Shaping the Future in the Almaguin Highlands…

Regional Approach…Local Action

November 2026

Township of Amour Priorities – Mayor's Message
2026 to 2030

Everything we do as a municipality should support these Focus Areas



How do we continue to advance and shape Almaguin's future?

Pathways…
Practical initiatives which support the Focus Areas

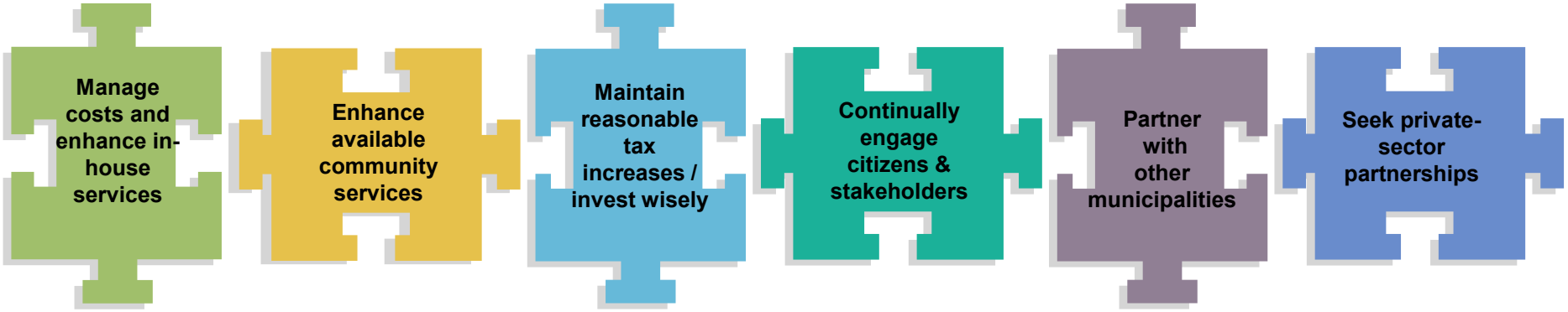
Pathways to Real Advancement

Regional Approach…Local Action

In no particular order of priority…

- Build of Health and Wellness Facility on Pegg's Mountain Road – serving all of Almaguin
- Establish South Almaguin Planning Board as a Centre of Excellence
    - Standardized Regional Official Plans and Zoning By-laws
    - Processes supported by technology and real-time reporting / transparency
- Establish septic review and monitoring program and supporting processes
- Develop long-term (20+ years) Municipal Strategy
- Implement monthly Mayor's Updates video series
- Expand recreation facility space – soccer, pickleball, baseball with eye on re-establishing annual festival
- Re-focus on Commercial and Employment Lands
    - Review of Commercial Drive – water/sewer, current ownerships, future potential
    - List of potential core business targets for Highway 520 / Pickerel-Jack Lake Road corridors
    - Highway 520 / Commercial Drive lighting and sidewalks
    - MTO properties and potential future uses
- Community Futures project – housing and community initiative (North Pickerel and others)
- Trail System initiative
- Almaguin-wide Environmental initiative (watershed and lake associations)
- Creation of Building Department Centre of Excellence
- Municipal Services Corporation – shared services governance approaches
- Almaguin / Muskoka Partnerships Initiative (planning, housing, healthcare)
- Re-imagining the Tri-R Landfill / Recycling
- Almaguin-wide Library system assessment and feasibility
- Road Needs Assessment and Future Proofing Infrastructure
- Creation of Armour Business-ready initiative for new or growing businesses
- Long-term healthcare cost-sharing and investment agreement – Almaguin-wide
- Long-term Almaguin-wide assets and facilities review (arenas, rec facilities, etc)

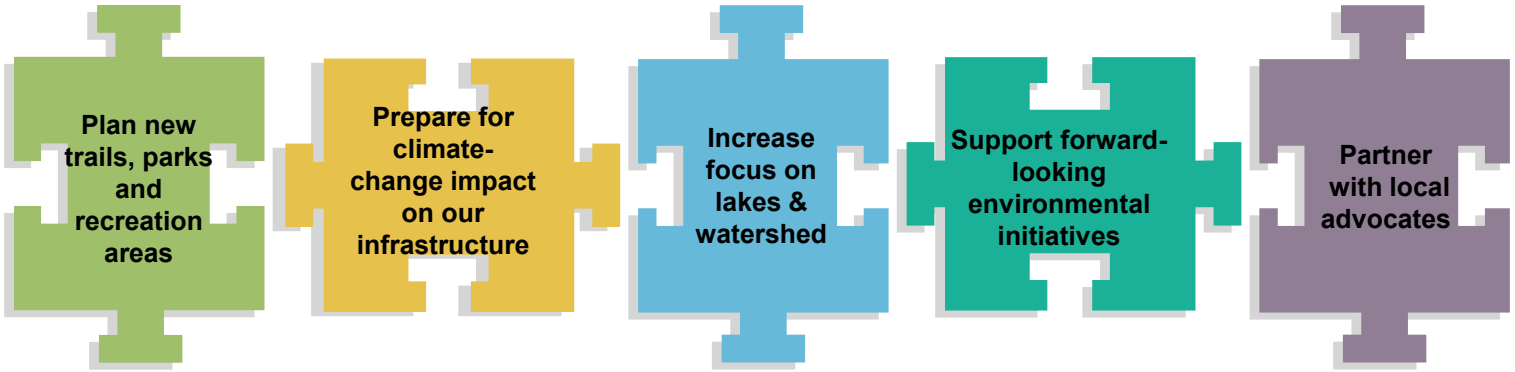
Focus Area 1 – Value for Constituents



Pathways

- Completion of detailed Armour Municipal Strategic Plan
- Implement Monthly Mayor's updates (video)
- On-going development of Centres of Excellence
- Recreation expansion – feasibility of soccer fields / baseball diamond on separate property
- Specific partnerships – Tri-Council-plus…"Gateway" partners (Perry / Strong / Huntsville)
- Public-Private Partnerships and Multi-Purpose Projects

Focus Area 2 – Protection of Natural Assets



Pathways

- Almaguin-wide watershed initiative – Education and Awareness
- Armour septic review and inspection program / partnership with lake associations
- Roads Needs Assessment and Future-Proofing Infrastructure
- Re-imagining Tri-R Landfill & Recycling facility
- Trail system initiative

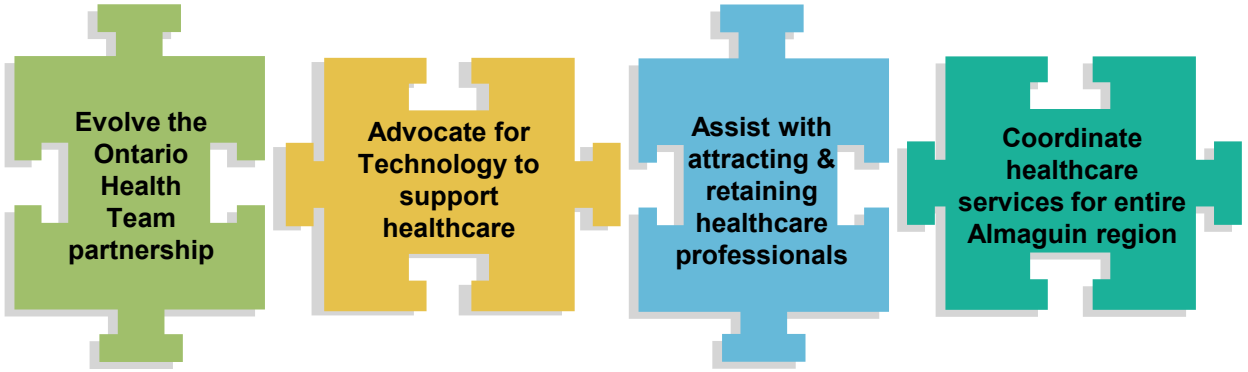
Focus Area 3 – Cooperation & Shared Services



Pathways

- Municipal Services Corporation – regional governance approaches
- Almaguin / Muskoka Partnership Initiative (housing, healthcare, watershed)
- Building Department Centre of Excellence
- Almaguin-wide Library system feasibility and analysis
- Long-term Almaguin-wide assets and facilities review (arenas, rec facilities, etc)

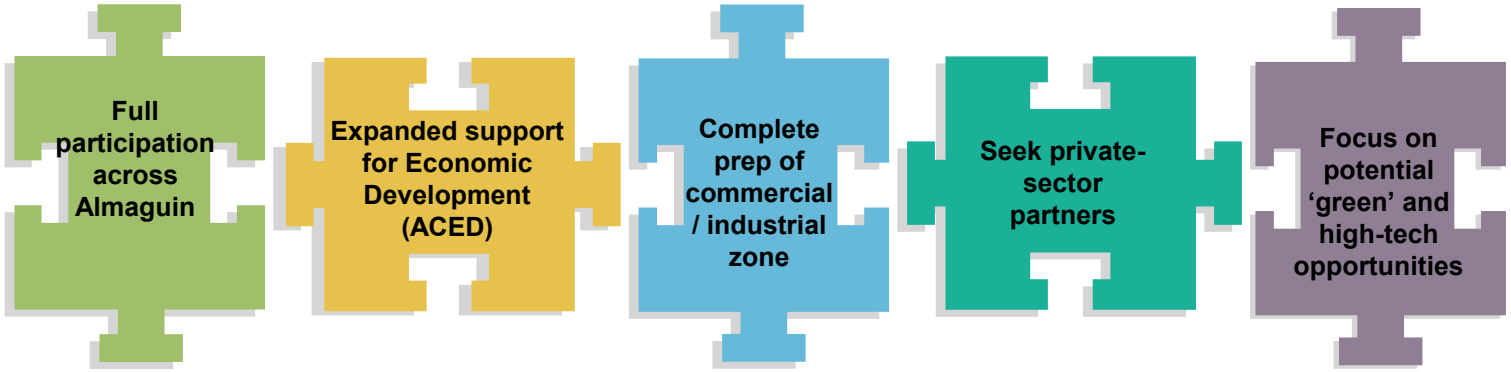
Focus Area 4 – Health & Wellness



Pathways

- Build of Health and Wellness 16,000 sq ft technology-ready Facility (serving Almaguin)
- Long-term healthcare cost-sharing and investment agreement – Almaguin-wide
- Establish healthcare recruitment and retention program (Almaguin-wide)

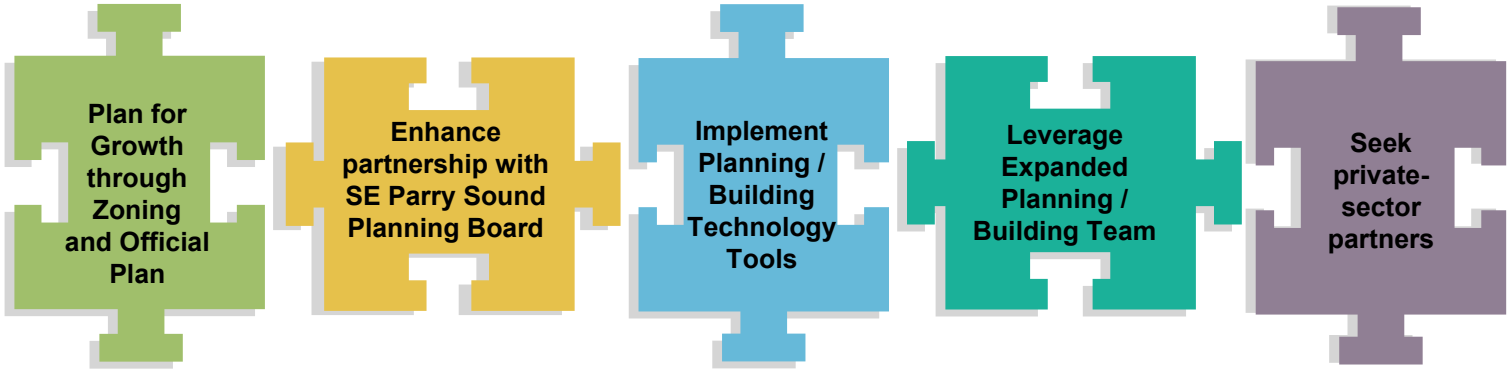
Focus Area 5 – Economic Development



Pathways

- Commercial and employment lands re-focus – Highway 520, North Pickerel
- Commercial Drive futures – water connection; business potential
- Installation of proper walk-ways – Highway 520/Commercial Drive
- Creation of Armour Business-Ready initiative for new or growing businesses

Focus Area 6 – Housing & Growth



Pathways

- Establish South Almaguin Planning Board as a Centre of Excellence
- Standardized Regional Official Plans and Zoning By-laws
- Processes supported by technology (AI) and real-time reporting / transparency
- Community Futures Initiative (housing / commercial / services)
- “Gateway” initiative for Highway 11 corridor

Looking ahead. Armour Township and the Almaguin Highlands

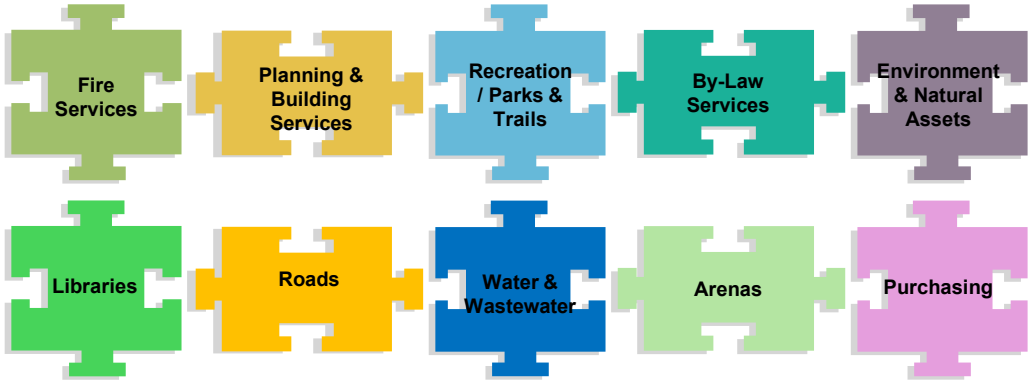
Regional approach…
Local action.

Almaguin-wide Agreements / Cooperation

Council Level



Staff Level



Existing provincial structures / funding

Regional Economic Development	Regional Healthcare Support	Regional Housing, Planning & Land Use	Infrastructure (Water / Wastewater)

Non-optional / Region-wide

Aligned with Province

Regional Policy Development

Regional Planning Policies

Alignment with Existing Structures (healthcare, housing)

Supports Centres of Excellence

Centres of Excellence

Service Agreements

Maximizing Efficiencies

Staff-managed

Building on Existing Capabilities

Service Offering	Current Sharing	Potential Further Sharing	Almaguin-wide Approaches
Fire	5 Fire Stations / Managed by Fire Chiefs	On-going	Shared equipment and facilities
Building & Planning	2 Planning Boards (south and central) 2 municipalities in Building Service Agreement / Managed by Armour	Common Official Plan & Zoning By-Laws / Region-wide Centre of Excellence	Standardized technology Standardized OP / ZBL Standard Reporting
Recreation, Parks & Trails	Ad hoc sharing of staff	Region-wide Centre of Excellence	Resource sharing Program sharing
By-Law Services	7 Municipalities in Service Agreement / Managed by Armour	Region-wide Centre of Excellence / Common By-laws	Standardized By-laws Resource sharing
Health and Wellness	10 municipal partners in Almaguin Highlands Health Council	Full integration with healthcare partners in Muskoka Almaguin OHT	Agreed cost-sharing and long-term strategy
Environmental	2 Tri-Councils / Remainder individual (Landfill)	Region-wide Centre of Excellence	Resource sharing
Emergency Planning	4 municipalities in shared agreement / Managed by Armour	Region-wide Centre of Excellence	Resource sharing
Libraries	Separate Library agreements (some tri-council, some individual)	Review of new builds/renos/existing facilities	Region-wide approach to gain efficiencies
Roads	Ad hoc / tactical agreements	Expansion to Shared Services / “Mutual Aid”	Standardized technology Resource sharing
Water & Wastewater	None	Expansion to neighbouring municipalities	Strategy via Housing Task Force
Arenas	2 Tri-Councils	Policies and procedures	Resource sharing
Purchasing	None	Region-wide Centre of Excellence	Cross-region purchasing power