2024 Work Plan and Minutes of Feb. 22, 2024 (9)

EMS – Minutes of the February 22, 2024 meeting (10)

TRI Council – Meeting held on February 26, 2024

CORRESPONDENCE: #11 TO # 19

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Update – MTO properties

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CLOSED SESSION:** IF REQUIRED

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

# **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

February 23 to 25, 2024 – Katrine Winter Karnival

February 24, 2024 – Grand re-opening of Katrine Community Centre – Noon

February 26, 2024 – TRI Council meeting – KCC – 7:00 p.m.

February 27, 2024 – Public Meeting 6:45 pm followed by Regular Council Meeting

February 28, 2024 - Planning Board

March 2, 2024 – Dave McNay, Fire Chief – Retirement

open house – KCC 1 to 5 p.m.

March 4, 2024 - KCC

March 7, 2024 - AHHC

March 10, 2024 - Daylight Saving Time

March 12, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting



Any member of the public who wishes to attend the virtual Council meeting may contact the Deputy Clerk by 4:00 pm on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 via telephone at 705-382-3332 or by email at <a href="mailto:deputyclerk@armourtownship.ca">deputyclerk@armourtownship.ca</a>



# **MINUTES**

February 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Armour was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Mayor Rod Ward; Councillors Rod Blakelock, Jerry Brandt, Wendy Whitwell and Dorothy Haggart-Davis; Delegations: Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator and Keith McCoy, Roads Supervisor; Guests: Sarah Bissonette, Isabel Pereira and Nieves Guijarro; Staff: John Theriault, Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator.

# INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Council acknowledged the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and recognized the historical and contemporary contributions of the local First Nations and the peoples of Turtle Island.

# CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the regular Council meeting held on January 23, 2024 were approved as circulated.

# **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:**

No pecuniary interest and general nature thereof were declared.

# **DELEGATIONS:**

Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator, presented a report on the recycling of mattresses collected at the landfill and the disposal of the mattress pile they presently have. Council passed a resolution approving the proposal to recycle mattresses. Council also discussed an amendment to the 2024 draft Waste Management budget and passed a resolution approving the amendment.

Keith McCoy, Roads Supervisor provided a verbal report on the work the Roads Department is accomplishing. Questions were asked and answered.

# **ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL:**

The list of accounts for February 2024 was approved by resolution.

# **APPLICATIONS:** None

### **BY-LAWS:**

By-law #08-2024 being a by-law to establish fees and charges for the Township of Armour and to rescind By-law #49-2023 was read a third time and passed by resolution.

By-law #10-2024 being a by-law to establish a Committee of Adjustment and to rescind By-law #47-2023 was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

By-law #11-2024 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its January 2024 meeting was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

By-law #12-2024 being a by-law to appoint By-law Enforcement Officers and to rescind By-law #65-2018 was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

### **REPORTS:**

Council reviewed an updated financial statement to December 31, 2023.

Council reviewed the February 2024 Planning Report.

Council reviewed the February 2024 Building Permit Report.

February 13, 2024

# **REPORTS cont'd:**

Council reviewed the February 2024 Heritage Festival report.

Council reviewed the minutes of the Historical Society's meeting held on January 22, 2024.

Council reviewed the minutes of the ACED meeting held on January 25, 2024. Council also reviewed the 2023 ACED annual report. Questions were asked and answered.

Council reviewed the notes of the Eastholme meeting held on January 24, 2024.

Council reviewed the notes of the Almaguin Community Bus Committee for the meeting held on January 31, 2024 and the results of the completed Community Bus Survey. Council discussed the survey and is looking forward to the next steps on this project.

Council reviewed the minutes of the AHHC meeting of February 2, 2024.

Council reviewed a report on the February 5, 2024 meeting of the KCC. The report included a request for an extension to the liquor license for the KCC Winter Karnival. Council passed a resolution supporting the extension.

A verbal report was given on the February 8, 2024 DSSAB meeting.

Council discussed a progress update from the Mayor on "Preparing for the Future in the Almaguin Highlands". Council agreed with where our municipality's priorities are and how they are progressing.

# **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Council reviewed a letter from the City of Sarnia requesting their support in asking the Federal Government to cancel the carbon tax. Council passed a resolution of support.

Council received a letter from the Municipality of Tweed requesting their support in asking the Province to reinstate licensing plate renewals and use the funds for infrastructure improvements. Council passed a supporting resolution.

Council reviewed a news release from Ontario News advising that the Province is connecting children and youth in North Bay and Muskoka to care close to home.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting new discussions on Regional Fire Services.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Township of McMurrich/Monteith agreeing to place \$20,000 in a Fire Department Reserve for the live burn building project.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Township of Perry agreeing to place \$20,000 in their capital budget to build the first stage of a live burn building for the Fire Departments.

Council reviewed a letter from Enbridge informing Council of their concerns regarding a decision from the Ontario Energy Board.

Council reviewed a news release from Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare introducing the made in Muskoka Healthcare system of the future.

Council reviewed a news release from Ontario News advising that the Province is supporting a plan to refurbish the Pickering nuclear generating station.

Council reviewed the January, 2024 Labour Focus Report published by The Labour Market Group.

# **MINUTES**

February 13, 2024

# **CORRESPONDENCE** cont'd:

Council reviewed a news release from Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare celebrating the first anniversary of the Hospital to Home Program.

Council reviewed a letter from the OPP advising that the new *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* will come into force on April 1, 2024, but that it will not change the OPP billing model cost allocation for municipalities.

# **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Council received an update on the plans to upgrade the new storage building at the Watt Century Farmhouse and Heritage Centre and an estimate of the engineering costs to complete this work. Council tabled a resolution to add this cost to the 2024 capital budget.

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed an application to NOHFC for a grant to help defray the costs of the Heritage Festival. Council passed a resolution supporting the application.

Council reviewed and discussed a request, from the Township of Ryerson, to establish a joint Fire Department capital reserve and to allocate \$20,000 to this reserve for the live burn building project. Council passed a resolution supporting the transfer of their share of the \$20,000 into the Township of Armour's fire reserve.

Council reviewed and discussed a report, from the Deputy-Clerk, on a proposal to separate Doe Lake Municipal Park from the groundskeeper contract and award it to a different contractor. Council defeated a resolution supporting this proposal.

Council reviewed and discussed a report, from the Deputy-Clerk, on the 2024 groundskeeper contract. Council defeated a resolution awarding this contract and requested that the contract be tendered.

Council reviewed and discussed a report, from the Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator, for the purchase of two vehicles for By-law and Building. Council passed a resolution approving the purchases.

Council discussed all of the properties owned by the MTO along the Highway 11 corridor. The question was asked if the Township should not acquire some of these lots to facilitate development in our municipality. Council directed staff to forward a list of properties, which would be suitable for development to Council for discussion.

# **RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution #36 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on January 23, 2024, as circulated. Carried

Resolution #37 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Staff Report from the Waste Management Administrator dated February 13, 2024, regarding mattress recycling be received and that Council approved the purchase of a 20-foot shipping container through the 2024 Waste Management operating budget and approves the proposal from Recyc-Mattress for the recycling of the mattresses we receive each year at the landfill site. Furthermore, that Council approve an amendment to the 2024 draft Waste Management capital budget to change the operating face repair project to the shredding and disposal of the 5-year stockpile of mattresses at the landfill site. Carried

Resolution #38 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the amended Waste Management 2024 draft budget and directs staff to include the budget in the TRI Council meeting agenda of February 26, 2024. Carried

# **MINUTES**

February 13, 2024

# **RESOLUTIONS** cont'd:

Resolution #39 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the February 2024 accounts, in the amount of \$382,659.30 for payment, and the Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign cheques for same. Carried

Resolution #40 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read a third time and approves By-law #8-2024 being a by-law to update the fees or charges for services provided by the Township and to rescind By-law #49-2023 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #41 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approves By-law #10-2024 being a by-law to establish a Committee of Adjustment and to rescind By-law #47-2023 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #42 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approves By-law #11-2024 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its January meetings and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #43 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approves By-law #12-2024 being a by-law to appoint By-Law Enforcement Officers and repeal By-law #65-2018 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #44 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the extension of the liquor license for the Katrine Community Centre from an 11:00 a.m. start to a 9:00 a.m. start on Sunday February 25, 2024. Carried

Resolution #45 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the City of Sarnia and strongly urges the Government of Canada to cancel the carbon tax which is financially hurting our citizens. Carried

Resolution #46 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Municipality of Tweed in requesting that the province reinstate the Licence Plate Renewal fees and allocate the funds collected to improve Ontario's infrastructure, ensuring long-term prosperity and safety of our communities. Carried

Resolution #47 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour directs staff to include \$10,000 in the Parks & Recreation capital budget to cover the cost of engineering for the upgrades to the new storage building at the Watt Heritage Centre. **Tabled** 

Resolution #48 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Rod Blakelock; **WHEREAS** the Council of the Township of Armour has included, in their 2024 budget, a project for holding a Heritage Festival on July 13, 2024 to celebrate the heritage of our region;

AND WHEREAS this project will attract more tourism to the area;

AND WHEREAS, since attendance is free, anyone can attend this event;

AND WHEREAS to help fund this project the Township of Armour has applied for funding to the NOHFC Community Enhancement Program;

# MINUTES

February 13, 2024

# **RESOLUTIONS** cont'd:

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Township of Armour approves the application submitted to the NOHFC Cultural Supports program – Community Events Stream and confirms that the Township of Armour will fund their share of the project, estimated at \$19,870, and any shortfall which may occur with this project. Carried

Resolution #49 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports allocating, in their 2024 budget, their share of \$20,000 of the cost of part of the live burn building project in the Township of Armour's Fire Reserve. Carried

Resolution #50 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Staff Report from the Deputy Clerk dated February 13, 2024 regarding the Groundskeeper contract be received and that Council directs Staff to separate Doe Lake Municipal Park from the Groundskeeper contract and awards the care of the municipal property's park to Klink Enterprises and requests that Claridge Maintenance revise their 2024 Groundskeeper contract quote to remove the Doe Lake Municipal Park. Furthermore, that this contract be exempt from the requirements of the Procurement By-law. **Defeated** 

Resolution #51 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Staff Report from the Deputy Clerk dated February 13, 2024, regarding the Groundskeeper contract be received and that Council awards the contract for the 2024 season to Claridge Maintenance, for a tender price of \$29,400 plus HST. Furthermore, that this contract be exempt from the requirements of the Procurement By-law. **Defeated** 

Resolution #52 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Staff Report from the Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator dated February 13, 2024, regarding the purchase of vehicles for Building and By-law Enforcement be received and that Council approves the purchase of two vehicles for a total price not exceeding \$90,000 and exempt this purchase for the requirements of the Procurement Policy. Carried

Resolution #53 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourns this regular council meeting at 9:42 p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for February 27, 2024 or at the call of the Mayor or the Clerk. Carried

Rod Ward, Mayor	
John Theriault, Clerk	

# LIST OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2024

(2)

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(1)

That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on February 13, 2024, as circulated.

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(5)

That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #13-2024 being a by-law to amend Zoning By-law #27-95 to add flag lots and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(6)

That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #14-2024 being a by-law to accept a transfer of land and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

**(7)** 

That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #15-2024 being a by-law to establish a public highway and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(9)

That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the ACED 2024 work plan as presented.

### **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(11)

That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Municipality of Wawa, the Township of South Glengarry and the County of Prince Edward in requesting that the Province create a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities.

# **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

(12)

That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the County of Renfrew in requesting that the Federal and Provincial Governments be made aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable and that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

### **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

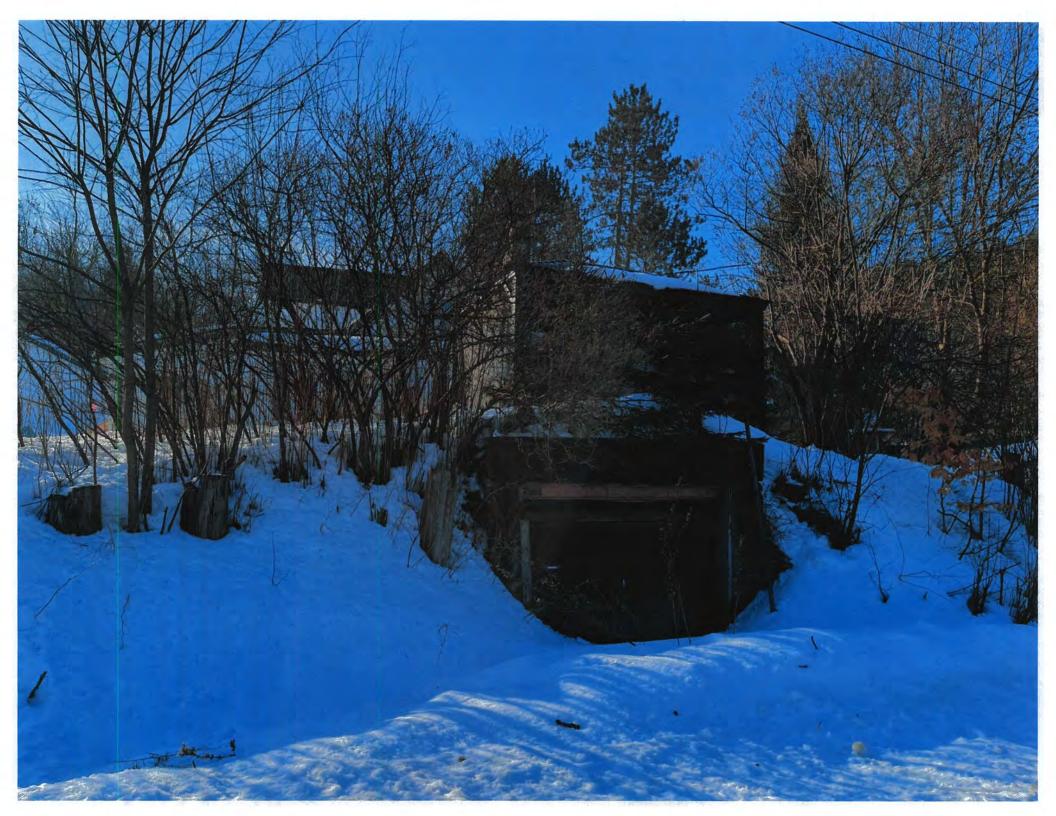
(13)

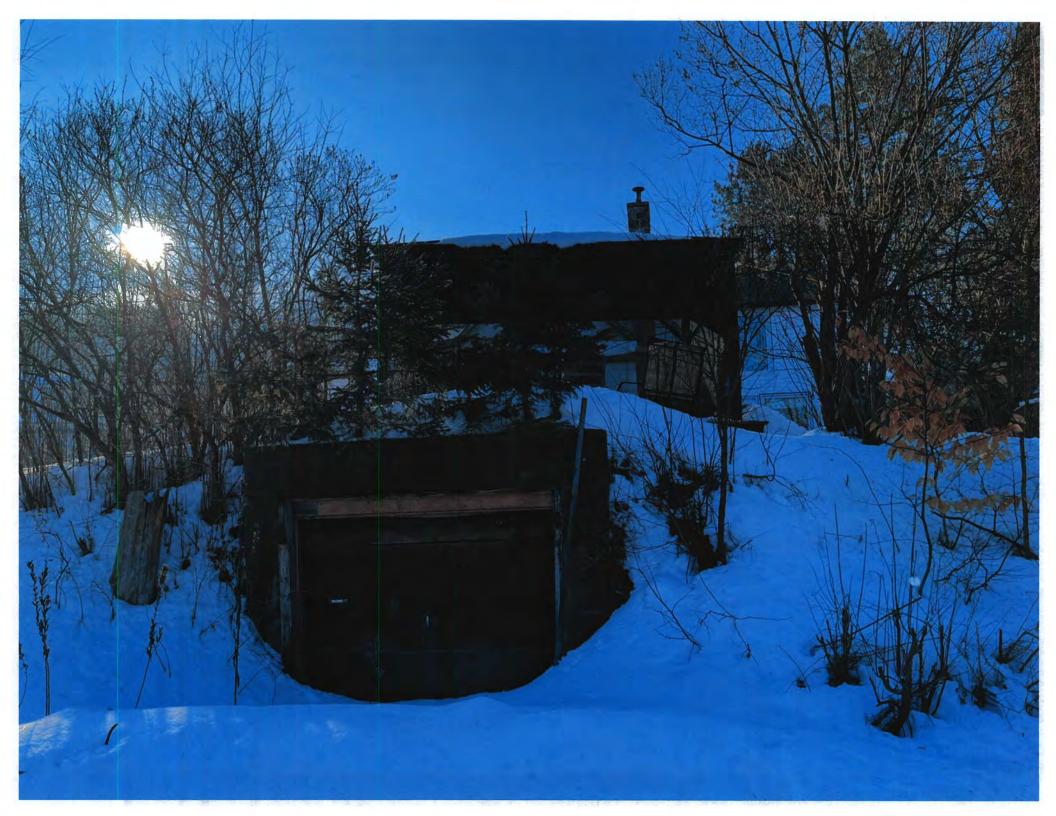
That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Town of Petrolia in requesting that ROMA and OGRA boards re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference.

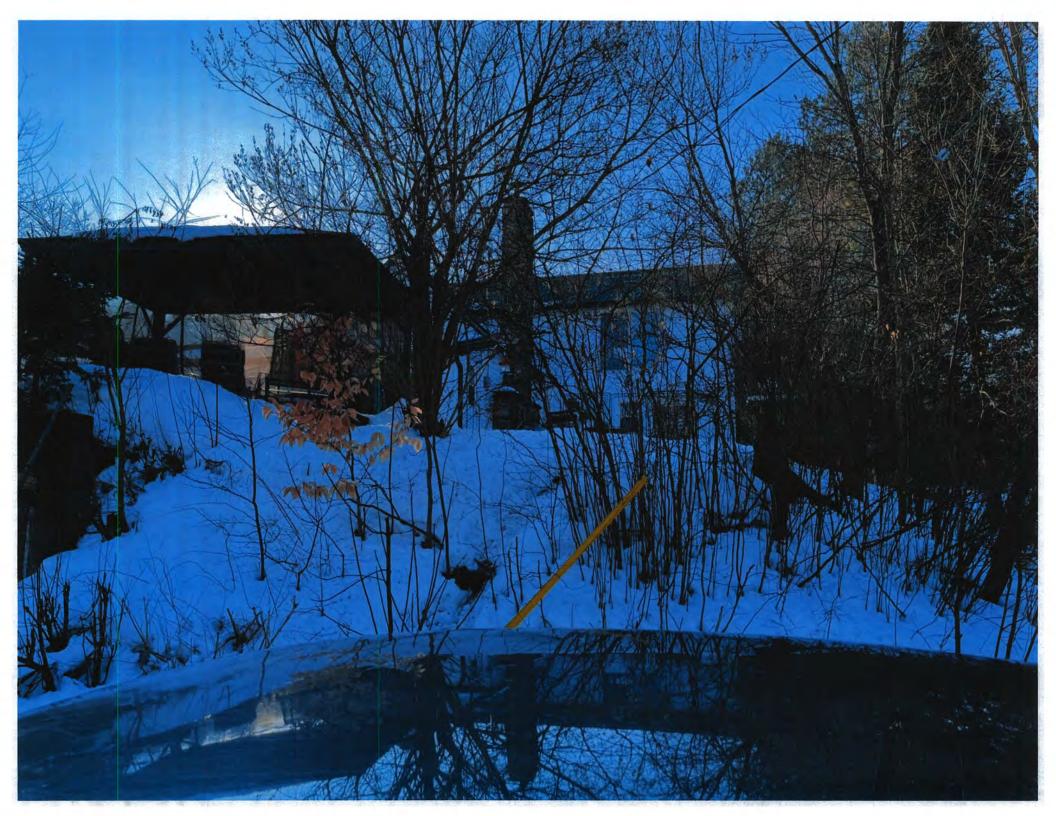
### **ITEM # ON AGENDA**

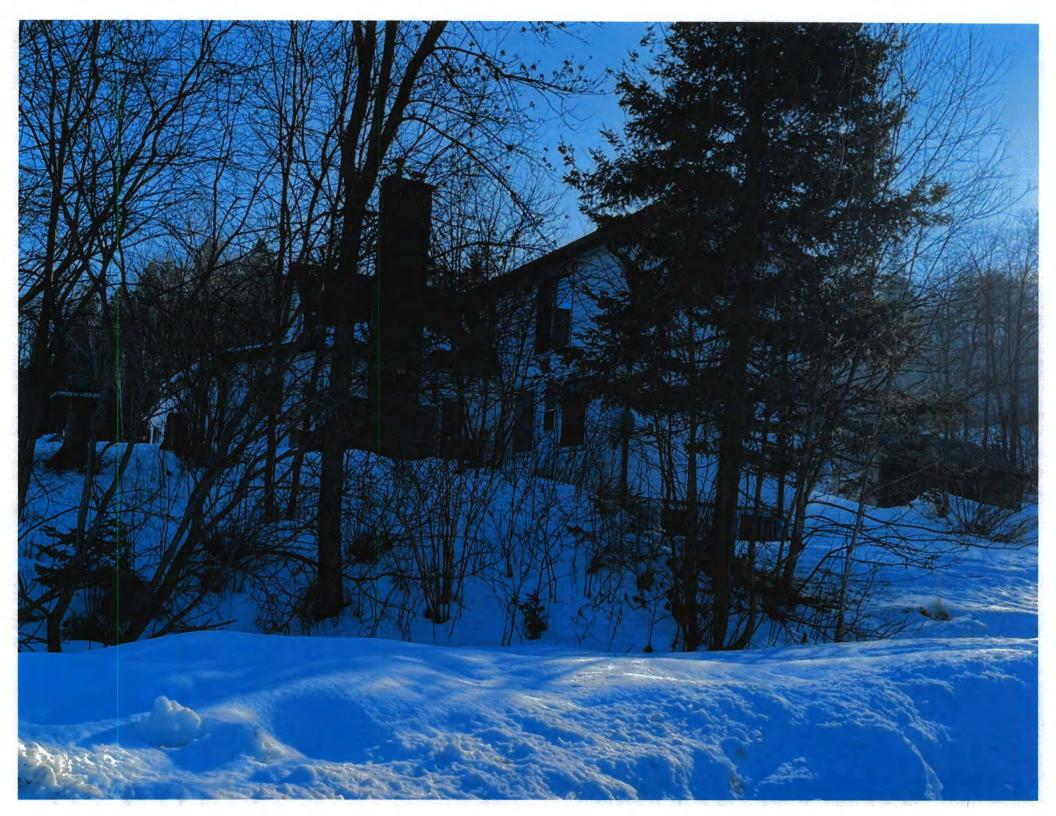
That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourn this regular council meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for March 12,2024 or at the call of the Mayor or the Clerk.













# **John Theriault (Clerk-Treasurer Administrator)**

From:

Bryan Austin

Sent:

February 22, 2024 10:40 AM

To:

John Theriault (Clerk-Treasurer Administrator)

Subject:

Mccue- To be added to councils agenda

Ken and Joan Mccue 1449 Pevensey Rd

To be added to councils agenda regarding trailer licensing.

Thanks,

Bryan Austin By-Law Enforcement Officer Phone: 705-571-4453

Email: enforcement@armourtownship.ca

# ZONING BY-LAW NO. 13-2024

# A BY-LAW TO AMEND

# ZONING BY-LAW NO. 27-95 as amended

(Flag Lots)

# THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

Box 533 56 Ontario Street Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0

Planning Consultant:

Robert J. Miller

Professional Land Use Planner

# **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

To Zoning By-law No. 13-2024

Passed by the Council of The Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour

Lands Affected: This By-law applies to all non-waterfront, non-floodplain and non-

wetland areas in the Rural (Ru) Zone and the Residential Settlement

(RS) Zone of the Township.

By-Law Purpose: The purpose of this By-law is to add a definition and zoning provisions

for Flag Lots to the Armour Township comprehensive Zoning By-law.

Official Plan: The proposed Zoning By-law amendment conforms with the

regulations of the Armour Township Official Plan.

# **ZONING BY-LAW NO. 13-2024**

# THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

Being a By-law under the provisions of Section 34 of the **Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990**, to amend Zoning By-law No. 27-95, as amended, of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour with respect to adding a definition of Flag Lot and provisions for Flag Lots in non-waterfront, non-floodplain and non-wetland areas of the Rural (Ru) Zone and the Residential Settlement (RS) Zone.

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR has reviewed Zoning By-law No. 27-95, as amended, and deems it advisable to amend same:

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR ENACTS as follows:

- 1. **THAT SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS** is hereby amended by adding the following new Subsection 2.108(a):
  - 2.108(a) "Flag Lot" means a lot with two distinct parts:
    - (a) the flag, which is the only area to be used for the building envelope, and is located to the rear of the back lot line of another lot;
    - (b) the pole, which connects the flag to an open and maintained Township road, and provides the only lot frontage for a flag lot;
    - (c) the pole and the flag together, which are to be registered as one lot only; and
- 2. **THAT SECTION 6: RURAL (Ru) ZONE** is hereby amended by adding the following new Subsection 6.7:
  - 6.7 "Zone Requirements for Flag Lots"
    - (a) The flag part of the lot shall contain a lot area at least equal to the minimum required lot area of 0.8 hectares (2 acres) for the nonwaterfront, non-floodplain and non-wetland Rural (Ru) Zone areas in which the flag lot must be located. The area of the pole shall not be included in the calculations of the required minimum lot area for the purposes of consent;
    - (b) No part of the pole or access strip shall be granted or created by way of a right-of-way, or easement;
    - (c) The minimum lot frontage of the pole at the open public road allowance, and the minimum continuous width of the lot along the pole or access from the public road to the flag shall be a continuous 31 metres (102 feet);
    - (d) The minimum width of the flag shall be equal to or greater than the minimum lot frontage of 61 metres (200 feet) required for dwellings in the Rural Ru Zone in which the flag lot must be located;
    - (e) The front yard for the flag shall be measured from the point where the pole meets the flag;
    - (f) The pole shall be suitable for the construction of an access driveway designed to provide continuous access from an open Township road to the flag and its building envelope;

- (g) A flag lot shall not be further subdivided;
- (h) Any flag lot shall meet all other applicable zone standards including standards for accessory residential uses, buildings and structures which shall not be located in the front yard;
- (i) At the time of application for consent to create a flag lot, Council must be assured that a single detached dwelling already exists legally on either the severed or the retained parcels;
- (j) Consents will not be granted for flag lots which have the effect of limiting access to back lands for future uses or which have the effect of creating land locked parcels for either of the severed or retained parcels; and
- 3. THAT SECTION 7: RESIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT (RS) ZONE is hereby amended by adding the following new Subsection 7.3:

# 7.3 "Zone Requirements for Flag Lots"

- (a) The flag part of the lot shall contain a lot area at least equal to the minimum required lot area of 0.8 hectares (2 acres) for the nonwaterfront, non-floodplain and non-wetland Residential Settlement (RS) Zone areas in which the flag lot must be located. The area of the pole shall not be included in the calculations of the required minimum lot area for the purposes of consent;
- (b) No part of the pole or access strip shall be granted or created by way of a right-of-way, or easement; and
- (c) The minimum lot frontage of the pole at the open public road allowance, and the minimum continuous width of the lot along the pole or access from the public road to the flag shall be a continuous 31 metres (102 feet);
- (d) The minimum width of the flag shall be equal to or greater than the minimum lot frontage of 61 metres (200 feet) required for dwellings in the Rural Ru Zone in which the flag lot must be located;
- (e) The front yard for the flag shall be measured from the point where the pole meets the flag; and
- (f) The pole shall be suitable for the construction of an access driveway designed to provide continuous access from an open Township road to the flag and its building envelope;
- (g) A flag lot shall not be further subdivided;
- (h) Any flag lot shall meet all other applicable zone standards including standards for accessory residential uses, buildings and structures which shall not be located in the front yard;
- (i) At the time of application for consent to create a flag lot, Council must be assured that a single detached dwelling already exists legally on either the severed or the retained parcels;
- (j) Consents will not be granted for flag lots which have the effect of limiting access to back lands for future uses or which have the effect of creating land locked parcels for either of the severed or retained parcels; and

4. THAT this By-law shall come into force on the date it is passed by the Counc the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour subject to the provision the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990.			
	Read in its entirety, approved, signed and the seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in open Council this 27 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.	Rod Ward, Mayor	
		John Theriault, Clerk	



# THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR BY-LAW # 14-2024

Being a By-Law to Accept a Transfer of Land

WHEREAS Section 8 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, Chapter M.25*, as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

**AND WHEREAS** Section 9 of the *Municipal Act*, *S.O. 2001, Chapter M.25*, as amended, provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour enacts as follows:

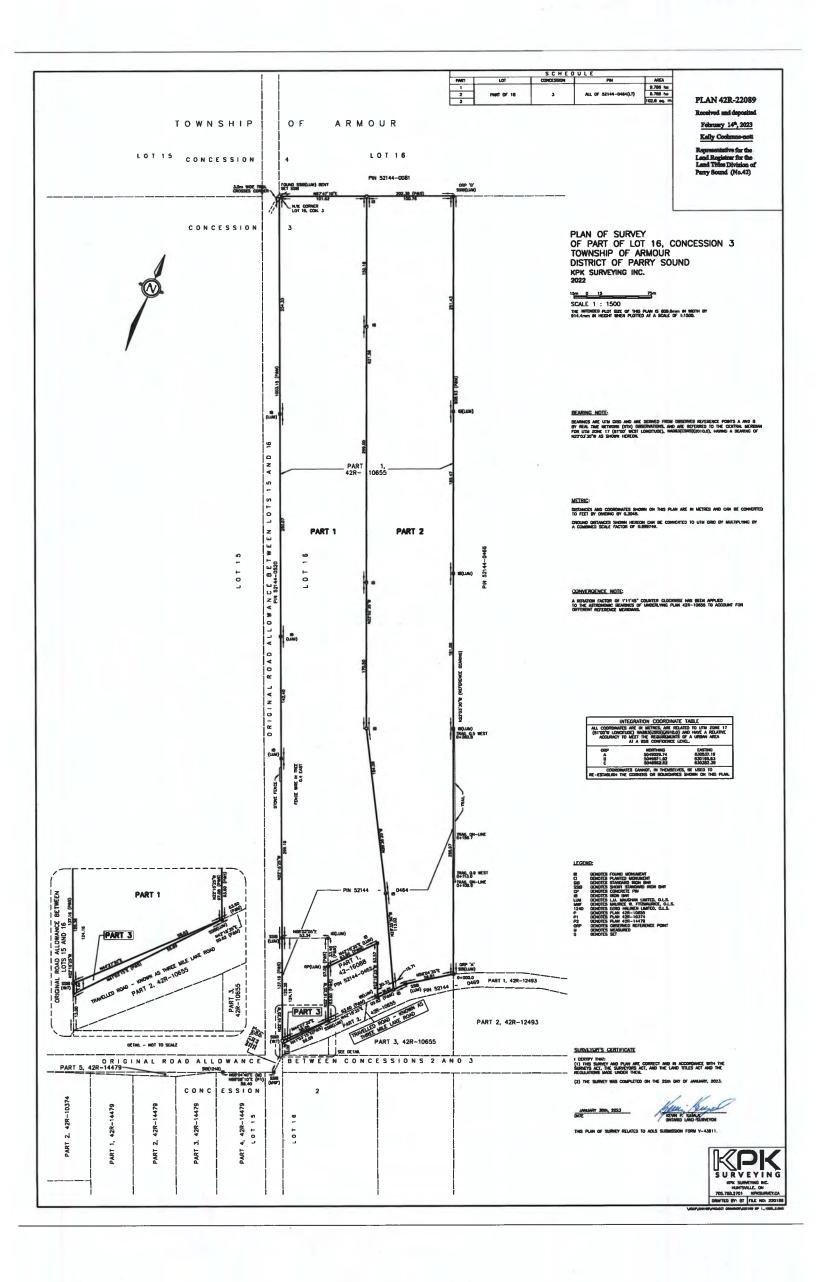
1. That the transfer of the lands described as:

Part of Lot 16, Concession 3, Township of Armour, District of Parry Sound, designated as Part 3 on Plan 42R-22089

be hereby accepted.

- 2. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign and to execute any and all documents necessary to carry out the municipality's obligations thereunder; and
- 3. This by-law shall take effect on the date of passing by the Council of the Township of Armour.

Read in its entirety, approved, signed and the seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in open Council	Rod Ward, Mayor
this 27 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.	John Theriault, Clerk



# THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR BY-LAW # 15-2024

Being a By-Law to Establish a Public Highway Over Lands
Described Herein

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001. section 27(1), provides that a Municipality may pass by-laws in respect of a highway only if it has jurisdiction over the highway;

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001. section 31 (2), provides that after January 1, 2003, land may only become a highway by virtue of a bylaw establishing the highway and not by the activities of the Municipality or any other person in relation to the land, including the spending of public money.

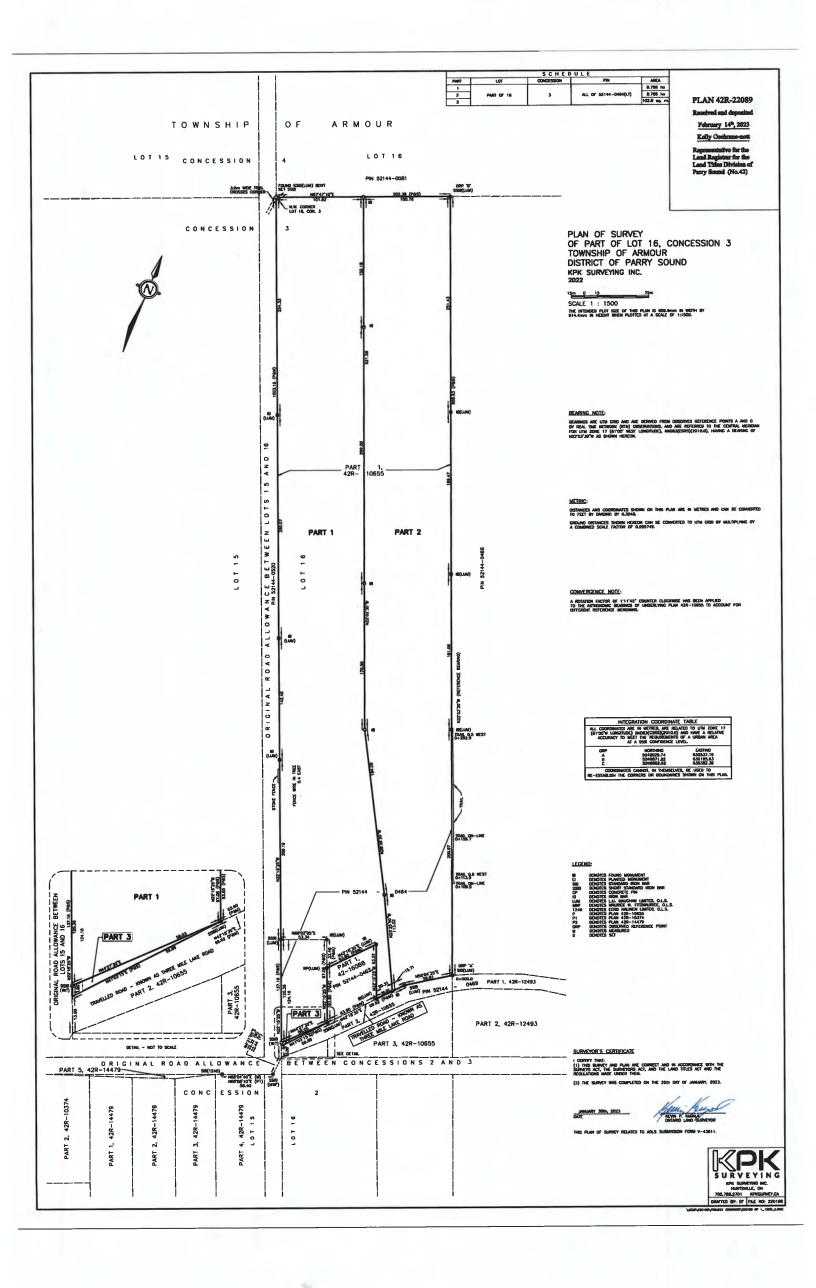
**THAT** certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Township of Armour, in the District of Parry Sound, more particularly described as follows:

Part of Lot 16, Concession 3, Township of Armour, District of Parry Sound, designated as Part 3 on Plan 42R-22089.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour ENACTS as follows:

- 1. That the lands described herein are hereby annexed and are hereby established as a public highway in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act, 2001.
- 2. That the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour shall be liable for repairs to the said public highway.
- 3. This by-law shall take effect on the date of passing by the Council of the Township of Armour.

Read in its entirety, approved, signed and the seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in open Council	Rod Ward, Mayor	
this 27 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.	John Theriault, Clerk	



# 8

# **BURK'S FALLS, ARMOUR & RYERSON UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY**

February 2024

# 1. Call to order (5)

We want to begin by recognizing that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Métis Peoples in Ontario, and show respect to the neighbouring indigenous communities.

- 2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda (M)
- 3. Declaration of any conflicts of interest
- 4. Approval of consent agenda (M)
  - a) Minutes January 2024
  - b) Financial Statement January 2024
  - c) CEO Report January 2024
- 5. Business arising from the minutes (15 min)
  - -Library Coordinator Job posting KAREN HUFMAN
  - -Village of Burk's Falls requests for information STILL NO RESPONSE
  - -CEO at the 2024 Conference WELL ATTENED
  - -Committee Preferences sign up and structure
- 6. Committee Reports (30 min)

**Building/Fundraising Cmte:** 

- -Meeting Report February 14, 2024
- -Fundraising ideas (Mural Mosaic)
- 7. Correspondence and Information Items (15 min)
  - -ILL Network Agreement

INTER LIBRARY LOAN

- -OLA/FOPL Updates
- -National Canadian Film Day 2024
- 8. New Business (15 min)
  - -New job description Front Desk Clerk
- 9. Adjournment (M)

"A Visit Will Get You Thinking"

# Burk's Falls, Armour & Ryerson Union Public Library <u>CEO Report</u> <u>JANUARY 2024</u>

Circulation: (801) items (1824) ephemeral Website hits: (287)

Interlibrary loans – received: (56) (170) searches Wireless Internet: (99)

Interlibrary loans – shipped: (29) (44) requests

Libby (eBooks/Audio Books): (558) Public Computers: (62)

# **Internet Usage by Township**

A (19) BF (94) R (17) M/M (6) N/R (4)

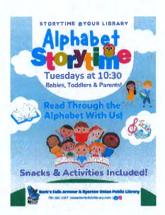
# **Inter-Library Loan Usage by Township**

A (8) BF (40) R (3) M/M (-) N/R (-)

Membership: Burk's Falls (484) card holders (351) items borrowed

Armour (464) (249)
Ryerson (278) (122)
McMurrich/Monteith (85) (15)

# Library Programs & Events













# **Director of Economic Development (DoED) Report** February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024 ACED Board Meeting

Core Activity Tracking – (Since last report)

Activity:	Interactions	Description
<b>Business Assistance</b>		
Start Up Files	1	M/M
Expansion Files	1	Sundridge
Developer Files	5	Sundridge, South River(2), Perry, Armour
General Support	3	South River(2), Sundridge,
Brand Ambassador	1	Strong
Red Flag	1	South River
Business Visits	1	Sundridge
Program Referrals	-	
AMP Program Files	-	
Marketing*		
ACED Website Updates	20	Includes written content, business directory updates, regional job board updates, investment property updates, etc.
Social Media Posting	54	Across 4 platforms
Facebook Reach	56,007	Per last 28 days.
Facebook Likes/Followers	2,541	33 new likes, 106 new followers per last 28 days.
Facebook Engagement	2,028	Per last 28 days.
Website Tracking	Constant Control	
Total Users / Views	3.4K / 6.9K	20K Event Count
Most viewed pages		Explore Map
(besides landing page)		Business Directory & Listings
		Events
Communications		
Email Blasts		
Organization Meetings	9	TEN Program, ACED SC, Neco (2), Com. Bus, AHTF, AHCC Guide, AHCC After Hours, Sunflower Festival, Business Centre Members,
Partnership Projects	2	Agilec Info session, Brand Ambassador MTG.
Council Presentations	5	M/M, Magnetawan, Kearney, Powassan, Machar
Board/Member Calls/Inq.	1	S/R
Support Opportunities	-	
Media Comment Requests	1	GNA Podcast

# **Current Files & Projects**

# Project 1C - AHCC Partnerships

Staff have attended 2 AHCC Community Guide meetings and have committed to developing written content for the 2024/2025 Guide. Additionally, staff are assisting in the investigation of online and print maps per the goals set out in the Brand Strategy Implementation.

# Project 2B - Regional Recreation & Municipal Support

Staff assisted the Burk's Falls & District Historical Society and the Township of Armour with an application to the NOHFC Community Events Stream to support event improvements for the 2024 event. Total time invested – 7 Hours.

Staff assisted the Village of South River in preparing a community engagement survey on Survey Monkey. Total time invested - 1 Hour.

# Project 3A - Long Term Housing

### Housing Task Force Update

The fourth AHTF meeting was held at the Strong Township municipal office on Thursday, February 15th. The Task Force reviewed new data provided by PSDSSAB and other data sets; reviewed Provincial and Federal priorities area summary; reviewed Al generated recommendations for rural communities as well as discussed core objectives. ACED Staff will establish a sub-committee of task force members to establish a preliminary set of priority recommendations areas based on the emerging themes from the first four AHTF meetings. These themes, along with any identified core recommendations, will be presented at the next ATHF meeting.

# <u>Project 3B – Transportation</u>

### Burk's Falls Community Bus Partnership Opportunity

Staff finalized the Almaguin Community Bus Survey and presented the findings to the Community Bus Committee at the January 31, 2024. Copies of the survey and infographic have been attached to the agenda package for Board Member reference. Next steps for the initiative are noted below.

- Identify target communities/zones for pilot program.
- Explore solutions for payment structures & collection.
- Create draft service scheduling / timing.
- Provide copies of the survey to all affected municipalities.
- Develop a press release that can be circulated to media partners.
- Explore funding options related to feasibility study supports and/or execution as they become available.

### <u>Project 4A – Brand Strategy Implementation</u>

Explore Almaguin Website

Since the last report, three original posts have been added to the website along with the CO maintaining the business directory, job board and lease/investment property pages. The creation of an Almaguin regional story is in the planning stages which will be hosted on the website and will include video content. Staff has put a call out to Almaguin to find out what makes Almaguin a

great place to visit, live and work and has received a great interest of those who want to participate. Staff plans to incorporate historical assets as well as lived experiences into this initiative.

#### Social Media

The merger and rebranding of the two Facebook pages Almaguin Tourism and Shop in Almaguin to Explore Almaguin was completed in January and saw an increase of 100 likes to the new main page. ACED's social media presence has seen an uptick in activity including Instagram and TikTok due to the semi-viral "We're from Almaguin" video the CO put together which had a reach of just over 60k, saw massive engagement and almost tripled the followers on the TikTok account.

<b>Explore Almaguin Socials</b>	2023 Year End	Current	
Facebook	1,738	2,541	
TikTok	99	364	
Instagram	395	615	

### Photography and Videography

ACED continues to receive content and deliverables from Patrick Gilbert.

### **Brand Ambassador Program**

The second Brand Ambassador networking event was held on Jan. 31 at RiverBowl in Burk's Falls. The event saw 14 Brand Ambassadors in attendance and key topic points discussed were:

- How non-tourism businesses can support.
- Placemaking, name pronunciation, increasing visibility; why vacation in Almaguin? What makes us different from Muskoka or Prince Edward County?
- More Almaguin signage along Hwy.11.
- What's Almaguin's story?
- Creating a digital space for more in-depth Brand Ambassador profiles; business profiles as well as a space for Brand Ambassadors to say how they'd like to collaborate with other Brand Ambassadors.
- Feature Fridays.
- An Explore Almaguin App.
- · Geotagging benefits.
- Participation in the 2024 Cottage Life Show.

#### Almaguin Marketing Partnership (AMP) Program Update

The AMP program intake has been placed on hold due to several projects being deemed noneligible through the provincial funding partner. Several elements of Brand Ambassador projects were deemed ineligible as well as the Explorers' Edge content marketing partnership involving written and video content were deemed ineligible due to funds from other provincial ministries being involved. The total amount of expenses deemed ineligible has not yet been provided; however, the estimated net impact is expected to be approximately \$5000.00.

### Project 4B – Tourism Promotion

### 2024 Cottage Life Show

To-date, 20 Brand Ambassadors have signed up to support ACED at the Cottage Life Show by way of coming down to promote in-person, product donations, promotional discounts and providing further marketing materials for the region. Ten BA business operators have expressed interest to join ACED Staff at the booth to promote their business as well as the Almaguin region. The CO is developing itineraries that will be accessible by a QR code given out to booth attendees. ACED plans to track bookings by having a code e.g. ALMFUN2024 that people can submit when booking with participating businesses. Business operators will be asked to keep record of the code to provide data back to ACED. Overall, there has been exceptional support from Brand Ambassadors for ACED's first venture to the trade show.

# Project 4D- Shop in Almaguin Campaign

The 2023 Christmas Shop Local Campaign was a resounding success with 55 businesses, in ACED member municipalities, who participated, and 5,927 ballots counted. Costs included purchasing Almaguin business items for a themed gift basket valued at \$300, three \$100 gift cards as prizes for the ballot draw and one \$50 gift card for those who liked and shared the Almaguin Tourism page as an incentive to like the to-be-rebranded Facebook page. There was significant staff time involved in distributing, collecting and counting the ballots but the purpose was to drive engagement and excitement in Almaguin about shopping local.

### Project 5B - Physical Brand Roll Out

The DoED had initially planned to apply for financial assistance through FedNor and OMAFRA in February of 2024 to support the physical brand implementation activities such as way-finding and destination signage. Based on the requirements of the OMAFRA Red Program, ACED Staff will complete the necessary pre-project planning throughout 2024, including signage/visual element audits, signage roll-out design, and costing and prepare to apply for assistance in 2025.

### 2024 EDCO Conference

Staff (DoED & EDO) attended the 2024 EDCO Conference in Toronto between February 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Several of the sessions and technologies being discussed created some possible opportunities that staff will be investigating further. Highlights include:

- Adopting Al and XR technologies in economic development practices.
- Emerging tools for investment attraction, site selection, and lead generation such as the Zoom Prospector tool being developed in partnership with the government of Ontario.
- The Environics Spotlight service that provides significant economic indicator data as well as accurate projections.
- Toolkits for business supports and modular housing information through the EDCO Bright Ideas Competition.
- Project management amid sudden change.

### **ACED Sustainability**

ACED Services Overview (re: tiered servicing)

The ACED Fees and Charges were added to the Armour Township Fees and Services By-Law at the February 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting. A copy of the By-Law will be added to the 'About

Us' page on the ACED website with a specific page reference to economic development services. ACED staff will now begin to introduce fees and charges to clients during applicable interactions.

### Supporting Board Member Delegations

The Delegation Team have visited five of the six non-ACED-Member municipalities over the last five weeks. During these meetings, a formal opt-in or opt-out decision was requested. Most councils opted to review the information and budget figures and get back to ACED with a decision at a later date.

# 2024 Work Plan

The 2024 work plan has been reattached to the agenda package. The DoED is recommending that the Board approve the work plan as is and leaving the opportunity open to amend the work plan should new priorities emerge with the potential on-boarding of new ACED members.



# 2024 ACED DEPARTMENT WORK PLAN



# CONTENTS

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# INTRODUCTION

The 2024 ACED Workplan (the plan) provides an overview of the projected efforts and initiatives to be undertaken throughout the year. In 2023, ACED achieved a three-year renewal of their Community Investment Initiative for Northern Ontario (CIINO) funding agreement with FedNor based on the success that was realized throughout the initial 3.5-year period. It is expected that this new agreement will be the last opportunity for ACED to benefit from this program; as such, the focus for ACED will be to create a financially sustainable department. Increased financial sustainability will be pursued through a combination of growing ACED's membership and developing initiatives and activities that will produce revenues.

Another focus for ACED in 2024 will be to build upon the foundation that has been formed since 2019 by continuing to provide critical core services and address outstanding action areas in its guiding documents while exploring new opportunities and directions. Recognizing that the majority of the 2018 RED Plan and Almaguin Brand Strategy recommendations have been addressed, ACED will seek to consider and support initiatives that address regional community and economic needs. Throughout this process, constant communication with member municipalities and ACED partners will be critical to ensuring that mutual value is realized. The ACED Board will serve as a conduit between stakeholders' (including municipalities, boards, committees, and agencies) objectives and ACED staff directives. The action areas set out in the plan capture known areas of opportunity; however, as in prior years, the plan will accommodate necessary fluidity as trends and the supportive landscape evolve.

### DEFINITIONS

ACED Almaguin Community Economic Development

Ag Strategy 2020 Agricultural and Culinary Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

AHCC Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce

AHTF Almaguin Housing Task Force

Brand Strategy 2020 Almaguin Highlands Regional Brand Strategy

BR&E Business Retention & Expansion

DoED Director of Economic Development

ED Economic Development

EDO Economic Development Officer

FedNor Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario

OMAFRA Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

RBC Regional Brand Coordinator

RED Plan 2018 Almaguin Highlands Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan



# THE PLAN

All work plan action items have been categorized into five primary themes that represent the objectives and core functions of the ACED Board and Department. Specific action items for each theme have been derived from evidence-based research as referenced in the following guiding documents:

The 2018 RED Plan The 2020 Ag Strategy
The 2021 Brand Strategy The 2016 BR&E Report

An index of performance targets can be seen in Appendix B.

# 1.0 BUSINESS SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Business support and development encompasses all activities intended to support businesses in any capacity. This includes but is not limited to start up, expansion, general business support, online presence building, networking, and site selection. These services will be marketed throughout the region; however, services will be provided to non-member municipalities using the fee structure that was presented and adopted at the December 2023 ACED meeting.

#### A. BUSINESS SUPPORT

Directly supporting businesses and entrepreneurs as they pursue their goals and navigate challenges has been a core function of ACED and previous economic development initiatives for many years. In 2023, ACED will continue growing its presence by improving the flow of local information (new businesses, opportunities, etc.) through outreach and network development efforts. Specific items include:

**TIMELINE: CORE/ONGOING** 

- i. Business directory updates (Annual).
- ii. Asset inventory updates (Quarterly).
- iii. Digital Main Street Partnership (The Business Centre, as available).

### B. BUSINESS SUPPORT EVENTS COST: \$2,000 TIMELINE: BI-MONTHLY

ACED will have two focus areas for business support and networking events in 2024.

- i. Supporting and promoting AHCC-led networking events (business after hours).
- ii. Developing Almaguin Brand Ambassador training sessions based around social media, content writing, and marketing tactics that enhance co-promotion.



### C. AHCC PARTNERSHIPS

COST: \$2,000

**TIMELINE: PROJECT SPECIFIC** 

Staff will continue to work with the AHCC Board to implement their core programming and continue to build capacity throughout the region. Specific action items include:

- i. Partner to implement the fourth annual Influential Women of Almaguin initiative.
- ii. Directly partner with the AHCC Community Guide Committee to develop lasting community guide enhancements per the Brand Strategy.

# D. PROMOTING BUSINESS SERVICES

COST: \$3,000

**TIMELINE: Q1 & ONGOING** 

ACED will focus on developing communications that promote their core business services and encourage new and existing businesses to explore opportunities that are available to them. Traditionally, ACED services have not been 'advertised' in their entirety. Staff will design and deploy a communications plan and establish a rhythm that promotes new in-roads and awareness to businesses.

- i. Create and implement a communications strategy that uses positive experience from current and past clients to illustrate value to potential clients.
- ii. Create marketing campaigns that drive interest and online traffic to connect with ACED Staff.
- iii. Monitor and evaluate these activities and make adjustments as required.
- iv. Explore opportunities to develop or support regionally focused trade shows and/or enhancing major vendor-driven components of established events.

# 2.0 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development is broken into two main segments: working to support community and recreation-based organizations; and supporting community and recreation-based projects undertaken by municipalities and other partners.

### A. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

Since the outset of ACED, coordinated multi-organization initiatives have struggled to realize meaningful success. Interactions with community organizations have been completed on a case-by-case basis. Similar work plan item 1D – ACED will focus on creating awareness around the services that are available to community groups.

**TIMELINE: CORE** 



- i. Develop semi-annual communications for community support organizations and committees.
- ii. Provide and track support opportunities as they arise.

#### B. REGIONAL RECREATION & FACILITIES SUPPORT TIMELINE: CORE

Public sector programs are still available to support community facility enhancement projects including the NOHFC Community & Rural Enhancement Streams. ACED Staff have supported several successful projects through providing grant writing supports. Staff will continue to provide grant-writing and application coordination activities on community-specific projects as requested by municipalities. The newly created fees for service will apply to these activities. Specific supports include:

- i. Providing direct application writing support to municipalities' activities where requested.
- ii. Coordinating application activities such as partnership development, collective supportive documentation, and other steps as required.
- iii. Supporting municipal staff with program development as requested.

### 3.0 ECONOMIC CAPACITY BUILDING

Economic capacity building represents activities that are intended to increase the region's ability to attract investment of any kind. Typically, capacity building initiatives provide less immediately tangible results; however, in many cases they provide a foundation for future activities, increase the investment readiness of the region, or otherwise position the region for growth.

### A. HOUSING TASK FORCE

In 2023, ACED created the Almaguin Housing Task Force (AHTF) to analyze the housing landscape throughout the region and provide strategic recommendations to municipalities that will encourage increased opportunities for housing development and development attraction. The AHTF set a timeframe objective of 6 months (March 2024). ACED Staff will directly support the Task Force by:

- i. Coordinating and participating in all meetings.
- ii. Collecting & disseminating information as well as liaising with advisors and housing sector stakeholders.
- iii. Compiling recommendations in the final report.
- iv. Supporting the implementation of recommendations where appropriate.

TIMELINE: Q1 & Q2



### B. TRANSPORTATION COST: \$2000 TIMELINE: 2024

ACED will maintain their engagement with regional partners regarding the exploration of bussing options within interested municipalities. Using the survey data collected in the Almaguin Regional Bussing Survey (2023), ACED and the ad-hoc bussing committee will work with regional stakeholders to develop cost-effective solutions for a limited-run community bussing service pilot. Specific ACED supports will include:

- I. Committee meeting coordination and facilitation.
- II. Administrative and partnership development support (in partnership with municipal staff support, as available).
- III. Marketing & promotional support as necessary.
- IV. Identifying opportunities to develop and fund function specific transportation services for initiatives that support ACED Objectives (IE: labour force initiatives, training and development opportunities, etc.).

# C. AHSS STUDENT ENGAGEMENT COST: \$100 TIMELINE: Q1

Building on the relationship established with the AHSS Staff and Faculty, staff will maintain their presence to support entrepreneurialism, civic engagement and participation in the longitudinal study introduced in 2021. ACED will work with community support organizations to promote and deliver programs available to students and support students in accessing programs. Specific objectives include:

- i. Promoting and supporting engagement in the Business Centre's Summer Company program.
- ii. Continuing graduating class exit interview process to identify opportunities to retain or reattract youth.
- iii. Pursue opportunities for an established in-school presence by providing presentations regarding entrepreneurialism, volunteerism, and/or topics highlighted by any class curricula.
- iv. Connect students with professionals or entrepreneurs in their chosen field to showcase opportunities available locally.
- v. Provide a 'Life Skills' Workshop Series, including sessions on taxes, mortgages, credit scores, money management, etc.



## 4.0 MARKETING AND PROMOTION

Marketing and promotion will encompass all activities intended to market or promote any aspect of the region. This includes website development, general tourism promotion, business joint marketing initiatives (including shop-local activities), local initiative promotion, story telling and other marketing activities.

## A. BRAND STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION COST: \$60 000

The funding agreements with FedNor and OMAFRA expire in March of 2024. The final elements of the implementation include the following:

- i. Organize and host Brand Ambassador skills training.
- ii. Attend the Spring Cottage Life Show.
  - a. Finalize trade show booth design.
  - b. Create promotional handouts & literature.
  - c. Design and implement business partnership details.
- iii. Promote spring and summer video content to target audiences.

### **B. TOURISM PROMOTION**

COST: \$5,000+\*

**TIMELINE: 2024** 

**TIMELINE: Q1 2024** 

\*BRAND STRATEGY COST CATEGORY: Brand Awareness & Regional Asset Development

A focus for 2024 in tourism promotion and communications will be developing a regular content schedule related to tourism assets, utilizing the Explore Almaguin website and social media channels, growing and building upon the audience established in 2023. ACED Staff will continue to work with tourism stakeholders in Almaguin to develop in-house content and stories. Prioritized sectors will continue to include four-season recreation (hiking, snowmobiling, paddling, snowmobiling, ATVing, entertainment, etc.). Staff will seek partnership opportunities with organizations such as Explorers' Edge, Discovery Routes and Northern Ontario Tourism to promote content, stories, and other marketing assets to bring tourism to the region.

- i. Partner with local businesses to create experience itineraries, articles and reels that promote travel and spending throughout the region.
- Develop communication strategies to engage multiple organizations such as ATV clubs,
   Snowmobile Clubs and others to ensure accuracy and volume of offerings.
- iii. Promote photography and videography experiences and tourism products.
  - Develop a content release schedule to feature videos developed through the Spotlight Almaguin Project



iv. Utilize marketing dollars to push content to southern markets like past Explorer's Edge partnerships.

# C. SHOP IN ALMAGUIN CAMPAIGNS SUMMER/WINTER

COST: \$1000 TIMELINE:

Staff will continue to promote shopping and dining locally through creating shop local initiatives and awareness campaigns by partnering with and promoting multiple local businesses.

## 5.0 SPECIAL EVENTS & PROJECTS

Special Events and Projects are geared to draw enhanced attention to regional features and assets. 2023 will be geared both for event hosting as well as promoting safe and accessible events occurring throughout the region.

A. RED GALA COST: \$3,000 TIMELINE: Q3

Staff will continue to host the RED Gala as an economic development showcase event focused on bringing together stakeholders in regional economic development. Specific focus areas include promoting the Almaguin brand, celebrating regional economic and community development success stories, and networking. Staff will pursue the financial, planning and marketing assistance of regional support organizations to host the event.

B. PHYSICAL BRAND ROLL-OUT COST: \$250 000\* TIMELINE:2024-25

ACED will apply to the FedNor Northern Ontario Development Program and the Regional Economic Development Program from OMFRA for financial assistance to support the Almaguin Brand being rolled out throughout the region. Below is the projected funding model and draft overview of work to be completed:

FedNor: \$150 000 (60%) OMAFRA: \$75 000 (30%) ACED: \$25 000 (10%)

## 2024 Activities:

- i. Q1-Q2 complete applications for financial assistance.
- ii. Q3 preliminary project planning including signage and facilities audit.
- iii. Q4 Draft a signage and fixture installation and participation structure.



# APPENDIX B - PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Work Plan Item   KPI Description	2024 Target	2023 Result			
1.0 - Business Support					
A. Core Business Support					
Businesses Supported (Unique)	50	51			
Jobs Created	15	24			
Jobs Retained	15	15			
C. Digital Main Street Support					
Businesses Supported	TBD	23			
D. Business Support Events					
Events Hosted/Supported	5	6			
Business Attendees	150	310			
E. AHCC Partnerships					
Membership Increase	10%	20%			
2.0 Community Development					
A. Community Organization Support					
Organizations Supported	5	1			
B. Regional Recreation Support					
Programs / Facilities Supported	4	4			
Applications Supported	4	3			
3.0 Economic Capacity Building					
A. Long term housing		Task Force Created			
Recommendations Created	5	9			
B. Transportation Development					
Initiatives Supported	2	-			
Marketing initiatives	TBD				
C. AHSS Student Engagement					
Initiatives Created /Launched	4	2			
4.0 Marketing & Promotion					
A. Brand Strategy Implementation					



Brand Ambassadors Maintained	41+	41
Brand ambassador training sessions	2	1
Work Plan Item   KPI Description	2024 Target	2023 Result
Marketing Partnership Projects	-	8
Key Brand Assets Created	3	16
Marketing campaign activities	5	31
C. Tourism Promotion		
Partnerships developed/engaged	TBD	5
Projects/content marketed	12	31
D. Shop in Almaguin Campaigns		
Campaigns Launched	2	2
Business Promoted	60	81
5.0 Special Events & Projects		
A. Red Gala		
Total Attendees	120	120

# ALMAGUIN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (ACED)

# MINUTES February 22, 2024

A regular meeting of the ACED Board was held at the Township of Strong Office and virtually on February 22, 2024 at 6:00pm.

Present:

Margaret Ann MacPhail, Township of Perry, Chair

Wendy Whitwell, Township of Armour Sheri Norman, AHCC Representative Dan Robertson, Township of Ryerson Justine Leveque, Village of Sundridge Tim Bryson, Township of Strong

Chris Nicholson, Township of Joly Brenda Scott, Village of South River

Trista Porter, MND Ron Begin, FedNor

Regrets:

Jennifer Farquhar, AHCC Representative

Chris Hope, Village of Burk's Falls

Staff.

Dave Gray, Director of Economic Development Courtney Metcalf, Economic Development Officer

Sarah Cooke, Communications Officer John Theriault, Township of Armour

Guests:

Rod Ward, Township of Armour

Vicky Roeder-Martin, Township of McMurrich/Monteith

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

## **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of Thursday, January 25, 2024 meeting were adopted as presented.

## **Director's Report**

The Director covered the following items from the report:

1. An update on core activity tracking, which lists what the department has done over the past month. These included business assistance, marketing, ACED website updates, social media activities, and communications.

The Board had a discussion on the definition of "Red Flag" in the core tracking activities. Some board members felt it had a negative connotation. The Board decided to change the name to "High Priority".

## 2. Some of the updates in the report included:

- a) AHCC Partnerships Staff has attended two meetings and are contributing to the 2024/2025 Guide. Assisting on online and print maps.
- b) Regional Recreation & Municipal Support Helping Heritage festival with grant application. Assisting Village of South River with a community engagement survey.
- c) Long Term Housing Housing Task Force Fourth meeting was held. Reviewed data provided by PSDSSAB and other data sets. Reviewed AI generated recommendations for rural communities. Will be establishing a preliminary set of priority recommendations.
- d) Transportation Almaguin Community Bus survey has been completed and results are attached to agenda. Looking at instituting a pilot program and finding funding for it.
- e) Brand Strategy Implementation This project is progressing with several actions taken on the website, social media, photography and videography, the Ambassador Program and the AMP program.
- f) Tourism Promotion ACED will be attending the Cottage Life Show with the support of the Brand Ambassadors. Some businesses will join ACED at their booth.
- g) Shop in Almaguin Campaign The 2023 Christmas Shop Local Campaign was a resounding success with 55 businesses participating and 5,927 ballots being filled by customers.
- h) Physical Brand Roll Out Staff will complete the necessary pre-project planning in 2024 and apply for funding in 2025 to implement this program.
- i) 2024 EDCO Conference Staff attended the conference and several sessions and technologies discussed created some possible opportunities which will be investigated.
- j) ACED Sustainability ACED new fees and charges have been added to the Township of Armour's Fee By-law. Copy of the fees will be added to the ACED website.

The Delegation team has visited five of the six non-ACED member municipalities and will receive a decision from each in the near future. A verbal report was given be a member of the delegation.

The Director advised the Board that he has been contacted by an organization which would like ACED to help them rebrand the area as "Algonquin West Experiences". The Board discussed this proposal and decided that they had no interest in supporting this endeavor. The Board directed the Director, that based on the Board's decision, to handle this proposal as he sees fit.

## **2024 ACED Department Draft Work Plan**

The Board reviewed and discussed the ACED 2024 Work Plan and passed a resolution requesting that it be circulated to all partners for review and comment. The plan may be amended during 2024 depending on circumstances.

## **Roundtable Comments**

The Board was advised that the Village of South River has been awarded a \$400,000 grant to renovate the train station, a \$400,000 grant to renovate the arena, \$3,000,000 grant for water lines and a \$150,000 grant to build a walking trail.

The Burk's Falls Health Team was awarded a \$250,000 primary care permanent grant and the Sundridge & District Medical Team was awarded a \$320,000 primary permanent care grant. There were only four of these grants allocated in the Province. We received these grants because they cover 10 municipalities who support the teams.

The Township of Armour also received two grants for the renovation of the Katrine Community Centre and the construction of a storage building the Watt Farm Century Heritage Centre.

## **Updates**

## **FedNor**

Ron Begin will be away for a few months and he replacement met with ACED staff. FedNor is presently pushing for the year-end.

### MND

No new programs at this time, but if anyone wishes to use the programs already in place please contact MND.

## Resolutions

2024-04 – Moved by Tim Bryson; Seconded by Justine Leveque;
 Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic Development Board approve the January 25, 2024 meeting minutes, as circulated. Carried

2. 2024-05 – Moved by Tim Bryson; Seconded by Sheri Norman; Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic Development Board have received and reviewed the 2024 ACED Department Work Plan. Furthermore, the Board requests that all members circulate the plan to their respective councils/boards for their review. The Board recognizes that the plan may be amended due to the identification of new shared priorities related to new member on-boarding or other situational factors. Carried

## Adjournment

2024-06 – Moved by Justine Leveque; Seconded by Wendy Whitwell;
 Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic Development Board adjourn the February 22, 2024, ACED meeting at 7:00 p.m. Carried

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. If this change, members will be advised.

Town of Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee						
Open Minutes						
Date:						
February 22, 2024						
Time:						
06:30pm						
00.00pm						
Location:						
(on-line) ZOOM Meeting and for streaming of the meeting please click on the link below.						
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4QrR6HjwibWOJRbLwnjcFQ/videos						
Members Present:						
Jamie McGarvey - chairperson, Joel Constable, Scott Sheard, John Wilson, Pearl Ivens, Shelly Foote, Ann MacDiarmid						
Regrets:						
Present:						
Dave Thompson, Director of Development and Protective Services						
Recording:						
Sheri Skinner, Administrative Assistant						
Guests:						
1. Agenda						
1.1 Additions to Agenda						
1.2 Prioritization of Agenda						

Town of Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee

**Open Minutes** 

## 1.3 Adoption of Agenda

## Addition to the Agenda

8.3 That the EMS Advisory Committee request staff to investigate opportunities of Aero Future Canada's autonomous drone technology and to report back to the next EMS Advisory Committee with the progress.

## **Moved by Pearl Ivens**

## **Seconded by Scott Sheard**

That the February 22, 2024 Parry Sound District Emergency Medical Services Committee meeting agenda be approved.

Carried

- 1.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof
- 2. Minutes and Matters Arising from Minutes
- 2.1 Adoption of Minutes

## **Moved by Shelly Foote**

## **Seconded by Scott Sheard**

That the Minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting of the Parry Sound District Emergency Medical Services Committee be approved as circulated.

Carried

# 3. Correspondence

## 4. Deputations

4.1 Tom Smith, EMS Supervisor of Community Paramedicine - overview of the Community Paramedicine Program for Parry Sound District EMS.

Town of Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee

**Open Minutes** 

Tom Smith, EMS Supervisor of Community Paramedicine presented and orientated the Committee on what Community Paramedicine stands for and how they assist the community from the various services they offer to administering mediations, Paramedic training, responding to 911 calls while on duty and provided statistics on how the program is positively affecting the community.

## 5. Emergency Services Director's Report

Dave Thompson provided a brief description and further explanations of the items on his Director's Report when necessary.

## Moved by Ann MacDiarmid

## Seconded by John Wilson

That the Emergency Services Director's Report dated February 22, 2024 be accepted as submitted.

Carried

## 6. Reports

- 6.1 EMS Statistical Report December 2023
- 6.2 EMS Night Call Statistics December 2023
- 6.3 EMS Vehicle Inventory December 2023

Dave Thompson provided a descriptive overview of the various reports attached.

Dave Thompson will inquire and clarify to the Committee on report 6.2 EMS Night Call Statistics - December 2023 with regard to the zero Code 8's reported between the hours of 4:00pm thru 7:00pm every month from every station.

## Resolution

EMS Committee members have received reports 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 as listed above.

Town of Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee

**Open Minutes** 

## **Moved by Shelly Foote**

Second by Pearl Ivens

Carried

# 7. Ratification of Matters from Closed Agenda

## 8. Other Business

8.1 DT EMS Surplus Ambulance Disposal

## Resolution

That the EMS Advisory Committee recommends the Town of Parry Sound Council approve report DT EMS Surplus Ambulance Disposal.

## Moved by John Wilson

Seconded by Ann MacDiarmid

carried

8.2 DT Burks Falls EMS Base Rehabilitation - 2024

### Resolution

That the EMS Advisory Committee recommends the Town of Parry Sound Council approve report DT Burks Falls EMS Base Rehabilitation.

## **Moved by Scott Sheard**

Seconded by Ann MacDiarmid

Carried

8.3 Aero Future Canada's autonomous drone technology

Town of Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee

Open Minutes

### Resolution

That the EMS Advisory Committee request staff to investigate opportunities of Aero Future Canada's autonomous drone technology and to report back to the next EMS Advisory Committee with the progress.

**Moved by Scott Sheard** 

Seconded by Ann MacDiarmid

- 9. Dispatch Update
- 10. Business Plans
- 11. Adjournment @ 7:54pm

**Moved by Shelly Foote** 

Seconded by Pearl Ivens

Carried





## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24016

Meeting Order: 5

Seconded by:

Seconded by:

WHEREAS By-Law 1070-96, being a By-Law to continue and regulate a Fire Department for the Corporation of the Municipality of Fire Department:

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 1070-96, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on January 24, 2024, Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa received the 2024 Wawa Fire Service Review by The Loomex Group that identifies and evaluates Wawa's current and anticipated fire protection needs, Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

p.2...



(1)

## The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

## RESOLUTION

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt;

AND FINALLY RESOLVE THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

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

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the and influence.	interest	and g	general	name	thereof	and	abstained	from	the	discussion,	vote
		CI	erk;								

DEPUTY MAYOR - JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK MAURY O'NEILL				
and	Marry Office				

This document is available in alternate formats.



# Township of South Glengarry Council Meeting

**Resolution Number** 

2624-046

Title:

Support Resolution - Fire Apparatus Life Span

Date:

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Moved by

Councillor Jaworski

Seconded by

Deputy Mayor Long

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Glengarry hereby supports the resolution passed by the County of Prince Edward and the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities

AND FURTHERMORE that this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the County of Prince Edward.

CARRIED

TIED

DEFEATED

**POSTPONED** 

Mayor Lachian McDonald



Office of the County Warden



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA K8A 6W5 613-735-7288 FAX: 613-735-2081 www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

January 31, 2024

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

**DELIVERED VIA EMAIL** 

## RE: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities - Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 31, 2024, The County of Renfrew passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) (Section 1.6.6.2) states that municipal sewage services and municipal water services are the preferred form of servicing for settlement areas to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety and that intensification and redevelopment within these settlement areas should be promoted; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Section 2.2.1 (f)) states that planning authorities shall protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water by implementing the necessary restrictions on development and site alternation to protect all drinking supplies and designated vulnerable areas, and protect, improve, or restore vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive groundwater features, and their hydrologic functions; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Sections 2.2.1(h) and (i)) states that there is consideration of environmental lake capacity as well as stormwater management practices; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Protection and Conservation (MECP) Procedural Guideline 8-1-5 Policy 2 provision states that water quality which presently does not meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives shall not be further degraded and all practical measures shall be undertaken to upgrade the water quality to the Objectives; and

WHEREAS in 2014 the Township of Whitewater Region authorized Jp2gConsultants Inc. to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of evaluating viable options to upgrade the 1979 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant did not meet guidelines for effluent flow into Muskrat Lake and Cobden Wetland being highly sensitive, at-capacity, inland lake, and Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW) and acknowledged as one of

the most eutrophic in the province. The plant had ongoing seasonal overflow events, and was operating at maximum capacity; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region approved the construction of a new parallel mechanical system that would meet all provincial environmental and regulatory requirements including accommodating future growth. Federal and provincial contributions only covered 50% of the final construction costs, as there was no ability to renegotiate with federal and provincial partners once real costs were known. As a result, the balance of costs (\$6M) was debentured over 30 years at interest rates that are slightly punitive to rural and small urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS in 2019 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region conducted a Water and Wastewater Rate Study that demonstrated the need for rate increases of over 100% to fund the new wastewater treatment plant construction debenture and the significantly increased operating costs for a parallel mechanical system. Rural and small urban municipalities experience very limited growth as federal and provincial policies heavily support growth in urban centers. As there are no other sources of available operational funding, rural and small urban municipalities are expected to fund the construction and operation of these state-of-theart systems from existing property owners and nominal forecasted growth; and

WHEREAS in 2023 the Township of Whitewater Region combined water and wastewater rates have risen to almost \$3,000/year for its five hundred and eleven (511) users and are among the highest in the County of Renfrew and across the Province of Ontario. There are similarly high user rates in the Township of Madawaska Valley as a result of Provincial regulations and a small number of users. Other examples of rapidly increasing rates include the Towns of Deep River, Renfrew, Arnprior, Laurentian Hills, and Petawawa, and the Townships of Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley and Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where significant upgrades in short periods of time are making rates unaffordable even with an increased number of users.

## NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Renfrew:

Advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and Advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

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

Sincerely,

Peter Emon, Warden

**County of Renfrew** 

HER R

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

cc: Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario)

Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada)

Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

(Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

February 8, 2024

Rural Ontario Municipal Association Attn: Board of Directors Via email roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Good Roads Association Attn: Board of Directors Via email <u>info@goodroads.ca</u>

### Via email

**RE: return to combined ROMA and OGRA conferences** 

Dear ROMA & OGRA Board of Directors,

During the February 5, 2024 regular meeting of council, council in response to a notice of motion from Deputy Mayor Joel Field the following resolution passed:

MOVED: Bill Clark

**SECONDED: Chad Hyatt** 

WHEREAS as a past attendee of combined conferences, it makes great sense for the OGRA & ROMA conferences to be returned to a combined conference effort, not only financially for the municipality but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff; and WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, returning to a combined conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation; and

WHEREAS during the 2019 OGRA conference AGM a resolution was passed regarding the reestablishment of an annual combined conference for both OGRA & ROMA; and

WHEREAS it is understandable that little movement has happened since the resolution at the 2019 OGRA conference AGM was passed, due to delays of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person, that a hybrid participation option be considered for the sessions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Petrolia call upon both the ROMA & OGRA boards to re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference.

FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MPP Bob Bailey and be circulated to Municipalities of Ontario; as amended

## **Carried**

-Resolution -

Phone: (519)882-2350 • Fax: (519)882-3373 • Theatre: (800)717-7694

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, NON 1RO

www.town.petrolia.on.ca



Kind regards,

Original Signed

Mandi Pearson Clerk/Operations Clerk

CC

Premier Doug Ford <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>
Hon. Paul Calandra <u>Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org</u>
MPP Bob Bailey, Sarnia-Lambton <u>bob.bailey@pc.ola.org</u>
Ontario Municipalities

Phone: (519)882-2350 • Fax: (519)882-3373 • Theatre: (800)717-7694

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, NON 1R0

www.town.petrolia.on.ca





## John Theriault (Treasurer)

From:

Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent: To: February 9, 2024 11:03 AM John Theriault (Treasurer)

Subject:

Cutting Wait Times, Delivering Better Health Care in Ontario

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# NEWS RELEASE

# Cutting Wait Times, Delivering Better Health Care in Ontario

February 09, 2024 data if we controved and continued accompanies

Premier's Office erom abridation in an idea (manger) | each idea of a land and a land enterior

KING CITY — Universal public health care is a core part of what it means to be Canadian. It is the idea that no matter where you live or what you earn, you will always be able to get the care you need. Unfortunately, our health care system has not been living up to expectations. From overwhelmed emergency rooms to surgery backlogs to health care workers under enormous strain — Canadians deserve immediate action to deliver better health care, when and where they need it. That is why the Government of Canada is making transformative investments to improve how provinces and territories deliver health care across the country.

Today, the Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, alongside the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, announced a new \$3.1 billion agreement to improve health care in Ontario. This investment will help increase access to family doctors, reduce wait times, hire more health care workers, and ensure faster care for Canadians, including mental health care.

Under this agreement, Ontario will continue to deliver on its *Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care* and create new primary care teams to help more people connect to family doctors. With more family doctors, as well as nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, and social workers, health teams will ensure families can access timely, quality primary care. This will also help reduce backlogs for surgeries and wait times in emergency rooms while improving access to care for patients without a family doctor, especially in rural, remote, and underserved areas.

To fill health care shortages, Ontario will add hundreds of new family physicians and nurse practitioners, as well as thousands of new nurses and personal support workers. Enrollment in health care education programs will be expanded by over 700 spots – including over 70 in Northern Ontario. To keep building the talent for the future, Ontario

will support students with tuition fees, help practising professionals gain new skills, and bring more health workers into the field.

The agreement will also make it easier for Canadian and internationally trained doctors and health professionals to practise in Ontario, so they spend less time dealing with red tape and more time helping patients in need. This includes removing barriers to foreign credential recognition, simplifying licensing processes, and increasing program access for highly educated and skilled health professionals. The Province will modernize digital infrastructure – from information reporting, to collection, to sharing. By expanding the availability of electronic health information and increasing the number of health care professionals who can securely access and share this information, health care will be more convenient, connected, and patient-centred.

Mental health is a central pillar of this important investment. Ontario will add five new Youth Wellness Hubs to the 22 that have opened since 2020, making it faster and easier for youth to connect to much needed mental health and substance use services in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities. The Province will also continue to expand its Structured Psychotherapy Program, helping thousands more Ontarians get timely help for depression or anxiety through free cognitive behavioural therapy and other related supports.

The federal and provincial governments will engage and work with Indigenous Peoples to address gaps and systemic inequities in Indigenous health care services and improve access to culturally safe care. Under the agreement, funds will go to Ontario's Support for Indian Residential Schools Burials Funding program, which provides culturally safe mental health supports to Survivors of residential schools, families, and communities. As we move forward on the shared path of reconciliation, safe and timely health care is a priority for Indigenous communities.

This investment is part of the Government of Canada's larger work to invest over \$200 billion to improve health care, including funding through tailored bilateral agreements with provinces and territories. The agreement with Ontario is the fifth agreement announced, after <a href="British Columbia">British Columbia</a>, <a href="Prince Edward Island">Prince Edward Island</a>, <a href="Alberta">Alberta</a>, and <a href="Nova Scotia">Nova Scotia</a>. Through the agreement announced today, the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario will deliver better results for patients, support health care workers, and protect our health care system now and into the future.

# **Quick Facts**

- Today's agreement reinforces Canada's and Ontario's commitment to protect Canadians' access to health care based on need, not their ability to pay, as outlined in the <u>Canada Health Act</u>.
- Ontario's three-year action plan can be found <u>here</u>. Progress on the Province's initiatives and broader commitments under this new agreement will be measured against targets which the Province, together with the Canadian Institute for Health Information, will publicly report on annually.
- Budget 2023 outlined the Government of Canada's plan to invest over \$200 billion over 10 years, including \$46.2 billion in new funding for provinces and

territories, to improve health care for Canadians. Within this funding, \$25 billion is allocated through tailored bilateral agreements with provinces and territories to address the unique needs of their populations and geography in four shared health priorities:

- expanding access to family health services, including in rural and remote areas;
- supporting health workers and reducing backlogs;
- increasing mental health and substance use support; and
- o modernizing health care systems with health data and digital tools.
- All provinces and territories are already making considerable investments to advance progress in all four priority areas, and this new federal funding is complementing and expanding those efforts.
- As part of bilateral agreements, provinces and territories are asked to develop action plans that outline how funds will be spent and how progress will be measured to demonstrate to Canadians that improvements are occurring in Canada's health care system.
- The government is also working with provinces and territories to implement a second bilateral agreement focused on helping Canadians age with dignity close to home, with access to home care or care in a safe long-term care facility.
- In addition to tailored bilateral agreements, the federal government is supporting provinces and territories through:
  - Guaranteed Canada Health Transfer (CHT) increases of at least 5 per cent from 2023-24 to 2027-28 (amounting to \$17.5 billion over 10 years in additional funding through the CHT); and
  - A one-time CHT \$2 billion top-up to address the urgent needs of emergency rooms and paediatric hospitals, which was delivered in June 2023.
- As part of its investment of over \$200 billion over 10 years to improve health care for people in Canada, the Government of Canada is providing \$2 billion for the new Indigenous Health Equity Fund to make further progress on Indigenous health priorities across the country.
- The federal government works collaboratively and in partnership with Indigenous partners and communities to support improved access to high quality, culturally appropriate health services, greater Indigenous control of health services, and improved health outcomes. Each year, the government invests approximately \$5 billion in Indigenous health.
- Today's announcement builds on the Government of Canada's <u>recent</u>
   announcement that up to \$86 million will be provided to 15 organizations across
   the country to increase capacity for foreign credential recognition of
   approximately 6,600 internationally educated health care professionals. This
   investment will help ensure highly educated and skilled immigrants receive
   proper recognition for their international credentials in Canada.
- The <u>Foreign Credential Recognition Program</u> works with provinces, territories, regulatory bodies, and other organizations by funding projects to support faster and more efficient credential recognition systems with the goal of growing Canada's economy, creating quality employment, and promoting a more sustainable health workforce.

## Quotes

"This new ten-year agreement will help support our ongoing work in Ontario to connect more people to convenient care close to home. Right across the province, we're making historic investments in health care to build more hospitals, bring on more doctors and nurses, expand home and community care, and reduce wait times. We look forward to continuing working with our federal partners to ensure Ontarians get the health care they need and deserve."

## - The Hon. Doug Ford Premier of Ontario

"Canadians value our universal public health care system, but recently this system hasn't been living up to its promise. That's why we're signing agreements with provinces and territories to help ensure Canadians can access reliable, timely, and safe health care. Today's agreement with Ontario will increase access to family doctors, reduce backlogs, increase the workforce, and make the health care system work better. Let's give Canadians the quality health care they expect and deserve."

## - The Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada

"Ontario is making historic investments to help improve the patient experience through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care. As we continue to put our bold plan into action, today's agreement will complement our ongoing work to ensuring Ontarians have unparalleled access to convenient care in their communities, no matter where they live."

## - The Hon. Sylvia Jones Ontario's Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

"Making sure everyone in Canada can get health care when they need it is a big promise and it's something Canadians deserve. People are relying on all levels of government to work together and address the challenges in front of us. Reaching this agreement and action plan is a significant step in our collaboration with Ontario to take measurable action to improve our health care system. Together with all provinces and territories, we will continue working to achieve better health outcomes for everyone."

## - The Hon. Mark Holland Minister of Health

"Today's agreement demonstrates our steadfast commitment to making mental health and substance use services an integral part of our universal health care system. Through this agreement, Ontario will be able to deliver more integrated youth mental health and psychotherapy services to people throughout the province. We will continue to work together to ensure all Canadians have access to supports and services for their mental health and well-being – when they need them, wherever they need them."

- The Hon. Ya'ara Saks Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health

"This agreement will provide welcome support for our ongoing work to rebuild and modernize Ontario's mental health and addictions system. We are improving the quality of services across the province, lowering barriers to access, and collaborating with partners to develop innovative and culturally appropriate solutions to close gaps in care. Our government is building a continuum of care that is based on treatment and recovery, and we will continue to make effective, evidence-based investments that connect more people to crucial mental health and addictions supports, closer to home."

- The Hon. Michael Tibollo Ontario's Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

## **Additional Resources**

- Working together to improve health care for Canadians
- The Government of Canada and Ontario Reach Agreement in Principle to Improve Health Services for Canadians
- Canada's health care system
- Canada Health Transfer
- Canada Health Act

# **Media Contacts**

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Premier's Office
Caitlin.Clark2@ontario.ca

PMO Media Relations media@pmo-cpm.gc.ca

Hannah Jensen Minister Jones' Office Hannah.R.Jensen@ontario.ca

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## **John Theriault (Treasurer)**

From:

Ontario News < newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent:

February 12, 2024 2:33 PM John Theriault (Treasurer)

To: Subject:

Ontario Releases 2023–24 Third Quarter Finances

×

## **NEWS RELEASE**

# **Ontario Releases 2023–24 Third Quarter Finances**

Despite economic challenges, Ontario is expected to see continued growth

February 12, 2024 Ministry of Finance

TORONTO — Today, the government released the <u>2023–24 Third Quarter Finances</u>, to provide an update on Ontario's economic and fiscal outlook since the release of the <u>2023 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review</u> (also referred to as the Fall Economic Statement, or FES).

While inflation-related pressure has eased slightly across the province, high interest rates and unpredictable consumer price inflation continue to pose risks to the province's economic outlook. In spite of this, Ontario's economy is expected to see continued growth in 2024.

"Ontario's economy is continuing to grow, largely driven by the hardworking people in every corner of this province," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "As this year unfolds, our government will continue to take a prudent, responsible approach to managing Ontario's finances, ensuring there is capacity to respond to economic headwinds while continuing to invest in building Ontario's future."

Real GDP growth has been slowing, in part due to the impact of higher interest rates. Following a 0.4 per cent increase in the second quarter of 2023, Ontario's real GDP was unchanged in the third calendar quarter of 2023.

The 2023–24 Third Quarter Finances projects a deficit of \$4.5 billion in 2023–24, an improvement of \$1.1 billion compared to the outlook published in the 2023 Fall Economic Statement. The improvement to the deficit is primarily due to increased revenue and lower interest on debt expense. The 2023 Budget published in March 2023 projected a deficit of \$1.3 billion.

The outlook for revenue in 2023–24 is projected to be \$202.7 billion, \$0.9 billion higher than forecast in the 2023 FES. Increases in revenues since the 2023 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review mainly reflect stronger than expected Broader Public Sector revenues, slightly higher taxation revenue and transfers from the Government of Canada.

Overall program expense in 2023–24 is projected to be \$193.4 billion, \$0.4 billion higher than forecast in the 2023 FES. Increases in program expense since the 2023 FES are primarily due to expense commitments for the health sector and support for the City of Toronto. New commitments announced since the release of the 2023 FES are primarily funded through third-party revenues, lower-than-expected spending and existing contingencies within the fiscal plan.

The government plans to provide its next update by March 31, 2024 as part of the 2024 Budget.

# **Additional Resources**

- Read Ontario's <u>2023–24 Third Quarter Finances</u>
- Read the 2023 Ontario Economic and Fiscal Review.
- Read the 2023 Budget.

# **Media Contacts**

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Communications Branch Media.MOF@ontario.ca

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## **John Theriault (Treasurer)**

From:

Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** February 13, 2024 9:52 AM **To:** John Theriault (Treasurer)

**Subject:** Ontario Protecting People from the High Costs of a Provincial Carbon Tax

×

## **NEWS RELEASE**

# Ontario Protecting People from the High Costs of a Provincial Carbon Tax

Province ensuring people have a say while continuing calls to scrap the federal carbon tax

# February 13, 2024

**Premier's Office** 

MISSISSAUGA — The Ontario government is keeping costs down for people by introducing legislation that, if passed, would give Ontario voters a direct say over a new provincial carbon tax, cap-and-trade system or other carbon pricing program. This proposed legislation would protect people and businesses from the high cost of a provincial carbon tax by requiring the government to first obtain the consent of Ontario voters through a referendum before implementing a new provincial carbon pricing program.

"With the Bank of Canada's high interest rates and the cost of living still so high, it's never been more important to keep costs down for people and businesses," said Premier Doug Ford. "I've always said, the carbon tax is the worst tax. It increases the cost of everything. We need to protect Ontario workers and families from the high cost of a carbon tax and we urge the federal government to do the same."

The Ontario government continues to urge the federal government to apply the same carve out on home heating that was provided to Atlantic Canadian provinces or to eliminate the federal carbon tax entirely.

"We made a promise to fight the federal carbon tax and our government will continue to lead by example, giving Ontarians certainty that carbon pricing on the backs of taxpayers is not the way forward," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "Any new provincial carbon tax is unacceptable for Ontario residents who are seeing their hard-earned dollars stretched further than ever."

This measure is part of upcoming legislation that will kick off the spring sitting of the legislature on February 20, 2024. The *Get It Done Act* will include a host of measures

that, if passed, would build on the government's commitments to date to streamline approvals for major infrastructure projects and housing, keep costs down for people and businesses and support economic growth for long-term prosperity.

# **Quick Facts**

- To help Ontario families and businesses keep costs down, the government extended the gas and fuel tax rate cuts through to June 30, 2024. Along with the rate cuts previously in place, this extension is expected to save households \$260 on average since the cuts were first implemented in July 2022.
- In compliance with the federal Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, two forms
  of carbon pricing currently exist in Ontario: the Emissions Performance
  Standards (EPS) program for industrial emitters, and the federal fuel charge,
  which increases the cost of various types of transportation and heating fuels
  used by households and enterprises, including gasoline, diesel, natural gas, and
  propane.

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## John Theriault (Treasurer)

From:

Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent: To: February 16, 2024 10:02 AM John Theriault (Treasurer)

Subject:

Ontario Making it Easier to Build Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

# Ontario Making it Easier to Build Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Province streamlining process to connect public EV charging stations to the grid

February 16, 2024 Ministry of Energy

TORONTO – The Ontario government is making it easier to build and connect new public electric vehicle (EV) chargers to the province's world-class clean electricity grid. Starting May 27, 2024, all local utilities will follow a streamlined process for EV charging connections that will make it easier to set up new charging stations and support the adoption of electric vehicles in Ontario.

"As the number of EV owners in Ontario continues to grow, our government is making it easier to put shovels in the ground to build the critical infrastructure needed for drivers to charge their vehicles where and when they need to," said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. "This is just another step we are taking to reduce red tape, increase EV adoption, and use our clean electricity supply to support the electrification of Ontario's transportation sector."

Today, each of Ontario's 58 local electricity utilities have different procedures for connecting new public EV charging stations, with different timelines, information requirements and responsibilities for customers.

In response to Minister Smith's Letter of Direction, which called on the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to take steps to facilitate the efficient integration of EV's into the provincial electricity system, the OEB issued provincewide, streamlined procedures that all local utilities must follow for installing and connecting new EV charging infrastructure. This new procedure includes the implementation of standardized forms, timelines, and information requirements which will make it easier for EV charging providers to deploy chargers in all regions of the province.

"Our government is paving the way to an electric future by building the EV charging infrastructure drivers need, where they need it," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "By increasing the accessibility of public EV charging stations across the province, including for rural and northern communities, we are providing more sustainable and convenient travel options for drivers."

"Having attracted over \$28 billion in automotive investments in the last three years, our province is a leading jurisdiction in the global production and development of EVs," said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "By making it easier to build public charging infrastructure, our government is supporting Ontario's growing end-to-end EV supply chain and ensuring EV drivers can confidently and conveniently power their journeys."

This initiative is part of the government's larger plan to support the adoption of electric vehicles and make EV charging infrastructure more accessible, which includes:

- The EV ChargeON program a \$91 million investment to support the installation of public EV chargers outside of Ontario's large urban centres, including at community hubs, Ontario's highway rest areas, carpool parking lots, and Ontario Parks.
- The new Ultra-Low Overnight price plan which allows customers who use more electricity at night, including those charging their EV, to save up to \$90 per year by shifting demand to the ultra-low overnight rate period when provincewide electricity demand is lower.
- Making it more convenient for electric vehicle (EV) owners to travel the province with EV fast chargers now installed at all 20 renovated ONroute stations along the province's busiest highways, the 400 and 401.

The initiative also builds on the government's <u>Driving Prosperity</u>: <u>The Future of Ontario's Automotive Sector</u> plan which aims to create a domestic EV battery ecosystem in the province and position Ontario as a North American automotive innovation hub by working to support the continued transition to electric, low carbon, connected and autonomous vehicles.

## **Quick Facts**

- As of December 2023, there are more than 150,000 EVs registered in Ontario, including both battery-electric vehicles (BEV) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV). By 2030, there are expected to be more than one million EVs on the road in Ontario.
- The Ontario Energy Board's new Electric Vehicle Charging Connections Procedures (EVCCP) applies to public charging connections including those found along highways and at service centres, workplace charging, multiresidential buildings and charging stations used for EV fleets.
- On February 16, 2024, the OEB issued the final EVCCP that establishes requirements which LDCs must follow under the Distribution System Code (DSC). The amendments will come into force on May 27, 2024.

# **Additional Resources**

- <u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review</u>
- Driving Prosperity: The Future of Ontario's Automotive Sector
- <u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review | Engage with Us (oeb.ca)</u>
- Consumer Protection and Information: Electric Vehicles

# **Media Contacts**

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## John Theriault (Clerk-Treasurer Administrator)

From:

Mayor Rod Ward

Sent:

February 17, 2024 6:30 AM

To:

Councillor Rod Blakelock; Councillor Wendy Whitwell; Councillor Jerry Brandt;

Councillor Dorothy Haggart-Davis; John Theriault (Clerk-Treasurer Administrator);

Charlene Watt (Deputy Clerk)

**Subject:** 

FW: thank you

Good day, folks...

Dr. MacKinnon from Sundridge and Rebecca Paul, Executive Director of the Burk's Falls Family Health Team, asked us to share the below with all area Councils. Friday was a VERY happy day! (a) These 2 funding announcements will assist literally all 10 of the municipalities that make up the AHHC, and the two health teams worked hand-in-hand to make this happen!

Thanks again for all the support from Armour Township!

Rod

From: Sarah MacKinnon <dr.mackinnon.smc@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:27 PM

To: Mayor Rod Ward <rward@armourtownship.ca>; Camille Barr <AHHC@burksfalls.ca>; Rebecca Paul <rebecca.paul@bffht.ca>; mayor@strongtownship.com; Tom Bryson <tombryson@townshipofjoly.com>; Fraser Williamson <fwilliamson@sundridge.ca>; Jim Ronholm <jronholm@strongtownship.com>; mayor@burksfalls.ca; mayorcherylphilip@gmail.com; councillorkneller@magnetawan.com; vroeder-martin@mcmurrichmonteith.com; elynne.patterson@ryersontownship.ca; norm.hofstetter@townshipofperry.ca

Subject: thank you

Hello,

On behalf of the Sundridge & District Medical Centre and the Burk's Falls Family Health Team, we want to express our thanks to the Almaguin Highlands Health Council for your support of our funding applications for the Primary Care Expansion Expression of Interest. The Burk's Falls Family Health Team is receiving \$290,000 and the Sundridge & District Medical Centre is receiving \$327,237 in funding to expand our primary care teams.

The AHHC provided both teams with support throughout the creation and submission of our funding proposals.

We want to specifically acknowledge Rod Ward for his contributions.

Thank you so much! Sarah and Rebecca

Sarah MacKinnon, Lead Physician, Sundridge & District Medical Centre Rebecca Paul, Executive Director, Burk's Falls Family Health Team

p.s. We would appreciate it if you could share this email with your respective councils and municipal offices.



Dr. Sarah MacKinnon (she/her), MD, CCFP, FCFP Lead Physician, Sundridge & District Medical Centre 5 Park Street, Sundridge ON POA 120

tel: (705) 384-1277 fax: (705) 384-1279

This email is the work email of Dr. Sarah MacKinnon. Emails are read and replied to during office hours unless Dr. MacKinnon is out of the office. Call 911 or go to your closest emergency department if you have an emergency. This email address is not intended for medical emergencies.

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## **John Theriault (Treasurer)**

From: Ontario News < newsroom@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** February 20, 2024 3:18 PM **To:** John Theriault (Treasurer)

**Subject:** Ontario Government Delivering on Commitments to Get it Done

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

# Ontario Government Delivering on Commitments to Get it Done

Proposed changes will help get people out of traffic, build more homes and keep costs down for people and businesses

February 20, 2024

**Ministry of Transportation** 

TORONTO — Today, the Ontario government introduced legislation that, if passed, would make it easier and faster to build transit, housing and other critical infrastructure. The *Get It Done Act* would also help people keep more of their hard-earned money by banning new tolls on provincial highways and give them a veto over any future provincial carbon tax.

"Our government made a promise to get it done," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we're delivering on that promise. We're rebuilding our economy with better jobs and bigger paycheques. While previous governments neglected critical infrastructure, we're getting shovels in the ground to build roads, highways and houses while we keep costs down for people and businesses. We're getting it done."

Last week, the government announced its intention to <u>ban new tolls on provincial</u> <u>highways</u>, automate the licence plate renewal process and legislate the current freeze on driver's licence and Ontario Photo Card fees. The province also announced it would <u>protect people and businesses from the high cost of a provincial carbon tax</u> by requiring the government to first obtain the consent of Ontario voters through a referendum before implementing a new provincial carbon pricing program.

The Ontario government is also moving forward with several other initiatives aimed at streamlining building approvals to get shovels in the ground sooner on roads, highways and public transit, as well as other key infrastructure projects. These initiatives include:

- Declaring the <u>Hazel McCallion Light Rail Transit (LRT) Line Extensions to the</u>
   <u>downtown Mississauga loop and downtown Brampton</u> as a priority transit project
   under the <u>Building Transit Faster Act</u>, 2020.
- Moving more projects to a streamlined environmental assessment process that would help get critical infrastructure such as highways, railways and transmission lines built faster to support Ontario's growing population, while continuing to protect the environment.
- Exploring opportunities to improve the permitting process for mine development and operation to ensure the province's mining sector remains competitive and attractive to investors.

The government is also proposing amendments to the *Official Plan Adjustments Act*, 2023 that, if passed, would modify the legislatively approved official plans for some of Ontario's fastest-growing municipalities to better reflect both local and provincial priorities.

# **Quick Facts**

- The government is investing \$28 billion over the next 10 years to renew, build and expand roads and highways. This includes building the Bradford Bypass and Highway 413, which will help reduce travel times up to 30 minutes each way, saving drivers an hour a day on one of the most congested corridors in North America.
- The ban on new provincial highway tolls would apply to the Don Valley Parkway and Gardiner Expressway, once uploaded to the province, as well as Ontario's 400-series highways.
- The Hazel McCallion LRT will provide one of Canada's quickest-growing cities with faster, more frequent and more reliable transit than the existing bus service, travelling in an exclusive right-of-way with signal priority at intersections.
- To help Ontario families and businesses keep costs down, the government extended the gas and fuel tax rate cuts through to June 30, 2024. Along with the rate cuts previously in place, this extension is expected to save households \$260 on average since the cuts were first implemented in July 2022.
- Until the automatic renewal process begins, drivers are still required to renew their licence plates at no cost, which can be done online or in person at ServiceOntario.
- The automatic renewal process will only be available to drivers in good standing who do not have outstanding fines or tickets.

# Quotes

"Carbon pricing schemes on the backs of taxpayers are unfair, especially at a time when residents, workers and businesses across the province are seeing their hard-earned dollars stretched further than ever. We have a responsibility to do everything we can to keep costs down and find ways to put money back into people's pockets and that includes giving voters a direct say before implementing any new provincial carbon pricing program."

## - Peter Bethlenfalvy Minister of Finance

"As Ontario continues to experience unprecedented growth, it is critical that our province's infrastructure is upgraded and modernized to accommodate the everyday needs of people across the province. The Get It Done Act would make the approvals process more efficient by reducing red tape and potential delays, ensuring we get shovels in the ground faster to deliver the critical infrastructure Ontarians deserve today, and for future generations to come."

## - Kinga Surma Minister of Infrastructure

"Our government has been working hard over the past several years to modernize Ontario's 50-year-old environmental assessment program to better serve our growing province now and in the future. By streamlining and simplifying the process for routine projects like new roads and highways, we are making it easier and faster to get public infrastructure projects built while maintaining strong environmental oversight."

## - Andrea Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

"If we want to seize the generational opportunity to fuel the EV revolution, we must ensure we remain a competitive mining jurisdiction. That's why our government is reviewing Ontario's permitting processes to eliminate duplication and bring prosperity to our entire province, especially in northern and Indigenous communities."

## - George Pirie Minister of Mines

"Our government stands unwavering in its commitment to deliver Ontarians the modern services and infrastructure they need while keeping money in families' pockets where it belongs. Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we are unburdening Ontarians and saving their precious time and money through streamlining and improving government services, freezing unnecessary fees, and strengthening protections against increasing costs."

## - Todd McCarthy Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery

# **Additional Resources**

- The Get It Done Act
- Ontario Launching "One Fare" to Save Transit Riders \$1,600
- Ontario Protecting People from the High Costs of a Provincial Carbon Tax
- Ontario Taking Next Step to Build New Highway 7
- Ontario Banning Road Tolls, Freezing Driver's Licence Fees to Keep Costs Down
- Ontario Streamlining Complex Approval Processes