



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: October 2, 2026

Contact: clerks@burlington.ca

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OFFICE of the MAYOR
CITY of BURLINGTON

September 29, 2026

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

RE: Urgent Request for Decision on City of Burlington MZO (ERO #026-0550) – Millcroft Golf Course Lands (Phase 2)

Dear Minister Flack,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the City of Burlington to urgently request an expedited decision regarding the City's Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) application (**ERO #026-0550**). This request seeks to permanently protect and maintain the open space and recreational zoning of the remaining Millcroft Golf Course lands.

Burlington City Council unanimously refused the Phase 2 Official Plan amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision applications submitted by Millcroft Greens Corporation on September 29, 2026. The proposal sought to permit 138 residential units on 25 acres of vital green space. Two existing single detached dwellings are proposed to be demolished to build private roads to allow for the development.

The staff report recommending denial of the applications highlights that Millcroft Greens has failed to demonstrate the developability of these lands due to potential flooding and related risks.

Council's decision strongly reflects the overwhelming consensus of our community, which has highlighted severe risks regarding stormwater management, localized flooding, and the degradation of critical environmental infrastructure.

The public comment periods for both the City's MZO request and the proponent's competing request ended in July 2026, and both requests remain before you for a decision.

Following Council's official refusal today, the proponent will imminently enter a statutory 20-day window during which they may appeal this decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). A protracted OLT appeal would inflict a massive, unnecessary financial burden on both municipal taxpayers and the Province and prolong severe planning anxiety for thousands of residents.

We urge you to approve the City's MZO request (ERO #026-0550) before the applicable appeal period expires. A timely decision would provide clarity on the Province's direction, support the City's efforts to protect this important green space and its stormwater management function, and help avoid further costly proceedings.

We thank you for your ongoing attention to this critical matter and look forward to your timely, decisive leadership to protect the Millcroft community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marianne Meed Ward', with a large, stylized circular flourish at the end.

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
City of Burlington

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Angelo Bentivegna', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end.

Councillor Angelo Bentivegna
Ward 6 Councillor

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP for Oakville North—Burlington

SUBJECT: Central Park Cricket Pitch Construction and Reopening Update

TO: Council Information Package

FROM: Community Services
Recreation, Community and Culture

Report Number: CSS-23-26

Wards Affected: all

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: N/A

CIP Date: 10/2/2026

This memo provides Council with an update on the Central Park cricket pitch improvements, anticipated reopening of the field and the temporary operating approach for the remainder of the 2026 outdoor season.

It also serves as an interim update on COW-15-26, Response to inquiries related to cricket in Central Park, approved by Council on June 23, 2026. The direction includes matters related to Central Park operations, enforcement and longer-term cricket infrastructure. A comprehensive response to the broader direction, including future cricket infrastructure planning, is anticipated to come forward to Council in December 2026.

In June 2026, the City held a Public Information Centre (PIC) to share information and receive community feedback on the planned Central Park cricket improvements, permitting and unpermitted play. Construction proceeded over the summer and included relocating the cricket pitch further into the park and other improvements intended to better separate cricket activity from surrounding properties and other park uses. A new Parks By-law (By-law 40-2026) was passed as of July 21, 2026 to aid with enforcement.

Current Status and Reopening

Construction of the cricket pitch is nearing completion. New sod was recently installed and requires time to establish itself before the field can accommodate play.

The field will remain closed until city staff determine it is ready to reopen, based on weather and turf conditions. Staff currently anticipate this will be sometime after Thanksgiving. Once confirmed, the reopening date will be communicated through the [City's Get Involved Burlington cricket page](#).

As with other City sports fields, weather or turf conditions may delay reopening or require the field to close again after it has opened.

Operating Approach for the Remainder of 2026

Unpermitted play is allowed except for the period between May to October where only those issued a permit can use the field. Typically, the City would not permit the field after Thanksgiving. Given the timing of the reopening, staff will implement a short period of permit-only cricket play through November 1, 2026.

Permitted hours will be those communicated through the June PIC:

- Wednesday and Friday: 5 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- No permitted play on holidays

During this period, unpermitted cricket play will not be permitted, and By-law will provide enforcement outside of permitted times. This approach provides a limited opportunity to use the newly completed pitch before the end of the permitted season while establishing clear expectations for its use.

To support the reopening, staff will update park signage, communicate directly with nearby residents and cricket groups, and provide updates through the City's project webpages.

Next Steps

Staff will monitor the field and its use following reopening. Broader cricket infrastructure planning, including work related to Sherwood Forest Park and the outstanding components of COW-15-26, is anticipated to come forward to Council in December 2026.

Additional information and reopening updates will continue to be posted on the City's [Get Involved Burlington cricket page](#) and [Central Park Cricket Improvements project page](#).

Memo Details

Author:

Emilie Cote
Director of Recreation, Community and Culture
905-335-7600 ext. 7353

Kerry Davren
Director of By-Law Compliance
905-335-7600 ext. 7800

Aaron Brouwers
Director of Engineering Services
905-335-7600 ext. 7707

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: ERO Posting 026-0853: Economic and Strategic Assessment Framework for New Data Centres

TO: Council Information Package

FROM: Development and Growth Management

Community Planning

Report Number: DGM-61-26

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: N/A

CIP Date: 10/2/2026

Background

On August 13, the Ministry of Energy and Mines posted [ERO posting 026-0853](#) titled “Economic and Strategic Framework for New Data Centres”. The proposal sets out three pillars for the assessment of “proposed data centres based on their economic and strategic value to the province, communities and Ontarians that could help inform decisions regarding data centre connection approvals”. The 30 day consultation ended on September 12, 2026

Memo Details

Please find the City of Burlington submission to ERO posting 026-0853. The submission, prepared by staff sets out key background, general comments on the posting and provides responses to the 3 questions posed as part of the ERO posting. Please refer Attachment A for all details.

The submission noted that given the short consultation period, these comments have not been approved by City Council. Should Council determine any additional comments or refinements are required, the province will be advised at the earliest opportunity.

Engagement with the Community

The ERO posting did not afford sufficient time to engage with the community. Staff were able to connect with the community at a booth at Food for Feedback and the Orchard Community Picnic on September 12. September 12 was the final day for comments on ERO 026-0853.

Staff had QR codes linking to this ERO posting and a Federal posting on AI Data Transparency. Staff asked a series of questions relating to Employment Area including Data Centres. The specific questions included:

- What makes an employment use a good neighbour
- What feedback would you like the City to share with other levels of government?
- What else do you want to know about the City's role in Employment Area Planning?
- How would you like to be engaged on this issue moving forward?

Staff have summarized the feedback in Attachment B. While this feedback was summarized after the closing of the ERO posting there may be some value in providing the attached summarized feedback for consideration by the Province.

Author:

Steve Robichaud
Commissioner, Development and Growth Management

Attachments:

- A. City of Burlington Submission: ERO Posting 026-0853 - Economic and Strategic Assessment Framework for New Data Centres
- B. Feedback Summary OPR, Employment Areas and data centres.

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.

September 12, 2026

Electronic Submission Only

ATT: Ministry of Energy and Mines
datacentre.consultation@ontario.ca
ATT: Mathew Peltier

RE: ERO Posting 026-0853 - Economic and Strategic Assessment Framework for New Data Centres

Comments

Current Posting

On August 13, the Ministry of Energy and Mines posted [ERO posting 026-0853](#) titled “Economic and Strategic Framework for New Data Centres”. The proposal sets out three pillars for the assessment of “proposed data centres based on their economic and strategic value to the province, communities and Ontarians that could help inform decisions regarding data centre connection approvals”.

It is expected that the feedback on the proposal will inform the development of regulations that will first establish the definition of data centre for the purpose of the Act, and will also establish requirements that regulated data centres would be required to meet before obtaining the approval of the government to connect or reconnect to the electricity grid.

Background

In Fall of 2025 the Province undertook engagement on ERO proposal [ERO 025-1001](#), titled “New requirements for Data Centres Seeking to Connect to the Electricity Grid in Ontario”. The proposal was also posted on the Ontario Regulatory Registry (ORR) as proposal number [25-ENDM021](#)

The proposal, precipitated by the proposed legislative amendments set out in Bill 40 (which ultimately achieved Royal Assent on December 11, 2025), was aimed to “manage the development of data centres in the province”. The stated purpose of the proposal was to set out in a future regulation a process that will allow the Minister of

Energy and Mines to prioritize data centre projects that serve the province's economic interests, including those that create high-quality jobs and strengthen Ontario's digital economy. The regulation focused on looking for guidance for the types of data centres that were being proposed to be regulated, that is, those data centres with an energy demand of greater than 50 megawatts.

The City of Burlington submitted a comment on the posting. The comments included the following key concerns and suggestions:

- Acknowledgement of data centres as a new and rapidly evolving use that municipalities are still developing a full understanding of;
- Concern related to long-term infrastructure challenges and the disconnect between current forecasting of demand and the impact of the electrification of transportation and new fast emerging uses like data centres;
- Concerns about unintentionally undermining key housing enabling infrastructure and infrastructure and land slated for employment growth;
- Though the proposal cites that the regulation would apply only to data centres larger than 50 megawatts, the comments noted that any data centre, regardless of size, should be subject to the new regulations and considered within the broader context of available capacity and community priorities.
- Evaluations should consider not only technical feasibility but also land-use compatibility, employment yield, and long-term community benefit.
- Burlington encourages the Province, Hydro One, and the IESO to develop a coordinated strategy that supports data-centre growth while safeguarding electricity capacity for planned municipal development.

[Bill 40 received Royal Assent](#) on December 11, 2025. While the consultation on the proposed framework closed in the Fall of 2025, the regulatory regime has not been developed.

Comments on Current Posting

In general City staff are supportive of the development of a provincial framework that ensures data centres do not limit municipal ability to deliver on other critical provincial priorities like housing growth and job creation. There is a need to reconcile the disconnect between electricity demand forecasting at the provincial level and population/employment growth forecasting at the local level. Community growth increases the demand for electricity not just through residential use, but also through increased infrastructure needs. For example, the electrical demand associated with the water and wastewater facilities required to serve growing communities- which is further

compounded by the electrification of both private (i.e. electric vehicles and heat pumps) and public transportation (i.e. transit). All of this is further complicated by new large load facilities that will exacerbate the pressures on the infrastructure systems.

In defining “Data Centre” for the purpose of section 28.1 of the Electricity Act, the full range of data centre typologies, i.e. based on typical load profiles from lowest to highest, should be clearly established. This would allow the regulation to differentiate which requirements are appropriate for each typology based on the anticipated impacts at a specific scale (i.e. data centres below a certain threshold may be exempt). Given the nature of the uses and the expectation for ongoing changes in both technology and operations, this would support a careful and consistent approach to regulating this emerging use. The definition should also include means of defining accessory and ancillary uses that are routinely or possibly associated with a data centre use.

The ERO posting sets out 3 questions and responses are provided below.

1. What are your thoughts on the pillars that are meant to capture how Ontario should assess the economic and strategic value of data centre proposals.

The three pillars provide a high-level description of the elements that will contribute to the evaluation of potential data centres.

Pillar 1: Advance Economic Development;

Pillar 2: Protect Data Security and Digital Sovereignty; and

Pillar 3: Invest in Communities and Earn Public Trust.

Staff are generally supportive of these pillars as high-level guiding principles, though the City’s jurisdiction is more limited to land use planning, local economic development and emergency preparedness. However, it is currently unclear how the Province has assessed this emerging land use to determine the full range of potential impacts (or benefits) that may be experienced by communities. For example, planning analysis of a site plan application for a 20MW air cooled facility at 3110 South Service Road has focused on noise and heat emissions as two possible community impacts. Staff are also evaluating potential fire risks of the battery back-up system proposed by the centre. It should be clear that a component of the third pillar “Invest in Communities and Earn Public Trust” is minimizing nuisance impacts or land use impacts on sensitive uses.

The materials presented to date do not clearly demonstrate how the pillars will translate into a strategy that will deliver on the promises set out in the Data Centre playbook and

actually require Data Centres to contribute tangible benefits to the community. Even if the pillars do ultimately inform a regulation, a strategy or a process, in the absence of measurable commitments and ongoing monitoring and reporting it will be difficult to assess if the community benefit being presented is actually delivered.

2. How can data centres demonstrate alignment with each of the proposed pillars?

The framework should establish some basic performance measures that are calibrated to the strategic objectives of the Provincial government. What has been missing from the framework conversation is comparing the data centre and its infrastructure and utility requirements to other employment uses. There is significant public concern that data centres, whether smaller or hyperscale, are likely to have fewer jobs than other employment and technology uses, thereby offering less community benefit to compensate for the anticipated impacts.

On this basis, it would be helpful to establish a set of reference measures that objectively compares proposed data centres to other employment uses. To some degree, such a tool could roughly account for the opportunity costs related to the potential inability to service other employment uses. This would support evidence-based decision making for the prioritization of electricity supply in areas where capacity is limited. The framework should establish (pass/fail or good, better, best) standards and should distinguish one-time and sustained benefits all related to:

- jobs per MW (direct and indirect jobs);
- economic impact or GDP per MW;
- tax revenue;
- strategic value (against a set of clear strategic objectives like data sovereignty); and
- construction value/estimated construction job impact.

While the measures around jobs per MW, GDP/economic impact per MW and strategic value are useful it may also be worth recognizing that different data-centre models can play different roles in supporting AI, compute capacity, productivity and innovation, so they should not necessarily all be assessed in the same way.

The success of investments that benefit host communities should be highly localized and ideally, would be informed by engagement with the municipality and the public. To establish a reasonable expectation of what might rise to the level of a local benefit, a mechanism to evaluate the proportional relationship of the impact on the community to the proposed benefit should be established. The nature and duration of the anticipated

benefits should factor into the assessment, which should also be validated through long-term monitoring and reporting to ensure benefits are being realized.

3. Is there anything missing or that should be emphasized within the pillars?

The pillars do not currently emphasize issues related to environmental issues and impact and any public health implications, such as heat generation, water consumption and noise. Opportunities to set requirements related to unacceptable impacts related to on-site power generation, backup power sources like gas or diesel generators, or battery storage or other processes like once-through cooling should be clearly identified and measured. Again, it is worth noting that any increased demands for water also equate to increased energy demands to power the corresponding water and wastewater infrastructure.

It is recommended that the Province review its existing suite of regulatory tools, such as Environmental Compliance Approvals and Land Use Compatibility Guidelines, to ensure that the anticipated impacts of large-scale data centres and all of the range of related considerations are sufficiently addressed. Critically, this review should be undertaken through an economic prosperity and energy sustainability lens. For example, considering opportunities to support the development of thermal energy strategies to leverage waste heat as an energy resource. Considering opportunities for district energy will also require innovative thinking from all levels of government and LDCs including potential incentives or supports and a strategic objective related to energy efficiency and sustainability.

The pillars do not currently emphasize what success will look like from the perspective of the broader Provincial-wide plan or approach for ensuring a safe and reliable power grid for generations to come. It is the understanding of staff that Local Distribution Companies (LDCs) are required to accept any request for connection to the grid where capacity exists. The current approach may result in impacts on the LDCs ability to support other types of development, that had previously been contemplated from an energy planning perspective. The Province should establish an overall plan for managing new high energy demand uses including, but not limited to, data centres while not compromising LDCs ability to support the development of new homes and employment uses and move forward on supporting innovation in district energy. In enhancing the Province-wide approach to long term energy planning the following considerations should be considered:

- **Treat electricity capacity as strategic economic infrastructure.** Where capacity is constrained, the Province should consider not only the benefits of an

individual data centre, but also the opportunity cost of using capacity that may otherwise supports the retention, expansion, automation and electrification of existing businesses or future investment in other priority sectors.

- **Align energy and infrastructure planning with economic and investment priorities across government.** Provincial ministries, agencies and utilities should be working from consistent growth, investment and infrastructure assumptions so that energy planning support, not constrains Ontario's broader investment attraction and economic development objectives.
- **Plan and invest proactively for future electricity demand.** The longer-term solution cannot only be prioritizing competing users within existing capacity. Provincial generation, transmission and distribution investment needs to anticipate growth from housing, business expansion, advanced manufacturing, electrification, automation and AI/data infrastructure. This should be informed by the latest IESO demand forecasts and planning methodology as these needs continue to evolve.
- **Provide better visibility into capacity and planned upgrades.** Greater transparency for municipalities and economic development organizations on available and committed capacity, constraints and planned infrastructure investments would support better employment planning, business retention and expansion and investment attraction decisions.
- **Reimagine heat as a resource.** Treat heat generating uses as an asset that can be used as a source of energy for neighbouring residential, commercial and industrial developments (district energy opportunities).

Ontario will need significant and coordinated investment in electrical infrastructure if communities are going to remain competitive while supporting housing growth, existing business expansion, advanced manufacturing, electrification and AI adoption at the same time.

Staff recommend that the Province, in establishing the regulatory framework, must at a minimum provide clarity and direction on the following issues:

- The province must clarify in the Planning Act and the PPS if data centres fit within the definition of employment area. The concept of data centres as infrastructure has emerged in discussions with Councils and the public and should be clearly addressed in provincial land use planning policy framework.
- The province must clarify that once through cooling will not be permitted, and that where water infrastructure is insufficient the municipality is permitted to prohibit connection to the water and wastewater system.

- As noted above, the province must describe how existing tools are designed, or will be modified, to address the range of potential environmental, noise and land use compatibility or emergency preparedness issues related to the primary data centre use and any secondary supportive uses like on-site power generation, battery energy storage or other related processes or activities. For example, the D-6-1 Industrial Categorization Criteria which supports land use planning authorities in understanding industry classes and their land use compatibility considerations does not currently include data centres, or even any similar uses.
- The province should consider using the tool of a willing host resolution in the case where a data centre use proposes an electricity generating or battery energy storage “secondary use”. Including a requirement for a formal resolution passed by a municipal council indicating that the municipality is willing to host a proposed electricity generation or storage project would afford an opportunity for the discussion of local impacts and mitigation.
- Similarly, the province should also require a willing host community benefits agreement with the municipality. This would offer a concrete means of defining and evaluating benefit to the host community. In the alternative, the province could consider enacting a “data centre tax”, similar to the gas tax program that flows to municipalities to pay for critical infrastructure.
- The province must consider the full life-cycle of these facilities in the initial assessment. How would the assessment of a request for additional capacity be considered as a facility matures, technology gets smaller and energy needs change? Are there end of life tax/levy for the decommissioning of these uses? What other full life cycle considerations must be embedded in the process and evaluation?
- The province must consider the opportunity to establish a distinct MPAC classification option that would allow municipalities to set a higher data centre or other energy/infrastructure intensive property tax rate. An approach like this would provide a practical tool to minimize the economic impact of lost capacity for the creation of jobs within increasingly limited employment areas, per provincial direction.

The City is committed to working with the province to support informed decisions. Municipalities and economic development organizations can provide context on active investment pipelines, existing business expansion requirements, priority sectors and emerging infrastructure constraints that may not be visible through the electricity connection process alone. Staff are available to meet and discuss our comments and share our experience with data centres and electricity planning and look forward to connecting to move this important initiative forward.

Please accept this letter as the City of Burlington's submission on ERO Posting 026 0853. Given the short consultation period, these comments have not been approved by City Council. This letter will be shared through an upcoming Council Information Package.

At the direction of Council, City of Burlington staff are also initiating engagement with the public on planning for employment areas including, among other things, key considerations from a land use planning perspective for energy and infrastructure intensive uses like data centres. The first engagement opportunity is the same day as the final day for this ERO posting. Staff will collect feedback and report to Council and the public on what we heard. Should Council determine any additional comments to reflect feedback or Council comments or refinements are required, the province will be advised at the earliest opportunity.

Attachment B

Two events held in Burlington on September 12, 2026 – Food for Feedback (City-hosted) and the Orchard Community Picnic - provided an opportunity for Community Planning staff to engage with the public on Burlington's Employment Area including the data centre employment use, as part of Burlington's Official Plan Review. The below questions were part of the engagement display, encouraging the public to share their feedback on the Employment Area and employment uses.

Share your feedback

Your feedback will help inform Burlington's Official Plan Review, as well as future feedback to other levels of government.

1. What makes an employment use a good neighbour?
2. What feedback would you like the City to share with other levels of government?
3. What else do you want to know about the City's role in Employment Area planning?
4. How would you like to be engaged on this issue moving forward?

QR code links were also provided to provincial and federal webpages for further resources and engagement underway on data centres and AI. The provincial government is engaging on a [Data Centre Playbook](#) to assess data centres and the [federal government is engaging on AI](#) transparency, accountability and governance.

Engagement Summary

Below is a summary of engagement feedback from the two events:

Employment Area feedback:

- More employment uses would be nice; growing the financial sector/targeted growth of prestige employment type uses
- Allow restaurant/food access within Employment Areas to ensure workers can have access for lunch/food options without needing to drive
- Puzzlement about the manufacturing employment uses on Palladium way and how close they are to residential uses and how impacts will be minimized and mitigated (steel factory)
- Advocacy for jobs in Burlington to employ Burlingtonians

Data Centre feedback:

Concerns about/request to inform the Province about:

- **Environmental Impacts:** concerns about noise levels, effects on bees and wildlife from noise & vibration, water usage, and energy usage. City should research underwater data centres/ lake cooling.
- **Safety/ public health impacts:** long-term impact from noise, radiation (EMF), heat levels from facilities, impact on the community and residential areas/sensitive uses, need to measure noise levels and how noise travels from data centres.
- **Power and Water impacts:** energy grid impacts, cost to citizens/community of water usage and power/electricity draw, any backup/secondary power requirements should be renewable. Ensure data centres don't negatively impact electricity and water services for the community.
- **Infrastructure costs:** data centres have intense infrastructure needs and the city needs to be careful that they do not compromise or hinder future development/function. Suggest that data centres be looked at as a new form of infrastructure.
- **Regulations:** strong oversight is needed, has impacts on future generations
- **Jobs, economic benefits:** Share the wealth. How will the neighbourhood benefit from it? How does it serve the local community and businesses? What is the job density, and what is it in comparison to other employment uses? Data Centres should remain in industrial areas. Some believe that there is a need to invest in attracting and retaining next generation AI jobs.
- **Security:** Importance of cyber security. While the idea of a data centre is understood, things are happening so fast - and so many. What will they do? What information will they collect?

Public Engagement Moving Forward

- Include online public meetings as these are accessible
- Would like to receive information about public engagement in these ways:
 - Would be beneficial to get a preloaded email with visuals in advance of the online public meeting with high level key points
 - An online form/survey to complete questions
 - Short and simple messaging
 - Advertise meetings on social media



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 - 110

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: September 15, 2026

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

MOVED BY:

[Signature]

SECONDED BY:

SECONDED BY: Frank L. K. [Signature]

CARRIED: _____ DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound supports the Township of Tudor & Casher's resolution regarding a request for review of extended producer responsibility for one-pound single-use propane cylinders; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPR) and all municipalities in Ontario.


Mayor Jamie McGarvey

September 28, 2026

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

Re: Township of East Zorra-Tavistock Resolution - Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on September 16, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock adopted the following resolution:

Moved by: Jeremy Smith
Seconded by: Scott Rudy

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Town of Ingersoll regarding the Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council support the resolution regarding the Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT a copy of the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries, and the provincial government.

CARRIED

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Ashley Gerencser
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All municipalities in Ontario

August 13, 2026

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

Re: Town of Ingersoll Resolution - Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their regular meeting on August 10, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll adopted the following resolution:

Resolution # 2026-230

Moved by Councillor Eus; seconded by Councillor Bowman

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ingersoll receive the correspondence from the Town of the Blue Mountains regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council support the resolution regarding Review of OLT and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT the resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in Ontario, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, all relevant ministries, and the provincial government.

CARRIED

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Julie Clayton

Julie Clayton
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ernie Hardeman, Member of Provincial Parliament for Oxford
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All municipalities in Ontario



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

Title: Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026
Time: 6:16 PM

Moved by: Councillor Hope
Seconded by: Councillor Porter

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the June 25, 2026, correspondence from Kathryn Douglas, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Town of Whitby, and supports the June 22, 2026 Town of Whitby Council resolution regarding a Review of Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions;

AND THAT Council directs staff to circulate this resolution of support to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities (AMO) and all Ontario Municipalities for consideration and support

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Deputy Mayor Bordignon	Councillor Ardiel	Councillor Hope	Councillor Maxwell
Councillor McKinlay	Councillor Porter		

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Mayor Matrosovs

June 25, 2026

Via Email

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

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas
Supervisor, Legislative Services
clerk@whitby.ca

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing -
minister.mah@ontario.ca
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
Jennifer K. French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
Rob Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario -
amopresident@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

September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

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

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026
Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt
Seconded: T. Oke

**Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and
Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and**

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

**Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:**

- 1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**
- 2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**
- 3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**
 - includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
 - that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
 - that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
 - that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**
- 4. that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

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Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org
resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ;
manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ;
glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com ;
jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca ; jwalker@bmross.net ; jennettewalker@hay.net ;
john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities
policed by OPP.



Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council

From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO

Date: September 21, 2026

Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:

For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

“That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.”

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - [Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs](#)

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted \$2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to \$235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as \$2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately \$447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
 - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
 - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
 - considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;
4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.

**Ministry for Seniors
and Accessibility**

Minister

College Park
777 Bay Street
5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1S5

**Ministère des Services aux
aînés et de l'Accessibilité**

Ministre

College Park
777, rue Bay
5e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1S5



September 2026

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to submit a nomination for the 2026 [Ontario Senior Achievement Award](#).

Each year, the program recognizes extraordinary seniors who, **after the age of 65**, have made significant contributions to their community or province.

This is to inform you the deadline to nominate someone has been extended to December 1st. You can submit a nomination online by [registering through the Ontario Honours and Awards Portal](#).

For more information about the program, please visit the [Ontario Senior Achievement Award webpage](#).

You may also contact Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat at OntarioHonoursAndAwards@ontario.ca, if you have questions about the Ontario Senior Achievement Award and how to submit a nomination online.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to consider putting forward the name of a special senior in your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond Cho".

Raymond Cho
Minister for Seniors and Accessibility

Hello,

On behalf of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Unit at Employment and Social Development Canada, we are pleased to share the public engagement for Canada's 2027 Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs.

From now until December 18, 2026, Canadians are invited to share their perspectives and help shape Canada's 2027 Voluntary National Review.

With only four years remaining until 2030, this is a critical opportunity to reflect on progress, identify challenges, and highlight innovative actions that are helping advance sustainable development across Canada. Your experiences, insights, and expertise can help ensure that Canada's VNR reflects the diverse perspectives of people and organizations working to advance the SDGs.

Get Involved

We encourage you to participate and share this opportunity with your networks. There are a few ways to get involved:

👉 **Visit** [Share your ideas: Contribute to Canada's 2027 Voluntary National Review](#) to:

- Complete the [online consultation](#) to share your experiences, priorities, and recommendations;
- Or learn how to host your [own consultation](#); and submit feedback gathered from your community, organization, or network.

Throughout the fall, additional engagement opportunities will be available, including information sessions and virtual events on Canada's 2027 VNR.

To learn more, please visit [Canada and the Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Thank you for helping shape Canada's contribution to the global effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the SDG Unit at Programme2030-2030Agenda@esdc-edsc.gc.ca



Hello,

In June 2021, the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Seniors Forum identified “ [supportive housing for a diverse seniors population, senior abuse during the pandemic and beyond and the role of technology to enhance aging in place](#) ” as key forum priorities for the 2022 to 2025 work cycle.

Today, we are pleased to announce the publication of the reports on:

- [Innovative Housing Models for Diverse Older Adults in Canada](#)
- [Policy and Program Options to Prevent and Address the Financial Mistreatment of Older Persons](#)
- [Policy Options to Facilitate the Development and Use of Assistive Technologies Designed to Support Seniors to Live Healthy, Satisfying and Independent Lives](#)

As we celebrate [National Seniors Day](#) today, we recognize the invaluable contributions of older adults to our families and society. The day is also an important opportunity to reflect on how we can better support older Canadians in their communities.

As the number and proportion of older adults in Canada continues to grow, it is essential that we listen, learn and work together to find solutions that help older adults live healthier, more connected and fulfilling lives. These reports explore some of the most pressing issues affecting older adults in Canada today.

National Seniors Day also serves as a reminder of the importance of helping older Canadians have access to the services, supports and opportunities they need to age with dignity, safety and independence. The work of the [forum](#) contributes to this goal by helping governments better understand and respond to the diverse needs of older adults across Canada.

To stay up to date on future activities and news related to seniors, follow the [Seniors in Canada](#) Facebook page or sign up for the [Secretary of State \(Seniors\) newsletter](#).

Thank you,

** Québec contributes to the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Seniors Forum by sharing expertise, information and best practices. However, it does not subscribe to, or take part in, integrated federal, provincial, and territorial approaches to seniors. The Government of Québec intends to fully assume its responsibilities for seniors in Québec.*

For regular updates, please follow:

X: [@ESDC_GC](#)

Facebook: [Seniors in Canada](#)

September 16, 2026

Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara St.
Wyoming, ON
N0N 1T0

Sent via email

To whom it may concern:

Re: Resolution 2026-625

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the September 16, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2026-625

That Council receive the Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services for information; and

That Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands Support Resolution No. 15 passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding the sustainable Provincial grant funding for fire services in Ontario; and

That this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Paul Vickers MPP, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Premier Doug Ford, Minister Michael Kerzner, Minister Rob Flack, MPP Vickers and all Ontario Municipalities

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Jill Dunlop, MPP Simcoe North

**Re: Support for Enhanced Municipal and Watershed Representation in the
Proposed Regional Conservation Authority Governance Framework**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.238.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju

Seconded by Joe Gough

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed the consolidation of Ontario's existing conservation authorities into nine Regional Conservation Authorities (RCA), with a proposed transition date of February 1, 2027, or such later date as may be prescribed;

AND WHEREAS Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting No. 026-0740 proposed regulations respecting the method for determining the number of members appointed by participating municipalities to RCAs and additional eligibility criteria for appointments to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA);

AND WHEREAS under the proposed governance framework, upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will be responsible for appointing members to RCAs, resulting in lower-tier municipalities no longer having the ability to directly appoint representatives to the governing board;

AND WHEREAS lower-tier municipalities continue to have a direct and significant interest in the programs, services, land use planning matters, natural hazard management, environmental protection and other responsibilities undertaken by conservation authorities within their communities;

AND WHEREAS meaningful local and watershed-based representation will be essential to ensuring that local municipal priorities, knowledge and watershed-specific considerations continue to inform decision-making within the new RCA structure;

AND WHEREAS the geographic size of the proposed RCAs further emphasizes the importance of ensuring that appointed Board members have a meaningful connection to the watershed they are responsible for governing;

AND WHEREAS there remains a need for additional information and guidance respecting several significant aspects of the proposed transition and future operation of the RCAs, including the governance framework, member recruitment and eligibility, travel and time commitments, budgeting, financial responsibility and the future apportionment and payment of conservation authority levies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara supports continued consultation with municipalities and existing local Conservations Authorities on the development and implementation of the new RCA governance framework;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that any individual appointed to a RCA Board of Directors reside within the applicable watershed of the RCA to which they are appointed, in order to ensure that Board members have a direct and meaningful connection to the communities, municipalities and watershed they are responsible for governing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the future regulations establishing the composition, role, and operation of Watershed Advisory Committees provide meaningful opportunities for lower-tier municipal representation and participation, recognizing that lower-tier municipalities will no longer directly appoint members to RCA Boards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to reconsider the proposed eligibility restrictions for the OPCA Board in order to establish a meaningful connection between the RCAs and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, including consideration of providing for at least one representative from each RCA on the OPCA Board, or another formal mechanism to ensure direct communication and coordination between the two levels of governance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide clear guidance to upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities respecting the recruitment and appointment of RCA Board members, including eligibility criteria, desired qualifications and expertise, expected roles and responsibilities, anticipated meeting frequency, travel requirements, and the time commitment associated with serving on the larger regional authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to provide municipalities with additional information regarding the financial and operational implications of the consolidation, including how RCA budgets will be developed and approved, how municipal levies and apportionment will be determined and collected, whether upper-tier and single-tier municipalities will assume responsibility for levy payments on behalf of lower-tier municipalities, and how costs and financial obligations will be allocated throughout the transition and ongoing operation of the new RCAs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be encouraged to provide this information as soon as possible to allow municipalities sufficient time to understand the governance, operational and financial implications of the new model and to prepare for implementation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; Conservation Ontario; Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop; the County of Simcoe; all Ontario municipalities; the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA); and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA).

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration of the enclosed resolution and encourages support for the continued involvement of municipalities and conservation authorities in the development and implementation of the proposed Regional Conservation Authority governance framework. The Township further believes that meaningful watershed-based representation, opportunities for lower-tier municipal participation, and greater clarity regarding governance and financial implications will be essential to the successful transition to the new model.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
Conservation Ontario
County of Simcoe
Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA)
Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA)

Bcc. All Ontario municipalities

October 2, 2026

Via Email

Transport Canada
Hon. Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport
Adam Chambers, MP Simcoe North

**Re: Request for Transport Canada Review and Amendment of Water Aerodrome
Public Consultation Requirements**

At its meeting held on September 28, 2026, the Council of the Township of Ramara adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number CR.234.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju
Seconded by Sherri Bell

WHEREAS the Aeronautics Act defines an aerodrome as any area of land water (including frozen surfaces thereof), or other supporting surface used, designed, prepared, equipped, or set apart for use either in whole or in part for the arrival, departure, movement, or servicing of aircraft and includes any buildings, installations, and equipment situated thereon or associated therewith;

AND WHEREAS Transport Canada's public consultation framework for the establishment and operation of aerodromes, as reflected in Canadian Aviation Regulation 307, recognizes the importance of public interest considerations, including compatibility with surrounding land uses, community impacts, and aviation safety;

AND WHEREAS the current regulatory framework expressly excludes water aerodromes from certain public consultation requirements that apply to land aerodromes;

AND WHEREAS the impacts associated with aerodrome operations, including aviation safety, noise, environmental considerations, compatibility with existing land and water uses, and community well-being, are equally relevant to water aerodromes and may, in some circumstances, be more significant due to the shared use of waterways by residents, recreational users, commercial operators, and emergency services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities possess critical local knowledge regarding land use planning, navigation patterns, environmental constraints, recreation, tourism, community safety, and potential conflicts with existing transportation infrastructure that may not otherwise be available during federal decision-making processes;

AND WHEREAS a regulatory framework that requires public consultation for land aerodromes but not water aerodromes creates an inconsistency that may limit opportunities for affected municipalities, Indigenous communities, interest-holders, and residents to provide meaningful input regarding proposed aviation operations within their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have a formal opportunity to identify potential safety concerns, including conflicts between proposed water aerodrome operations and established aircraft flight paths, existing airport traffic circuits, heavily used waterways, and other local operational considerations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Ramara respectfully requests that Transport Canada undertake a review of the consultation requirements contained within Canadian Aviation Regulation 307 and related policies and guidance documents respecting the exclusion of water aerodromes from public consultation requirements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to amend the applicable regulations and policies to require an appropriate public consultation process for the establishment or significant expansion of water aerodromes, particularly where commercial operations are proposed or where there may be impacts on surrounding communities, public safety, navigation, or existing aviation infrastructure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Transport Canada be requested to ensure that municipalities, Indigenous communities, airport authorities, conservation authorities where appropriate, and affected interest-holders receive meaningful notice and opportunity to comment on proposed water aerodrome developments before operational approvals or registrations are finalized;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ramara requests that the federal government recognize the importance of municipal input in assessing the suitability of water aerodrome locations and the potential cumulative impacts of aviation activity on local communities and waterways;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- Transport Canada;
- The Honourable Minister of Transport;
- The local Member of Parliament;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA);
- All Ontario municipalities; and
- The Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

CARRIED.

The Township of Ramara respectfully requests your consideration and support of the enclosed resolution, which calls upon Transport Canada to review the current regulatory framework governing water aerodromes and establish appropriate public consultation requirements to ensure meaningful municipal, Indigenous, stakeholder, and public input.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Cc. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA)
The Chippewas of Rama First Nation

Bcc. All Ontario Municipalities