



Council Information Package

Members of City Council may request that an information item be placed on the next available Committee of the Whole agenda.

Date: January 17, 2025

Contact: clerks@burlington.ca

	Pages
1. City of Burlington Information Items	
1.1 Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan – End of Program Update	1 - 4
1.2 2025 Quarterly Events Update	5 - 7
2. Correspondence	
2.1 Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan: Redistribution of Land Transfer Tax	8 - 10
2.2 Frontenac: Motion to support increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit to a minimum of \$250,000	11 - 11
2.3 Pelham Niagara: Redistribution of Land Transfer Tax	12 - 14
2.4 South Huron: TAPMO Letter Regarding Pre-Budget Announcement	15 - 18

SUBJECT: Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan – End of Program Update

TO: Council Information Package

FROM: Public Works
Roads, Parks and Forestry

Report Number: PWS-10-26

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: N/A

CIP Date 1/17/2025

Purpose:

This memo will serve as a final update with respect to the council approved 10-year management program for emerald ash borer (EAB) infested trees.

Background:

Since 2009, staff have been actively engaged in planning and management of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), as the invasive pest has devastated hundreds of millions of trees throughout Ontario, Quebec, and the United States.

The City’s EAB management program concluded at the end of 2024. As part of the Council approved program, an annual operating budget of \$861,000 (funded from the tax base), has been committed to manage the removal, treatment, stumping, and replacement tree planting along roadways and manicured parks within the urban boundary.

In accordance with the Council approved Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP), the annual EAB funding was reallocated in 2025 to support UFMP initiatives and close service level gaps in forestry preventative maintenance, invasive species monitoring/management and planting programs.

Program Achievements:

The following is a list of accomplishments achieved over the 10-year term of the program:

- Approximately 11,000 ash trees have been removed from urban streets and parks. Another 2,800 have been removed in City-owned woodlands and rural environments which was unplanned and unbudgeted.
- Approximately 8,200 trees have been replanted through EAB program funding, and an additional 2,600 trees have been replaced with funding through the annual operating budget. The remaining 200 trees will be planted in 2025 to ensure the 1:1 removal to replacement ratio commitment is delivered upon.
- Management of ash trees in naturalized areas and woodlands has been completed on a case-by-case basis as they are brought to the attention of Forestry staff. This work was out of scope of the original management plan but has been addressed due to safety and risks to property. Initial field assessments have identified approximately 750+ moderate to large sized ash in woodland along property lines requiring further follow-up and risk assessment.

EAB Program at a Glance:

	<u>2014-2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Total Quantity</u>
Injections¹	5,668	230	225	214	87	21	9	6,454
Removals (Urban Street & Park)²	7,918	727	926	833	208	282	168	11,062
Removals (Woodlots)	1,731	0	173	417	151	227	67	2,766
Stumping (# of Trees)	4,570	914	1,020	600	927	297	306	8,634
Planting (EAB)	2,888	1,247	0	550	756	1,305	1,428	8,174

Planting (Non-EAB Budget)	0	0	0	563	563	776	714	2,616
----------------------------------	---	---	---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Note:

1) Injection quantities from 2014-2018 are approximate

2) Removal quantities do not include rural removals

Ongoing Invasive Species Management:

Despite the successful completion of the EAB management plan, invasive species will continue to pose a threat to the City’s Urban Forest (e.g. Sudden Oak Wilt, European buckthorn, Asian long-horned beetle). Ongoing monitoring and management of these pests is critical to ensure that substantive pest populations cannot gain a stronghold on the City’s urban forest, causing irreparable ecological damage, and financial strain to the City.

As threats arise, responses will be addressed as necessary through funding under the annual operating budget. Council and the public will be advised where threats are assessed as significant, and which require special response programs to be established.

Memo Details

Author:

Steve Robinson, BCMA OALA

Manager, Urban Forestry

905-335-7777 ext. 6167

Attachments:

A.

B.

C.

Notifications:

Name

Title

Contact Info.

Memo Approval:

All memos are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner, Head of Corporate Affairs, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.

SUBJECT: 2025 Quarterly Events Update

TO: Council Information Package

FROM: Community Services
Recreation, Community and Culture

Report Number: N/A

Wards Affected: all

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: N/A

CIP Date 1/17/2025

Staff have reviewed the applications for 2025 events and have confirmed conditional approval for returning events that are in good standing.

Currently, five new event applications have been received. Any new events with an expected attendance of 1,000+ or those requesting significant changes will require community consultation within the affected area to gather feedback. Staff will notify the relevant Ward Councillor before starting any consultations and will share the results with you once the process is complete, before final event approvals are made.

Below is a list of the special events and major tournaments scheduled for Q1 2025, for your information.

Events & Major Tournaments List to end of March 2025:

Event	Date	Location
COGECO Free Family Skate	Thursday/Friday month of January	Discovery Landing/ Rotary Centennial Pond
Special Olympics Randy VanImpe Floor Hockey Tournament	January 18, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
Burlington Blast Tournament	January 10-12, 2025	Appleby Ice Centre and Mainway Recreation Centre
Robbie Burns Road Race	January 19, 2025	Burlington Performing Arts Centre & On-road: Brant/Fairview/Guelph/Lakeshore
Special Olympics Dr. Frank Hayden Basketball Tournament	February 8, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre

Event	Date	Location
Bur Bear Hockey Tournament	February 6-8, 2025	Appleby Ice Centre
Halton Regional Volleyball Club Tournament	February 15-16, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
Special Olympics Polar Plunge	February 17, 2025	Beachway Park
Men's Oldtimers Annual Invitational	February 19-23, 2025	Mainway Recreation Centre
Coldest Night of the Year	February 22, 2025	(Walk) Guelph Line, Upper Middle, Walkers, Centennial - Palmer Park
Ontario Provincial Martial Arts Championships	February 22-23, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
VR-PRO Chilly Half Marathon	March 2, 2025	On-road: Begins on Brant, downtown and then Lakeshore to Burloak and back to start
OFSAA Girls Volleyball	March 3-4, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
50 th Annual March Break House League Tournament	March 14-16, 2025	Mainway Recreation Centre
Halton Regional Volleyball Club Tournament	March 22-23, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
Burlington Gymnastics Club Rhythmic Spring Cup	March 28-30, 2025	Haber Recreation Centre
Burlington Skating Centre End of Year Gala	March 29, 2025	Appleby Ice Centre
Around the Bay Road Race	March 30, 2025	On-road: coming from Hamilton along Plains Rd/Northshore Blvd/King Rd
Eid Al-Fitr	Date – TBD, Proposed March 30/31, 2025	TBD

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Maxwell: sandra.maxwell@burlington.ca.

Memo Details

Author:

Sandra Maxwell
 Manager of Festivals and Events
 905-335-7600 ext.7724

Attachments:

None

Notifications:

None

Memo Approval:

All memos are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner, Head of Corporate Affairs, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

January 8, 2025

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

RE: Requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 8th, 2025, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Russell requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Resolution No: 2025-01-08-14
Moved by: Councillor Banks
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the resolution passed by the Township of Russell requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and all 444 Municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



TOWNSHIP OF RUSSELL

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Date: October 28, 2024 **Item(s) no.:** 10 a

Subject: Motion to request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Moved by: Marc Lalonde
Seconded by: Lisa Deacon

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

1. NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Township of Russell Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Township of Russell Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and

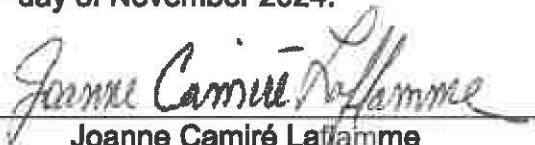
3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and

4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy

MOTION APPROVED

I, Joanne Camiré Laflamme, Clerk of the Corporation of the Township of Russell, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the resolution adopted by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Russell on the 12th day of November 2024.



Joanne Camiré Laflamme
Clerk

January 16, 2025

justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
964 Albion Road
Unit 110 (Second floor)
Etobicoke, ON M9V 1A7

Dear Hon. Justin Trudeau and Hon. Doug Ford:

**Re: Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities
for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding**

At their regular meeting of January 15, 2025, Council of the Town of Pelham endorsed the following:

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

AND WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

AND WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

AND WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** Town of Pelham Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities;
2. **AND THAT** Town of Pelham Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities;
3. **AND THAT** this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;
4. **AND THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);
5. **AND THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Town Clerk, Sarah Leach 905-980-6657.

Yours very truly,

JLegros

Jodi Legros
Legislative Coordinator

- c. **Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing** Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
Dean Allison, MP Niagara West dean.allison@parl.gc.ca
Hon. Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Niagara West Sam.Oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Vance Badawey, MP Niagara Centre vance.badawey@parl.gc.ca
Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre JBurch-CO@ndp.on.ca
Tony Baldinelli MP Niagara Falls Tony.Baldinelli@parl.gc.ca
Wayne Gates, MPP Niagara Falls WGates-CO@ndp.on.ca
Chris Bittle, MP St. Catharines chris.bittle@parl.gc.ca
Jennifer Stevens, MPP St. Catharines JStevens-QP@ndp.on.ca
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) resolutions@fcm.ca; info@fcm.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca; resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

January 15, 2025

Via email: Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Finance
Frost Building South
7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

Dear Peter Bethlengalvy,

Re: TAPMO Letter Regarding Pre-Budget Announcement

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their January 13, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 15-2025

Moved: M. Vaughan

Seconded: T. Oke

Whereas the Ministry of Finance has introduced a one-time \$7 million reduction in education taxes in 2024, a subsidy that will be absorbed by the province through a 95% reduction in education taxes—marking the first such subsidy provided by the province to any industry;

Whereas the Ministry of Finance's plans to introduce a new aggregate property sub-class in 2025, which is set to provide a \$6 million subsidy to the aggregate industry, with \$3 million of that subsidy being transferred back to the municipal (primarily residential) tax base, raises serious concerns about the fairness and equity of the system;

Whereas the claims that the new sub-class will provide tax stability and predictability seem hollow and do not address the

systemic inequities in the taxation framework, which continues to shift an undue burden onto municipal taxpayers, particularly those in rural areas who host these aggregate operations;

Whereas there is significant concern that the government's actions prioritize the interests of the aggregate industry over the financial realities faced by municipalities and their residents, and that this shift in burden undermines public trust in the fairness and integrity of Ontario's legal and tax frameworks;

Whereas TAPMO has presented evidence demonstrating that the aggregate industry is financially capable of meeting its tax obligations, including substantial profits and royalty payments made by industry leaders, further undermining the need for these subsidies;

Whereas the municipal taxpayer should not bear the cost of correcting a past error in assessment methodology that unfairly benefited the aggregate industry, and the new property tax class ratio risks further undermining the principle of revenue neutrality and eroding confidence in Ontario's legal and tax systems;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of South Huron strongly objects to the undue burden being placed on municipal taxpayers to subsidize the aggregate industry, and calls on the provincial government to:

Reevaluate and correct the misguided subsidies being provided to the aggregate sector, and ensure that future tax policies are fair, equitable, and consistent for all taxpayers.

1. Uphold the principles of revenue neutrality in the aggregate tax framework and ensure that any new tax classifications or methodologies do not result in a net loss of revenue for municipalities, especially those that are already facing significant financial challenges.



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

NOM 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

2. Commit to meaningful reform that ensures fairness and consistency across all sectors of the economy and actively engages municipalities and taxpayers in a transparent and inclusive process, rather than catering to the demands of the aggregate industry.

3. Take immediate action to correct the existing inequities in the tax framework, ensuring that the burden of this correction is not unjustly shifted to municipal taxpayers, particularly those in rural communities who host these operations.

4. Respect and uphold the integrity of the legal process by honouring the decisions of the Divisional Court and ensuring that all assessment methodologies are transparent, accountable, and based on a fair and balanced approach.

5. Further, be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of South Huron supports TAPMO's call for the provincial government to adopt reforms that prioritize the needs and fairness of municipal taxpayers and to ensure that the aggregate sector contributes its fair share to the province's tax base; and

Further be it resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local school boards, AMO, ROMA, Local MPP, all Ontario Municipalities and the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Paul Calandra, Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org; Avon Maitland District School Board, info@amdsb.ca; Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, info@huronperthcatholic.ca; MPP Huron-Bruce, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Lisa.Thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; ROMA, roma@on.ca; MPAC, John.Young@mpac.ca; TAPMO, info@tapmo.ca, All Ontario Municipalities