



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
AGENDA
MONDAY JUNE 17, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.
DR. S. F. MONESTIME MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
160 WATER STREET, MATTAWA ON**

**Zoom Meeting Access: 1-647-374-4685
Meeting ID Code: 864 9897 7862
Passcode: 651285**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order**
- 1.1 Clerk to conduct the Oath of Affirmation & Declaration to newly appointed Councillor
- 2. Announce Electronic Participants**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended
 - That the agenda dated June 17, 2024 be adopted
- 4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest**
- 5. Presentations and Delegations**
- 6. Notice of Motions**
- 7. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions**
- 8. Information Reports – Motions**
- 8.1 North Bay & Area Rural & Northern Immigration Pilot – Report # 24-35R
- 9. In Camera (Closed) Session**
- 10. Return to Regular Session**
- 11. Motions Resulting from Closed Session**
- 12. Adjournment**
- 12.1 Adjournment of the meeting
 - That the June 17, 2024 meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.

DATE: MONDAY JUNE 17, 2024

3.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Thursday June 17, 2024 be adopted.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: AMY LECLERC, MUNICIPAL CLERK/REVENUE SERVICES CLERK

TITLE: NORTH BAY & AREA RURAL & NORTHERN IMMIGRATION PILOT

DATE: MONDAY JUNE 17, 2024

REPORT NO: 24-35R

BACKGROUND

During a regular meeting of Council on Monday July 24, 2023 Mayor Bélanger provided Council with a report on the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) which is attached for your reference.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

The North Bay and Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot is a community driven program and require support from our Council in the form of a letter.

Attached is an email exchange from myself and a member of the Committee with further information and a template of the letter that is required. The ask is that the support letter be provided by June 19, 2024.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council receives this report and provides support to the committee and allow Mayor Bélanger to sign the letter of support to be sent by June 19, 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-35R titled North Bay and Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves a letter of support to be sent to the Rural Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) Committee and endorses Mayor Bélanger to sign the letter on behalf of Council.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
PREPARED BY: MAYOR RAYMOND A. BÉLANGER
TITLE: RURAL AND NORTHERN IMMIGRATION PILOT (RNIP)
DATE: MONDAY, JULY 24TH, 2023
REPORT NO: 2023-76R

BACKGROUND

The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) is a community-driven program designed to spread the benefits of economic immigration to smaller communities by creating a path to permanent residence for skilled foreign workers who want to work and live in one of the participating communities including the Mattawa area.

RNIP is in a trial period here for another year. The Town of Mattawa hosted RNIP at the Mike Rodden Arena and Community Centre on April 12, 2023. Their goal was to spread information about the program to Mattawa, neighbouring municipalities, employers, and any recent immigrants who may be interested.

I attended the presentation (attached) and welcomed RNIP to Mattawa and Area.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

The North Bay & Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) presentation was designed to support the Canadian economy facing an aging population, and labour shortages, specifically in the northern and rural communities. Their goal is to assist in connecting international talent with employers and to enable newcomers, who are motivated to stay in our area, get their permanent Residency, while working with employers.

Since the COVID pandemic, it is common knowledge that the tourist industry is struggling with recruitment and retention of labour. It is also clear to me that employers could certainly benefit from programs such as RNIP to help connect international talent with employers having a hard time finding new employees.

RNIP is a community-driven program designed to spread the benefits of economic immigration to smaller communities by creating a path to permanent residence for skilled foreign workers who want to work and live in one of the participating communities including the Mattawa area.

Heather Van Veen, Program Coordinator for the North Bay and Area RNIP program led the presentation and demonstrated how it could be beneficial for employers in the Mattawa boundaries.

RNIP is an easy process for Employers to take part in, whether they have employees already interested in the program or if they are looking to hire employees through RNIP. A misconception many employers have about the program is that they are responsible for the candidate applying through RNIP. That is not the case, and Heather would be happy to help employers throughout the process.

The RNIP program allows eligible employers to make full-time permanent job offers to skilled foreign workers who can help fill identified labour shortages in the community. For the applicants, it is a fast pathway to receive their Permanent Residence, while contributing to the community.

Interested employers or anyone interested in RNIP with or without a Work Permit were invited to attend. Individuals with the intentions to eventually apply or meet an employer, who is interested in hiring them, were also welcomed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

None

RECOMMENDATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-76R titled Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP).

DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL: _____

RESOLUTION #: _____

From: [Vala Monestime Belter](#)
To: [Amy Leclerc](#); [Sabrina Poullas](#); [Donna Backer](#)
Subject: Rural Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) - Support Letter Request from Mattawa Council
Date: June 11, 2024 11:30:13 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[NBDCC_RCIP Letter of Support from Municipalities.docx](#)

Hi Amy

Re: Rural Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) Committee

Thank you again for the professional ease with which you have helped me/us thus far regarding the process to inform council. In discussing further with Donna Backer (Chamber ED and RNIP Committee Chair), we feel a letter of information is sufficient and a presentation is not necessary.

We require a letter of support. Here is some information to help:

The North Bay & Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) is a community driven program designed to spread the benefits of economic immigration to small northern and rural communities by creating a path to permanent residence for skilled foreign workers who want to work and live in North Bay and Area.

In Mattawa, last year, we presented information on the pilot together with Heather Van Veen and Jill Dupuis. They discussed how it could benefit local employers. Since making the presentation, we have processed applications and provided community recommendation letters for individuals who want to live and work in the area. We hope that you have seen some great benefits of this pilot to fill some of the labour shortages in your areas.

The current pilot is ending August 31, 2024. With that said, the Chamber is applying for the new pilot program called the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP). The Expression of Interest Application was released on May 21st, and the new application for the new pilot which is due July 2, 2024. We would like to continue to include your municipality in our boundaries for the new pilot, furthermore, ensure that the boundary is properly mapped out, so businesses located in the towns are not missed.

We have communicated with FedNor for funding the 5-year pilot and are working with them on application. We are reaching out to communities in our boundaries to request letters of support to accompany the application to IRCC to deliver the next iteration of the pilot.

Attached is a template for council to use to offer this letter of support for the North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce application for the Rural Community Immigration Pilot. If they would like to

add anything or remove, feel free. It's written to add the municipality's letterhead (shown in bold).

If the letter can be saved as a PDF and emailed back to Donna (donna@nbdcc.ca) and me (vmb@belterworks.com) by Wednesday June 19th, that would be greatly appreciated.

In the next few weeks, we will reconnect and ask for a conversation about possible financial contribution to the pilot but we don't want that to hinder the support letter which need to accompany our application.

THANK YOU so much. Thank you to you as one of the great towns who the Chamber looks forward to working with to help ease labour shortages with newcomers to our area.

Should you or anyone have questions feel free to reach out.

Best regards always,

Vala

Vala Monestime Belter
Community Recommendation Committee
North Bay & Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)
vmb@belterworks.com
705-498-2129

Donna



Donna Backer
President & CEO
Phone: 705-472-8480 ext 224
Mobile: 705-303-2835
Email: donna@nbdcc.ca

205 Main Street East
North Bay, ON P1B 1B2

www.nbdcc.ca



From: Amy Leclerc <clerk@mattawa.ca>
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 at 3:11 PM
To: Vala Monestime Belter <vmb@belterworks.com>
Cc: Sabrina Poullas <sabrina.poullas@mattawa.ca>
Subject: RE: Presentation to Council Request Form

Good afternoon Vala,

If you wish to make your presentation to Council on Monday June 17, 2024 please let us know. I am away from the office beginning Wednesday this week so please send the information to Sabrina if you do not have it for today or tomorrow.

Thank you.

Kindest regards,

Amy Leclerc
Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Town of Mattawa

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From: Amy Leclerc
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 11:43 AM
To: Vala Monestime Belter <vmb@belterworks.com>
Subject: Presentation to Council Request Form

Hi Vala,

As per our discussion please complete the attached form and return it before next Wednesday and we will make sure you are on the agenda to speak with Council on June 17, 2024.

To recap, please send me whatever literature you require and the wording that is needed for Council to support your endeavour.

Thank you for the phone call.

Kindest regards,

Amy Leclerc
Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Town of Mattawa
160 Water St, Box 390
Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
P: 705-744-5611 ext 204
F: 705-744-0104
W: mattawa.ca

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RCIP Letter of Support from Municipalities

[Your Municipality's Letterhead]

[Date]

Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada
Ottawa, ON

**Re: North Bay and Area Rural Community Immigration Pilot Expression of Interest
Application (RCIP) submitted by North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce**

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing on behalf of **[Your Municipality]** to express our support of the North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce (NBDCC) application to be the lead proponent for the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP) initiative for our area. Delivering the current North Bay and Area Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP), the NBDCC has been successful in managing the pilot over the last few years assisting employers fill their labour shortages and fostering positive relationships with community partners in the boundary.

As a municipality deeply committed to fostering inclusive and vibrant communities, we believe that the RCIP presents a unique opportunity to address aging demographic challenges, stimulate economic and population growth, and enrich the social fabric of rural areas across northern Ontario.

The RCIP's focus on attracting and retaining skilled immigrants to rural communities aligns closely with our municipality's strategic priorities and aspirations for sustainable development. By welcoming newcomers with diverse backgrounds, talents, and experiences, we can harness their contributions to drive innovation, entrepreneurship, and community vitality.

Moreover, the RCIP offers a pathway for addressing critical labour market needs and filling gaps in key sectors. By connecting skilled immigrants with employment opportunities and support services tailored to their needs, we can strengthen local businesses, create jobs, and build resilience in our economy.

We are committed to collaborating with our regional partners, settlement agencies, employers, and community organizations to ensure the successful implementation of the RCIP and to provide newcomers with the resources and support they need to integrate and thrive in our community. Together, we can create a welcoming and inclusive environment where all residents feel valued, respected, and empowered to achieve their full potential.

In conclusion, we endorse the RCIP and look forward to working closely with the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders to build upon existing momentum and continue to witness the benefits resulting from our immigration attraction and retention efforts.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Title]

[Your Municipality]

DATE: MONDAY JUNE 17, 2024

12.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the June 17, 2024 meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.